

Minutes of the 2000 Business Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science

The meeting was held during the Annual Meeting of the Society in Cambridge, UK, as part of the joint meeting with the British Experimental Psychology Society, July 19-22.

The meeting convened at 1:05 PM with Lorraine Allan (President-elect) in the Chair in place of Pierre Jolicoeur (President), who was unable to attend the meeting. Mike Masson was the recording secretary.

1. Approval of the minutes of the 1999 Business Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes (D. Mewhort - C. MacLeod) - passed.

2. Report on NSERC.

Colin MacLeod, Chair of the NSERC Psychology Grant Selection Committee (GSC) for 1999-2000, reported on activities of the GSC. The Committee now uses a reader system in which there are eight readers assigned to each research grant and four readers assigned to each equipment grant.

Applicants were advised to be clear in explaining their need, if any, for funds from the two new reallocation pools: (1) neuroimaging and (2) molecular and animal care.

In the 2000 competition, there was a pool of strong new applicants, including well-established researchers. The mean research grant for renewal applicants was about \$1,500 higher than last year, but was lower by about \$2,000 per grant for new applicants. In the "Previous nil" category, which included well-established researchers applying for the first time, the average grant was \$3,000 higher than last year. Tables from the GSC 12 Annual Report are appended to these minutes.

Colleagues were reminded of the importance of submitting their external reviews of grant applications on time.

The equipment budget for this year's competition was 38% higher than last year so more applications were funded than usual.

The Chair of the GSC for next year will be Paul Hearty, a Canadian researcher who is now employed by Motorola Corp. in the United States. Dr. Hearty is the industry member of the GSC.

Work on the next reallocation exercise, in which a portion of the funding for each of the GSCs will be redistributed, will begin shortly. The reallocation team for Psychology has been selected and consists of: L. Allan (McMaster), R. Brown (Dalhousie), M. Goodale (Western Ontario), C. MacLeod (Toronto), I. Peretz (Montreal), J. Werker (British Columbia), and I. Wishaw (Lethbridge). The committee will prepare the reallocation report for Psychology and will be contacting members of the research community for assistance.

Richard Brown suggested that the reallocation report should emphasize the relevance of psychological research to information technology and to genetics.

3. Report on this year's conference.

Fergus Craik reported that this year's program included 133 spoken presentations, including 11 symposia, and 76 posters.

Elizabeth Gaffan of the British EPS was credited with having done a excellent job of setting up the conference and Melanie Thompson of the BBBCS office at Carleton University was singled out for having made a tremendous effort to ensure that arrangements for the conference were successful. Craik suggested that a tangible reward for Melanie would be in order. President-elect Allan said that she would send letters of thanks to EPS and look into providing some kind of reward for Melanie.

4. Report on CPA Scientific Affairs Committee.

Ray Klein reported that there would be a vote to determine whether CPA would permit representation on its governing board from CSBBCS, CCDP (Council of Canadian Departments of Psychology), and CPAP (Council of Provincial Associations of Psychologists). The Committee has been lobbying to have representatives from CPA appointed to the governing board for the newly established Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

5. Report on CPA Governing Board meetings.

Lorraine Allen reported on behalf of Pierre Jolicoeur. A report on the board meetings as prepared by Pierre Jolicoeur is appended to these minutes. An important issues arising from these meetings is the coordination of a joint meeting of CSBBCS and CPA.

Richard Brown suggested that CSBBCS should re-evaluate the concept of a joint meeting with CPA next year.

6. Video production on experimental psychology.

A report on this concept prepared by Vincent Di Lollo is attached to these minutes. The recommendation in the report is that CSBBCS cannot afford the cost of a professionally produced promotional video.

Richard Brown suggested that Halifax has producers who might be affordable and that some other organization might be able to pay for production costs. He offered to look into pursuing these two possibilities.

Other suggests were: (1) establish an informative web site as an alternative to a video, (2) those who have made appearances on television may be able to obtain copies of their appearances for inclusion in a video, and (3) CSBBCS should become licensed as a nonprofit charitable organization to attract donations.

7. Financial report.

Doug Mewhort reported that CSBBCS is solvent. A financial report is attached to the minutes.

Chris Herdman will be moving off the CSBBCS Executive Committee next year, but is willing to continue overseeing the CSBBCS office (e-mail, web site management) in Ottawa. The Executive will attempt to find a replacement for Chris.

Motion to approve funds (\$3,850) for teaching release for Chris Herdman for the coming year (F. Craik - R. Wiseman) - passed.

Colin MacLeod suggested that the CSBBCS office might be placed in the office of the editor of the *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology* (currently Peter Dixon).

Motion to provide Melanie Thompson an honourarium of \$1,000 for her contributions to the organization of the 2000 meeting (R. Wiseman - R. Klein) - passed.

8. Membership report.

Lorraine Allan provided the following information about membership trends.

		Total	Full	Associate
1992	Laval	181	142	39
1993	U of T	220	158	62
1994	UBC	165	116	49
1995	Dalhousie	236	159	77
1996	McGill	210	122	88
1997	Winnipeg	246	171	75
1998	Carleton	417	231	186
1999	Edmonton	289	171	118
2000	Cambridge	308	223	85

Steve Lupker suggested that CSBBCS institute a lifetime membership option.

9. Announcements.

Jane Stewart was the 2000 recipient of the Donald O. Hebb Award and was thanked for her invited address presented at this year's meeting. Since there were sessions after the Business Meeting, the selections for the Student Awards were not yet complete. The Student Awards will be posted on the CSBBCS web site.

10. Outcome of vote on the Kimura motions.

A summary of the motions and results of the vote are in an attachment below.

The motion that CSBBCS should decline to distribute advertisements that are considered discriminatory failed to pass.

The motion that a formal statement be sent from CSBBCS to NSERC regarding its concern about programs that are considered discriminatory (e.g., the University Faculty Award program) passed.

Doreen Kimura has sent to the CSBBCS executive a first draft of a statement that could be sent to NSERC. Alan Kingstone and the CSBBCS executive will finalize the draft to be sent to NSERC.

The disclaimer that appears with advertisements will be at the end of the ad and has been altered to read as follows:

DISCLAIMER

BBCS distributes the preceding advertisement as a service to its members and to the community. BBCS is not responsible for the wording or content of this advertisement and its distribution does not constitute an endorsement by BBCS. All correspondence concerning this advertisement should be directed to the contact

name identified in the advertisement.

11. Future meetings.

A summary of the planned sites and dates for future meetings of the CSBBCS is provided in the attached report from Pierre Jolicoeur on CPA Governing Board meetings.

12. New Executive Committee

The new Executive Committee is as follows:

Lorraine Allan (President)
Michael Masson (President-elect)
Pierre Jolicoeur (Past-president)
Alan Kingstone
Doug Mewhort
Isabelle Peretz

Lorraine Allan thanked outgoing President Pierre Jolicoeur and outgoing members of the executive for their contributions to the Society.

13. Other business.

Ray Klein thanked Lorraine Allan for chairing the business meeting in the absence of Pierre Jolicoeur.

14. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Attachments

1. NSERC GSC-12 Competition Results for 2000

	# Applications	# Awards	Success Rate	Allocation \$	Mean Grant \$
Overall	122	90	73.8%	2,362,000	26,244
NEWs	23	13	56.5%	206,000	15,846
“Others”	99	77	77.8%	2,156,000	28,000

“Others”	# Applications	# Awards	Success Rate	Allocation \$	Mean Grant \$
Renewals	67	64	95.5%	1,931,000	30,172
Previous Nils	32	13	40.6%	225,000	17,308

	Budget	Mean Award \$	# Awards
Proposal 1*	185,000	5,781	32
Proposal 2**	56,000	5,600	9

***Proposal 1** – Funds to counter increased costs of animal care and in the application of molecular techniques.

****Proposal 2** – Funds to support imaging studies.

Table 4: Equipment Grants Competitions 2000				
# Applications	Success Rate	\$ Requested	\$ Awarded	Funding Rate
46	80%	1,928,000	840,024	43.6%

2. Report on CPA Governing Board meetings - P. Jolicoeur

This is a very short report on the three CPA board meetings that I attended as an observer (Feb. 6-7 (Toronto), Nov. 6-7 (Montreal), and April 29 (Saskatoon)).

The CPA board consists of a president, past president, president elect, one member representing practice, one representing science, and several additional members with specific mandates.

At least half of the business conducted at these meetings pertains to matters of interest primarily to practitioners (e.g., taxation issues, accreditation of programs, relations with accreditation bodies, and so on).

The other half concerns general policy matters, lobbying issues, interactions with SSHRC, NSERC, and the new health granting agency (CIHR, Canadian Institute of Health Research), financial issues, including matters pertaining to the CPA annual convention, the journals, the staff and office costs, and costs of a fairly large number of projects.

At every meeting I attended, there was one observer from CPAP (Council of Provincial Associations of Psychologists, Joe Rallo), and one from CCDP (Council of Canadian Departments of Psychology, Abe Ross), and John Service (Executive Director).

I also had one long meeting with Gary Latham (President) and John Service (Executive Director) in the fall of 1999, concerning Latham's plans for "reunifying" Canadian psychology.

Attending these meetings gave me a better feel for the internal workings of CPA, and an appreciation for the diversity of issues they deal with as an organization.

Probably the most useful aspect of my attendance has been to facilitate the coordination of future annual meetings of BCCS and CPA and maintain amicable relations with CPA.

Our interactions with CPA have impacted our plans for future meetings. Here is where we are at the moment:

Future meetings

2001 Laval University, Simon Grondin, June 23--25 (Saturday-Monday) right after CPA

2002 UBC, Richard Tees, May 30--June 1 (Thursday-Sat) concurrent with CPA

2003 CPA initially suggested Hamilton, but they ran into scheduling difficulty. They are looking at either London, June 5-7; they are still considering Hamilton, June 12-14. This will be

resolved in the coming months. If the meeting is held at McMaster in 2003, Bruce Milliken will be our conference organizer.

2004 Memorial, June 10-12. BBCS needs to identify a local organizer for this meeting.

2005 BBCS suggested Queen's. CPA does not want to meet there, citing problems with transportation and accommodations. CPA suggests if we go to London in 2003 that we go to Hamilton in 2005.

2006 we suggested Victoria, CPA suggested Winnipeg. (this is still in the air)

2007 central

2008 CPA will want to go east, we might want to go west.

CPA has initiated a number of revenue-generation projects. If these are successful, they may be able to reduce annual dues and conference registration fees. The issue of dues and conference fees is one that recurs at these meetings. However, as of now, they have not lowered either significantly.

Significant discontent over issues of fees, and quality and usefulness of the annual meeting has been simmering among members of the developmental section of CPA. Last year, Peter Suedfeld (then President) made a special trip to avert a splintering off of this section. It is my impression that there is still significant discontent in this group.

My own brief scan at the schedule of the CPA Convention this year has reinforced my appreciation for what BBCS has achieved in its annual meeting. This is one very significant achievement of our society, which we must protect. Consequently, I consider the 2001 and 2002 meetings, which are coordinated with CPA, as experiments. Any signs that the constraints that come with these coordination efforts have a negative impact on our meeting should cause us to return to independent meetings. My suggestion is that the issue of future coordination of meetings be reevaluated at the business meeting of the 2002 (UBC) meeting.

Pierre Jolicoeur

3. Report on video production - Vincent Di Lollo

At the end of last year, I agreed to explore the possibility of producing a 10-minute video about experimental psychology. The intent was to create a promotional piece to illustrate the scientific and social merits of the research done by BBCS members. The project was aimed principally at granting agencies, notably NSERC and MRC, and at our political leaders in Ottawa.

In the course of preliminary enquiries, I had extensive face-to-face interviews with two film editors (David Z. Levine, of Zvi Productions, Vancouver, and John Wright, Head of the Department of Theatre, Film, and Creative Writing at UBC). I also had an extended telephone interview with Sharon Posner, who is a film producer in New York.

To cut a long story short, I do not believe that we can afford it. Here are some of the things that need to be done to produce a high-quality video:

1. PRE-PRODUCTION. Appoint a producer, write a script for the video, recruit a film crew, obtain the required permits.
2. PRODUCTION. Director of photography, camera man, electrician, lights, beta package, craft services, arrange site shoots, conduct interviews.

3. POST-PRODUCTION. Off-line editing (English and French versions), on-line editing, animation, titles, music (composed or stock), stock footage, host/narrator, V/O translation, French translation, duplication, distribution.

The total cost estimates ranged from \$50,000 to \$80,000. It must be emphasized that these were ball-park estimates which did not include travel expenses. This would mean that the video would have to be shot at only one university. In this case, the outcome would be a limited, non-representative portrayal of our national research endeavours.

I gathered the distinct impression that, if we wanted a good product, the budget would have to be flexible and somewhat open-ended. I considered, and promptly dismissed, the option of getting a graduate student to do it as a thesis project. The expense would still have been considerable, and the quality of the product uncertain at best.

For my efforts, I have learned that it takes more than a well-intentioned researcher wielding a good-quality camera if the objective is to produce a good-quality video.

(Signed) Vince Di Lollo.

4. Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(June 1, 1999 – May 25, 2000)

Balance forward as at June 1, 1999 \$43,941.35

INCOME

Total Revenue:	
Membership fees	\$14,062.39
1999 Conference	\$9,000.03
2000 Conference	\$25,451.80
Interest on account	<u>\$476.48</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$48,990.70

EXPENSES

2000 Conference (dinners & King's College accommodation)	\$21,653.26
1999 Conference float paid to University of Alberta	\$8,000.00
Teaching relief (1999-2000)	\$3,850.00
Stipend paid to Administrator (June 1999-May 2000)	\$2,400.00
Travel to CPA Meetings (President)	\$1,895.24
Travel expenses for 1999 Hebb Award recipient (M. Goodale)	\$890.46
1999-2000 Membership fees for Cdn. Ass'n. of Univ. Teachers	\$300.00
Postage stamps & courier costs	\$229.65
1999 Hebb Award	\$126.54
Engraving costs for 1999 Student Hebb Award	\$59.23
Refunds of Conference overpayments	\$50.80
NSF cheques & service charges incurred	<u>\$25.00</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES (\$39,480.18)

ACCOUNT BALANCE AS AT MAY 25, 2000

\$53,451.87

NET GAIN TO BBCS

\$9,510.52

5. Results of voting on Kimura motions

Motion 1: That BBCS will not forward via e-mail, or otherwise distribute, job advertisements that are discriminatory in nature. "Discriminatory" is here defined as specifying characteristics which are irrelevant to the position being advertised. BBCS will announce this principle by its usual avenues of communication.

DEFEATED No = 48, Yes = 34 (total = 82)

Motion 2: That BBCS make a formal statement to NSERC, declaring its opposition to the exclusionary nature of the University Faculty Awards, which are currently restricted to women.

PASSED No = 37, Yes = 45 (total = 82)