

# Canadian Astronomical Society Société Canadienne d'Astronomie

## Meeting of the Board of Directors via videoconference

Minutes for August 6, 2019

**Present:**

**Rob Thacker (President/Chair)**  
**Sara Ellison (Vice President)**  
**Lewis Knee (Treasurer)**  
**Judith Irwin (Secretary)**  
**Etienne Artigau (Director)**  
**Suresh Sivanandam (Director)**  
**René Doyon (Director)**

**Absent:** Ivana Damjanov

### **1. TMT Update and Statements**

There was extensive discussion about the difficult situation on Maunakea with respect to the TMT telescope. Note was made about the letters sent out by Rob Thacker and Michael Balogh as well as a previous ACURA statement. There have been some requests for an official statement from CASCA. However, at this point in time, it was felt that new, illuminating and progressive statements could not yet be made, although Thacker agreed to provide community updates via the exploder. The CASCA board is following and discussing Maunakea developments closely.

### **2. Office Staff Issues**

Susan Di Francesco has suggested that, after 7 years as CASCA administrator, it may be time for her to formally step down. If she decides not to continue, we will need to advertise this position. Jennifer West also will be stepping down as CASCA web administrator and this position will be advertised on the CASCA exploder and web site.

### **3. CCUWIP**

The Canadian Council for University Women in Physics has requested financial support from CASCA. We are waiting on more information about the details of this conference before making a decision.

### **4. Grad Deadline Statement**

A document has been drawn up urging that common deadlines be accepted for accepting graduate students. This will be posted on the CASCA web site.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, September 10