

**CANADIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY/
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ASTRONOMIE**

**Agenda for the forty-third Annual General Meeting
University of Calgary, Calgary
Wednesday June 6, 2012, starting at 15:30**

The meeting was started with 44 members in attendance.

- 1. Adoption of the agenda / Adoption de l'ordre du jour (President)**
Motion (Hesser/Bastien) : to adopt the agenda. Carried.

- 2. Adoption of the minutes of the 2011 AGM / Adoption du compte rendu de la réunion de 2011 (Secretary)**
Motion (Manset/Crampton) : to adopt the minutes of the 2011 AGM. Carried.

- 3. Nominations to the Nominating committee / Nominations du comité de nomination**
Laura Parker nominates Rob Thacker. Samar Safi-Harb nominates Pat Côté. There were no additional nominations.
Motion (Wade/Parker) : to close the nominations. Carried.

- 4. Business arising from the minutes / Affaires découlant du compte rendu**
None.

- 5. President's report / Rapport du Président**
 - A petition in support of CSA was distributed. The President sent letters of support. A reply was received, but nothing could be done with this year's budget.
 - The CASCA Board had requested and has received a list of IAU-related activities organized by CASCA members. This information was added to the yearly IAU questionnaire used by the government to decide if it will continue paying the IAU membership dues. This information is very useful. This year, we received our highest score ever (41 points out of 45). To get an even higher score, CASCA members are encouraged to organize IAU meetings or symposiums.
 - NRC looked into its commitment to astronomy (and other fields). Based on independent evaluations, astronomy in Canada is very well viewed.
 - The current administrative assistant, Roslyn Hanes, is retiring. The new administrative assistant is Susan Di Francesco. CASCA members thank Ros for her years of service.

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6. Secretary's report / Rapport du Secrétaire

- The CASCA website will be moved to Saint Mary's University.
- The 21 CASCA members who applied for IAU membership will be accepted by the IAU at the August 2012 IAU general assembly.
- Following the nominations received from the Nominating Committee, the Board composition will change as follows : President Laura Ferrarese, First VP Rene Plume, Second VP Christine Wilson.
- The Secretary asked for a minute of silence to remember CASCA members who passed away during the past year : François Wesemael, Kimmo Innanen, Eric Harvey Richardson, and J. Murray Fletcher. The last 2 were charter members.
- The Secretary presented updated membership numbers.

Motion (Manset/Crabtree) : to approve the Secretary's report. Carried.

7. Treasurer's report / Rapport du Trésorier

- The financial summary shows that CASCA's investments increased by about 4%. The Treasurer has consolidated accounts, to make the management easier. The income from dues is about the same as last year.
- The dues increase is due to inflation only (2%). The 2009 progressive additional fee is not needed anymore and was not applied this year.
- The auditor did not find anything wrong or unusual with CASCA's records.
- The Treasurer invited volunteers willing to help and serve on the investment committee, for which the workload is small.
- The Hogg award is endowed. The Executive award is \$6k short of being endowed.
- CASCA supports EPO activities, even if there were fewer expenses this year.

Motion (Wade/parker): to approve the Treasurer's report. Carried.

8. Election of Auditor / Élection du vérificateur

The Treasurer reports that the firm Wilkinson & cie is doing a good job. Their fees amount to \$6200 this year.

Motion (Wade/Percy) : to continue using the services of Wilkinson & cie. Carried.

9. CASCA Scholarship

The CASCA Scholarship was awarded to Yasuhiro Hasegawa. The CASCA Board congratulates the recipient.

10. The new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (CNCA) and its impact on CASCA

Currently, changing the CASCA by-laws is complicated, because after getting members' approval, the approved by-laws need to be accepted by the government. The new law won't required this anymore. The CASCA Board will look into making the required transition before the deadline of Oct. 2014.

11. NSERC situation

The evaluation rules for grant applications have changed. There are budget cuts. Fewer grants are awarded. Even applications with positive reviews do not get funded. The situation is worrisome. The Board will look into this situation and try to put pressure to improve it. CASCA members might be asked for input.

12. Committee reports / Rapports des comités

The President thanked all committees and their chair. Committees produced reports which are available on CASCA's website. These are challenging times for astronomy; budgets and programs are getting cut. CASCA members are encouraged to contact the chairs of the various committees to share their concerns.

13. Future CASCA meetings / Prochaines réunions de la CASCA

- 2013 : UBC, Vancouver, the dates are still to be determined
- 2014 ?
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14. Other business / Divers

None.

15. Adjournment / Levée de l'assemblée

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.