

Canadian Astronomical Society
Société Canadienne d'Astronomie
89th meeting of the Board of Directors
May 23, 2019 11h00 – 12h00 PDT
Via videoconference

Minutes

<i>Present:</i>	Rob Thacker	President
	Sara Ellison	Vice-President
	Nicole St-Louis	Treasurer
	James Di Francesco	Secretary
	Samar Safi-Harb	Director
	Kristine Spekkens	Director
	Roberto Abraham	Past-President
<i>Absent:</i>	Erik Rosolowsky	Director
	René Doyon	Director

1. Business Conducted Electronically [all]

- *DRI Letter of Support:* As requested by the Computation and Data Committee and with Board approval, Thacker signed a letter of support to the Digital Research Infrastructure (DRI) group outlining our position about the new organization for research computing in Canada.
- *CASCA2021:* The dates for the annual CASCA meeting in 2021 in Penticton, BC have settled to May 10-14, 2021.
- *PayPal:* CASCA's account with the online payment company PayPal became locked in early May, preventing members from using that service to remit their dues. Members can still remit via cheque or e-transfer. Treasurer St-Louis and former Treasurer Gregg Wade are investigating the situation.

2. President's Report [Thacker]

- *Coalition news:* Thacker provided an update on the Coalition visit to Ottawa on May 27-28. In case the reception hosted by H elene Laverdiere, the NDP MP for Laurier – Sainte Marie, QC is interpreted as a lobbying event, NRC members of CASCA will not attend. The event will be more about making connections with MPs rather than pitches. Thacker (SMU), Maria Drout (Dunlap), Ren e Doyon and Nathalie Ouellette (Montr eal), Matt Dobbs and Vicky Kaspi (McGill), and St ephane Courteau (Queen's) will meet also with MPs throughout the visit. Unfortunately, no ACURA or industry partners were able to join the visit this time.

- *LRP2020 news*: The Board discussed the potential for conflicts of interest within the LRP2020 panel. It is vitally important that the panel not be perceived as establishing hegemony based on its members' backgrounds or associations, and that the process itself be transparent. In the event of direct conflict, recusal is recommended, though it could lead to some temporary loss of expertise on the panel. In such cases, outside expertise could be brought in if the loss of expertise on the panel is significant. A possibility would be for the panel to compile a list of external people to approach for expertise in case certain panel members with such expertise are recused.

3. Vice-President's Report [Ellison]

- *NSERC Interaction*: Ellison received 8-10 responses from her solicitation to the membership for topics to discuss with the NSERC representative during her presentation at the end of our annual meeting on June 20. At present, the NSERC representative will likely be Elizabeth Boston, the Director of Research Grants for NSERC's Mathematical, Environmental, and Physical Sciences Division.
- *Grad School Offer Deadline Motion*: The wording has been finalized for the motion for CASCA to recommend to Canadian universities the establishment of a common date for the acceptance of first-round offers to graduate school. CASCA members will consider the motion during the upcoming business meeting on June 20.

4. AOB [all]

- No other business