

Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie
80th meeting of the Board of Directors
Mar. 15, 2018 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 (Thacker/Doyon): Carried**

2. Approval of minutes of the 79th Board meeting [Di Francesco]

- **Motion to approve the minutes (Abraham/St-Louis): Carried**

3. Business Conducted Electronically [all]

- *CASCA support for Science Conferences*: The CASCA Board considered a request to provide financial support for a meeting to be held in Canada this year. After some debate, the Board felt that there was no process to execute such a request fairly. Such support may be possible in future with the development of a policy.
- *Canada WESTAR Lectureships*: The Board endorsed the efforts by Phil Langill and the Education and Public Outreach Committee to find suitable locations for the next WESTAR Lectureships. Also, the Board agreed that the full travel costs of WESTAR Lecturers shall be covered by the program.
- *CASCA Meeting Support*: The Board agreed to provide some support to the organizers of the Victoria AGM, e.g., to provide

honoraria to First Nations members who will address the membership.

- *Demographics and Climate Surveys*: The Board provided input to the Equity & Inclusivity Committee (EIC) about the content of its upcoming Demographics Survey. Also, the Board agreed with the recommendation of the EIC to have those who handle data from the recent Climate Survey sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement to protect the privacy of the responders.
- *Corporate Membership*: The Board elected to adopt suggestions of Venn and Sarah Gallagher regarding Corporate Members. First, new Corporate Members (at the \$1000 level) shall be allowed to send two representatives to the AGM with the Board reimbursing the LOC for the costs. Second, one year of Corporate Membership shall be given to companies that have provided donations in support of the meeting over and including \$5K. These guidelines hold for the upcoming AGM in Victoria but will be considered as possible changes to the By-laws by the membership at the meeting.
- *EPO Advertising*: The Board endorsed a proposal by the EPO Committee for a small (\$200) budget to advertise its activities online (e.g., via Facebook).

4. Review of the Action/Ongoing Items Lists [Di Francesco]

- *New CASCA Communications Officer*: The Board has hired Jennifer West as a contractor into this position. The Officer will, among other things, manage the CASCA webpages and fix the Members Database.
- *CASCA Website Provider Migration*: The Board has elected to move the CASCA webpages from SMU to the inexpensive provider that hosts the RASC's webpages. This migration will be handled by the new Communications Officer.
- *Core Values Statement*: The Board has tasked the Equity and Inclusivity Committee to provide them with a "Core Values Statement" that can be presented to the membership at the upcoming AGM.
- *Gender Bias Analysis*: Spekkens has submitted a paper about her recent gender systematics studies to the Austin SPIE meeting.

5. President's Report [Abraham]

- *Coalition Activity*: Another coalition trip to Ottawa is planned for

April but a date hasn't been fixed yet. Some difficulty getting the new chief science officer to pin down a date.

- *Federal Budget 2018*: Pleased by the overall support for science in the budget, disappointed in no specific support for space science. Our lobbying doesn't seem to have been effective, perhaps because we led with WFIRST and the U.S. President's budget zeroed it out.
- *President's Message*: Abraham to write his last message to the membership for the March 2018 edition of e-Cassiopeia.
- *TMT*: Support for the project in Hawaii seems to be improving, but input from the community still needed.

6. Secretary's Report [Di Francesco]

- *Elections Update*: The Nominating Committee has found two members to stand for election to become the next Vice-President: Michael Balogh (Waterloo) and Sara Ellison (Victoria). Notice of the election will be sent out by Di Francesco by month's end, and the election itself will begin three weeks before the AGM.
- *IAU Membership Drive*: The membership drive for the IAU has closed and Canada has sent applications for 17 new Individual Members and 10 new Junior Members to be confirmed at this August's IAU General Assembly in Vienna.
- *By-law Change*: To clarify the rights of members to present research at CASCA's annual meetings, Di Francesco to propose an amendment to the By-laws that will codify what is presently written in the "Guide to Hosting an AGM" document.
- *ICSU Meeting in Paris*: after some discussion, no Board member is available to attend the ICSU meeting in Paris to represent CASCA.

7. AOB [all]

- *Auditors*: St-Louis has received a request from our Auditors, Wilkinson & Co., about renewing our contract.
- *CSA News*: The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) has approved travel funds for NASA science and technology definition teams (STDT) meetings for space missions. \$20K in support expected.

8. Adjournment [all]

- **Motion to adjourn the 80th meeting of the CASCA Board of Directors (Abraham/Rosolowsky): Carried**