

Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science

The AGM was held on June 26 2011 during the Annual Meeting of the Society at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. Peter Dixon (President) chaired the meeting and Peter Graf (Secretary/Treasurer) was the recording secretary.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated prior to the meeting.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting

The President noted that a draft of the minutes of the 2010 AGM is available on the BBCS Web site. He identified minor revisions that are required, and asked for other corrections. No other corrections were identified and the minutes were approved.

3. Report from the Executive

A: *Financial Report & Membership Statistics*

The Secretary/Treasurer presented the 2010 Financial Report, noting that CSBBCS continues to be in excellent financial health.

The Secretary/Treasurer reminded the meeting that the financial statement provided at the meeting is always an interim report of the Society's financial health, a statement which includes neither a full accounting of the convention costs nor of the Society's membership. He noted that the organization of annual meetings, including the collection of convention registration fees, differs from year to year and this difference is reflected in the Society's fluctuating annual financial reports.

The Secretary/Treasurer reminded the assembly that the Society previously purchased two GICs (one for \$50K and the other for \$25K) from HSBC, and that the Society continues to hold these GICs.

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that on August 17 2010, a review of the Society's records and processes was conducted by Dr. R. Tees and Dr. A. Kingstone. **For a copy of the positive outcome of this review, [click here](#).**

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that as of June 24 2011 (immediately prior to start of the convention), CSBBCS had 233 members (139 full members, 89 associate members; 5 emeritus members). He also observed that these membership numbers are substantially lower than they were in 2010.

Click [here](#) for Member Stats Report (as of June 23 2011)

Click [here](#) for Financial Report (as of August 31 2010)

B: Web & Convention

In time for the 2009 convention, the CSBBCS membership system was more closely integrated with the registration system, making it easier to ensure that convention registrants are paid up members of the society. However, the 2010 and to a lesser extent the 2011 convention experience revealed room for additional improvements.

The CSBBCS website has been scheduled for a major overhaul which should make it easier to update the site. At its most recent meeting, the Executive mandated that the web overhaul must be made in the summer of 2011, and that failure to achieve this goal will trigger the search for a new webmaster.

The [2011 convention report](#) provides more information about web related issues that need to be addressed in the web overhaul.

C: Financial Support for Winner of Tees Distinguished Leadership Award

The President informed the assembly that the only CSBBCS award which has not been associated with any financial contribution or support is the Tees Distinguished Leadership Award. He explained that in order to correct this situation and to facilitate convention attendance by the Tees award winner, the Executive Committee has decided that a travel/accommodation stipend shall be given to the winner of the Tees Award. He also noted that the amount of this stipend shall be a maximum of \$750 in years when the convention is held in Canada, or a maximum of \$1000 in years when the convention is held in the UK. This decision is effective as of 2011.

D. Election Results & New Executive Committee

In an email call for nominations, one candidate – Steve Lupker -- was nominated for the President-Elect positions.

In the absence of other nominations, Steve Lupker was acclaimed to the position.

On behalf of CSBBCS, the President thanked those who made nominations for the position on the executive of CSBBCS, and Steve for agreeing to the nomination.

2011 - 2012 Executive

President: Valerie Thompson, University of Saskatchewan
Past-President: Peter Dixon, University of Alberta
President-Elect: Steve Lupker, University of Western Ontario
Secretary-Treasurer: Peter Graf, University of British Columbia
Member-at-Large: Debbie Kelly, University of Saskatchewan (2009 - 2012)
Member-at-Large: Randy Jamieson, University of Manitoba (2011-2014)*

* Randy was elected in a special election, consistent with paragraph E

E. Filling vacated seats on the executive committee

The acclamation of Steve Lupker as President-Elect has created a vacancy on the executive. In order to fill this vacancy, as well as other vacancies on the Society's Executive Committee which may occur from time to time, it will be necessary to amend the [Charter of the Society](#).

The relevant Section of the Charter currently reads as follows: *3c. Elections when necessary will be held by email ballot in March of every year.*

Motion duly made, seconded and approved, that Section 3c of the Charter of the Society be amended to read as follows:

3c. Elections when necessary will be held by email ballot in March of every year. However, if a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, an ad hoc election may be held at any time at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Vacancies filled by means of an ad hoc election will be arranged to preserve the staggering of terms of office.

4. CJEP Update

Doug Mewhort, editor of CJEP, was unable to attend the AGM.

5. NSERC Report

At a well-attended session, an officer of NSERC -- Guillaume Sabourin, Program Officer, Biological Systems and Functions -- made a presentation and answered questions concerning the 2011 federal budget and its impact on NSERC funding, the conference model now used by NSERC for making decisions about discovery grants, and the results from the most recent discovery grant competition. The presentation of the NSERC officer was augmented by insider comments from by Jason P. Leboe who is serving on the grant review panel. For a pdf of the NSERC presentation, [click here](#); for a pdf of the presentations by Jason, [click here](#).

6. Awards

A: Donald O. Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award

Ellen Bialystok was awarded the 2011 Donald O. Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award.

B: Donald O. Hebb Graduate Student Award

Spoken Presentation Award: **Winner:** Eric Legge, University of Alberta.

Honorable mention: Tonya Jonker, University of Waterloo.

Poster Presentation Award -- **Winner:** Paul Seli, University of Waterloo.

Honorable mention: Dana Hayward, McGill University.

Decisions about the 2011 Hebb Graduate Student Awards were based on the assessment of a panel of judges. Students who were interested in having their presentation considered for an award submitted an extended abstract (maximum of 400 words). Based on the abstracts, nominees were evaluated at the conference by the panel on the basis of scientific impact and presentation quality.

This year's prize for best paper or poster is an award of \$500.00, an engraved plaque and a 1-year membership in BBCS. The prize for honorable mention is a 1-year membership in BBCS.

The 2011 Hebb Graduate Student Award Committee consisted of the following: Harinder Aujla, Glen Bodner, Hans Dringenberg, Melanie Glenwright, Tammy Ivanco, Jo-Anne Lefevre, Mike Masson & John Vokey.

C: Richard Tees Distinguished Leadership Award

Julien Doyon received the 2011 Richard Tees Distinguished Leadership Award.

D: CSBBCS Early Career Award

Debbie Kelly received the 2011 CSBBCS Early Career Award.

E: Criteria for the Hebb Distinguished Contribution Award

Jamie Campbell, Chair of the Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, informed the assembly of concerns expressed by the reviewers of nominees for the Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award. The specific concerns stem from the fact that the current criteria make no reference to nominees' affiliation with the CSBBCS.

The current criteria for the award read as follows:

Normally, the awardee shall have conducted a significant proportion of his/her research training or disciplinary work within Canada.

Motion, duly made, seconded and approved, that the criteria for the Hebb Distinguished Contribution Award shall be changed to read as follows:

Normally, the awardee shall have been a member of the Society and shall have conducted his/her mentoring and disciplinary work predominantly within Canada.

6. Report on the Convention

Randy Jamieson reported on the 2011 convention.

For a pdf of an extended version of this report, prepared by Randy Jamieson & Tammy Ivanco, [click here](#).

7. Thanks to the Meeting Organizers

On behalf of CSBBCS, the President acknowledged and thanked the conference organizers, especially Tammy Ivanco & Randy Jamieson (co-chairs), who were assisted by Mary Kuzmeniuk, Gloria Derksen, Stephen Smith and Jason Leboe-McGowan. He also thanked Murray Singer, Tammy Ivanco & Randy Jamieson who were the convention program committee, the members of the Hebb Graduate Student Award Committee (Harinder Aujla, Glen Bodner, Hans Dringenberg, Melanie Glenwright, Tammy Ivanco, Jo-Anne Lefevre, Mike Masson & John Vokey), and the many volunteers (Chrissy Chubala, Brian Hauri, Jackie Spear, Anjum Fazalludin, Steve Prime, Jane Lawrence, Ben Meek, Ni Tian, Jolene Kinley, Jeff Doering, Ashley Pauls & Suzane Cadiz). A more complete listing of all individuals who contributed to the 2011 meeting is available in the [2011 Convention Report](#).

8. Future Meetings

The President reminded the assembly about the location of (actual & potential) future meetings:

[June 7-9, 2012, Queens/Kingston, Hans Dringenberg](#)

[June 7-9, 2013, Calgary/Calgary, Glen Bodner](#)

[June 12-14, 2014, Ryerson/Toronto, Ben Dyson \(joint with EPS\)](#)

[June ??, 2015, Carleton/Ottawa, Guy Lacroix \(coordinated with CPA\)](#)

These venues are in accord with the location formula of East-Central-West-Central for the annual conference. The Quebec-Atlantic boundaries and the Ontario-Manitoba border define the three regions.

9. Other Business

The President thanked the Secretary/Treasurer for his continued service to the Society.

The President also thanked Colin MacLeod (outgoing Past-President) for his years of service and contributions to the Society.

There being no further business, the President handed the meeting over to incoming President Valerie Thompson.

10. Adjournment

Valerie thanked the conference organizers. On behalf of CSBBCS, Valerie also thanked Peter as outgoing President for all his efforts and contributions to CSBBCS.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.