

**Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie
78th meeting of the Board of Directors
Oct. 12, 2017 10h00 – 12h00 PST
Via videoconference**

<i>Present:</i>	Roberto Abraham	President
	Rob Thacker	Vice-President
	Nicole St-Louis	Treasurer
	James Di Francesco	Secretary
	René Doyon	Director
	Erik Rosolowsky	Director
	Kristine Spekkens	Director
	Kim Venn	Director
	Christine Wilson	Past President

Minutes

1. **Adoption of the agenda [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to adopt the agenda (Abraham/Rosolowsky) Carried**
2. **Approval of minutes of the 77th Board meeting [Di Francesco]**
 - **Motion to approve the minutes (Rosolowsky/Thacker): Carried**
3. **Business Conducted Electronically [all]:**
 - *EIC Climate Survey*: The Board provided input to the Equity and Inclusivity Committee about the content of their upcoming Climate Survey, including a special Board meeting on 18 July 2017.
 - *JCSA Terms of Reference*: The Board provided input to the new Terms of Reference for the Joint Committee on Space Astronomy.
 - *Ingrid Stairs*: The Board prepared an article for the CASCA website congratulating Prof. Ingrid Stairs of the University of British Columbia for winning the 2017 Rutherford Prize.
4. **Review of the Action/Ongoing Items Lists [Di Francesco]**
 - *Planetary Science Committee*: Members of the Planetary Science Community are being invited to join a Coalition for Canadian Astronomy delegation to Ottawa this fall to bring the new Chief Science Advisor and others up to speed on LRP activities (e.g., SKA, CSA).

- *Social Media Presence*: CASCA Board to explore possibility of hiring an individual to institute a robust social medial presence for CASCA on platforms such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. The individual may be already working in this capacity and it is possible that he or she could include CASCA communications as well.
- *NSERC-CAP Liaison Committee*: Lorne Nelson, a member of both CASCA and CAP, has joined the NSERC-CAP Liaison Committee this past summer to represent astronomy interests in their deliberations. Prof. Nelson will be the first CASCA member to sit on this committee.
- *e-News*: CASCA to cease sending out e-News to the Exploder since most changes on the CASCA website (which e-News tracks) are largely new e-Cassiopeia articles that already get a mail-out.

5. President's Report [Abraham]

- *Interactions with RASC*: Abraham remains in contact with the RASC President on six-month timescales
- *ACURA Report*: At its last meeting, ACURA received the report from CASCA prepared by Abraham.
- *Coalition news*: As the Board has unanimously accepted the Naylor report, Abraham and Board to write a letter endorsing its recommendations before the Coalition delegation to Ottawa on October 28. This delegation will meet with the new Chief Science Advisor and deputy ministers to promote SKA and CSA. This delegation may include new representation by the Canadian aerospace industry

6. Secretary's Report [Di Francesco]

- *Dues Renewal*: As of this meeting, 191 members have renewed their memberships with CASCA. The membership drive will continue until 31 October. Di Francesco to compile a list of department contacts with whom we can send general invitations to join the Society.
- *Management Changes at NRC-Herzberg*: Di Francesco advised the Board that the Director-General of NRC-Herzberg, Greg Fahlman, has recently announced his intention to retire in late 2018. A search for a replacement is expected to begin shortly and hiring committee membership may involve CASCA Board input.
- *IAU membership drive*: The IAU General Assembly (GA) will occur next year in Vienna, and new members will be formally inducted into the IAU at that time. Beforehand, the IAU-Canadian National Committee (i.e., the Board) will contact the membership about joining the IAU. This time, the IAU will be instituting a new class of membership, Junior Membership, so that postdoctoral fellows can join at no cost.
- *Electronic Bank Transfers*: Di Francesco to work with the Administrator to enable dues payments next year via electronic bank transfer.

7. Directors' Reports [Spekkens, Doyon]

- *EIC*: The Equity and Inclusivity Committee (EIC) aims to release its

climate survey in early November. (Spekkens)

- *Canadian IAU GA*: Montréal remains interested in hosting the IAU General Assembly (in 2024). NRC will submit the Letter of Intent but its engagement as a “Professional Conference Organizer” remains uncertain. A future letter of support to NRC from CASCA may be helpful. (Doyon)

8. AOB? [all]

- *Next Long Range Plan*: The CSA has contacted the CASCA President and Vice-President about supporting the next Long Range Plan (LRP). They need some idea of the timeframe of the report. Work on LRP planning will be ramping up soon. (Thacker)
- *CASCA meeting in Victoria*: The Vice-President received a report from the LOC of the next CASCA annual meeting in Victoria for 2018. He will circulate it after this meeting and seek input. (Thacker)

9. Adjournment [all]

- **Motion to adjourn the 78th meeting of the CASCA Board of Directors (Thacker/Doyon): Carried**