

**Canadian Astronomical Society  
Société Canadienne d'astronomie**

**Minutes of the CASCA Board of Directors Telecon  
Held Oct. 21, 2013, 1200 PDT = 1500 EDT**

Present: Laura Ferrarese	President
Christine Wilson	First Vice-president
Stéphane Courteau	Second Vice-President
Nicole St. Louis	Treasurer
James Di Francesco	Secretary
Samar Safi-Harb	Director
Pauline Barmby	Director
Lorne Nelson	Director
Absent: Gilles Joncas	Past president

**1. Adoption of agenda**

**Motion (Di Francesco/Nelson): to adopt the agenda. Carried.**

**2. Adoption of the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Board of Directors Meeting [Di Francesco]**

**Motion (Di Francesco/Ferrarese): to adopt the minutes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> BoD meeting. Carried.**

**3. Review of the Action Items List [Di Francesco]**

The Action Items List was reviewed and updated.

**4. President's report [Ferrarese]**

**a. Coalition Activity report [Ferrarese]**

Interaction has focused on TMT in last few months. Scientific agreement signed by ACURA for Canada a couple of months ago. Next step is signing financial agreement and no partners have signed this yet. On the Canadian side, NRC will hopefully sign but this is contingent on getting approval from Government of Canada. ACURA provided NRC many

documents supporting a new Memorandum to Cabinet about TMT funding. NRC now in charge of preparing the MtC (for ~\$300M) but we don't get to see it or know if it has been submitted. Assuming it is submitted, we need to wait until next March to find out if it is in the Federal Budget. Meanwhile, ACURA has prepared new brochures to send to MPs. Also, Dynamic Structures (DS) in BC hosted an Open House a few weeks ago that was attended by the Hon. James Moore, Minister of Industry and MP for DS's riding, plus ~50 people incl. Ferrarese. Moore gave a clearly informed speech with very upbeat words about how important TMT is.

**b. Mid-term review of LRP (LRP MTR)**

Rob Thacker (St. Mary's U.) has agreed to chair LRP MTR Panel. Rob felt a need for white papers before any serious discussions occur in town hall-style meetings. Current plan is to have a kick-off meeting on special day added to Quebec City AGM where white papers will be requested, then have an eastern and western town hall meetings in late fall/early winter, then finalize everything by 2015 AGM at McMaster. No panel members selected yet, but this will occur in consultation with CASCA Board.

**c. Additional Items**

- New CSA committee struck for Planetary Exploration. Laura has forwarded some names to CSA for nomination, and they are presently mulling over these suggestions
- New Dunlap award has been created, and we need to coordinate with Awards committee about it. UofT will send out a press release within 10 days about award and this should be put up on CASCA web site.
- French equivalent of CASCA contacted Laura about partnering with us as a sister institution for annual meeting participation. They want to partner with CASCA next year but we will postpone by one year because their meeting overlaps with ours (and AAS summer meeting)
- e-mail of Jayanne English about contact with Oxford Analytics, seemed like a good idea but no one has the time. What we should do? Laura will follow-up with Jayanne about how to proceed.
- Laura thanks Stéphane, Lorne, Pauline, Nicole, and James for joining the CASCA Board

**5. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's report [Wilson]**

**a. Any items arising from Committees (membership, etc.)**

Memberships for committees have been finalized except JCSA. Laura Parker continuing on that committee as chair. They have a meeting soon where hopefully approval of membership list will occur and she can contact nominated people

**6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's report [Courteau]**

**a. Status of upcoming AGMs**

McMaster University will host AGM in 2015. Co-chairs of LOC have been chosen (Alison Sills and Laura Parker)

**7. Secretary's Report [Di Francesco]**

**a. Membership update**

- Total members paid in full: 317
- Total members one years dues in arrears: 150
- Total members two years dues in arrears: 86
- TOTAL MEMBERS: 553 (5 resignations)
- Will send out blanket reminder e-mail on exploder in next few days, message will state that two years in arrears must resign or else
- Will follow up with targeted e-mails in the new year memberships only for first years? Yes, need to encourage them to sign up early.
- Will send out blanket reminder e-mail on exploder in next few days to prompt advisors to sign up their 1<sup>st</sup> year students. Note that advisors may be able to pay for student memberships, Ferrarese and Di Francesco will look into whether or not this is an allowed expense under NSERC rules

**8. "Face-to-face" meeting in December [all]**

- will attempt an online "face-to-face" meeting this December, no action items appear to require actual F2F this year, maybe next year with the LRP MTR
- try a trial in next few weeks with some program, Google+ Hangouts or WebEX
- Di Francesco will set up some tests in the next few weeks, then set up a Doodle poll for a trial

**9. Adjournment**

**Motion (Di Francesco/Ferrarese/Courteau): to adjourn. Carried.**