

Minutes of the 2003 Business Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science

The Business Meeting was held during the Annual Meeting of the Society at McMaster University in Hamilton, June 12 - 14. The meeting convened at 5:00 PM on June 14 with Fran Wilkinson (President-Elect) in the Chair and Lorraine Allan (Secretary/Treasurer) as the recording secretary.

1. Approval of the minutes of the 2002 Business Meeting

Fran noted that the minutes of the 2002 Business Meeting were available on the BBCS Web site. She asked if there were any corrections. There were none and the minutes were approved as moved and seconded by Richard Brown and Pat Bennett.

2. Business Arising

There was no Business Arising that was not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

3. Reports

a) 2003 BBCS meeting – David Shore and Bruce Milliken

David and Bruce gave their report on the meeting with the aid of an informative powerpoint show in which they thanked the many individuals involved in organizing the conference. Special thanks went to Aimee Sky (a graduate student) and to Wendy Selbie and Milica Pavlica in the Psychology Office. The show also highlights new endeavours at the 2003 conference such as a banquet, the presentation of the first BBCS/SCCC Science Communication Award to Jay Ingram, a plenary session, and the BBCS Olympics. Also, advice is provided to future conference coordinators on how to organize a successful conference.

Click [here](#) for the powerpoint presentation. (Click [here](#) for a “pdf” version)

b) NSERC – Paule Boulanger

Paule Boulanger (Program Officer, Life Sciences Division, Research Grants) and Teresa Jurewicz (Team Leader, Life Sciences Division, Research Grants) attended the Business Meeting and Paule Boulanger presented the NSERC report as a powerpoint presentation. Click [here](#) for the powerpoint presentation. (Click [here](#) for a “pdf” version).

Two items generated questions and comments.

Slide 5: Canada Graduate Scholarships Program: \$7.5M in 2003-04 up to \$31.5M by 2006-07

The Canadian Government has announced a new Graduate Scholarships Program which will be administered through the Granting Councils. The value of the scholarships will be considerably higher than the NSERC PGS Awards. Questions were asked about the integration of the new and existing awards (e.g., one application or two separate applications). In essence, little has been decided. As decisions are made, the relevant information will be posted on the NSERC Web site.

Slide 6: 2002 Reallocations Exercise – Results

It is clear from the slide that every Life Science GSC lost funds as a result of the Reallocations Exercise. Members of BBCS were quite disturbed about

this trend and wondered why. The NSERC Reps had no answers to these queries, but did say that the whole process was being reevaluated.

c) CPA Board – Jennifer Stolz

Jennifer reported that there was little happening at CPA that was directly relevant to BBCS. In previous years, the CPA conference organizer (backed by the CPA Board) was keen to coordinate the CPA and BBCS conferences. This no longer seems to be the case.

d) Financial Report – Lorraine Allan

BBCS continues to be in excellent financial health. When the report was prepared, revenue was up by about \$7000 compared to May 2002. The Executive is exploring proposals for using some of the funds to aid student travel to BBCS meetings. The Financial Report is available in Appendix A.

e) Membership Report – Lorraine Allan

As of June 10, there were 355 paid members. Additional memberships at and since the conference bring the total to 376. By the end of the 2002 UBC meeting, the membership was 435 (an all-time high).

4. **Future BBCS Meetings**

At the 2002 Business Meeting it was decided that joint meetings with CPA continue **as long as the timing and the location were convenient for BBCS**. Whether a joint meeting would be sequential (as at Laval) or simultaneous (as at UBC and McMaster) would be determined by the Executive in consultation with the local BBCS organizer.

2004

CPA is meeting in St John's Newfoundland June 10–12. It is likely that BBCS will meet at Memorial in June (we are waiting for a firm commitment), the dates depending on availability of lecture rooms and residence space. If Memorial is not possible, Richard Brown has agreed to host the meeting at Dalhousie.

2005

This will be a joint meeting with EPS in July. Pierre Jolicoeur has agreed to host the meeting at the University of Montreal.

2006

CPA is meeting in Calgary. The BBCS Executive is exploring Calgary as well as a meeting in Saskatoon.

5. **2003 - 2004 Executive**

President: Frances Wilkinson (York University)

Past President: Alan Kingstone (University of British Columbia.)

President-Elect: Murray Singer (University of Manitoba)

Secretary-Treasurer: Lorraine Allan (McMaster University)

Members-at-Large

Bruce Milliken (McMaster University)

Jennifer Stolz (University of Waterloo)

Janet Werker (University of British Columbia)

6. Behavioural Neuroscience and Psychology in Canada – Richard Brown

a) Richard Brown noted that Hebb was born in 1904 and suggested that the 2004 BBCS meeting be dedicated to Hebb (a Hebbfest). Richard has obtained provisional funding to sponsor a guest lecturer. The BBCS Executive is considering sponsoring a symposium in Hebb's honour.

b) Richard expressed his concern about the apparent decrease in students interested in Behavioural Neuroscience. An informal survey that he conducted during the meeting suggested that this was not due to a decrease in animal facilities in Psychology Departments. There was also concern expressed about the under-representation of Behavioural Neuroscience at the meeting and in the composition of the BBCS membership.

7. Hebb Student Awards – Daphne Maurer

Daphne Maurer, chair of the 2003 Hebb Student Awards Committee, presented the awards. She explained that the procedure for selecting the award winners was somewhat different this year and asked the membership to email any comments to her. Decisions about the *2003 award for best paper* were based on additional material submitted by the graduate student (a 2-3 page synopsis of the research and a 50-word statement about the importance of the research in lay language), a supporting letter from the supervisor indicating the student's contribution to the project, audience evaluation of the presented paper, and the assessment of the oral presentation at the conference by a panel of judges. Decisions about the *2003 award for best poster* were based on the assessment of a panel of judges, the student's lay statement, and a letter from the supervisor about the student's role in the project.

BEST PAPER:

Joanna Gore (Queens University) "Preparatory signals in the FEF, SNr and SC correspond to reductions in saccadic reaction time."

HONOURABLE MENTION:

Michael Jones (Queens University) "Follow the Floating Representation: Sequence Effects in an Exemplar-Production Category Learning Task"

Franca Placenza (University of Toronto) "The role of substance P in reinstatement of cocaine-seeking behaviour"

BEST POSTER:

Jessica Phillips-Silver (McMaster University) "Movement influences the auditory encoding of a rhythm pattern in infants and adults"

Michael Jones (Queens University) "A Simple Context Co-occurrence Hyperspace Model of Semantic Memory"

HONOURABLE MENTION:

Brett Beston (McMaster University) "Developmental changes in glutamate receptor expression in human visual cortex"

This year's prize for best paper or poster is \$100, an engraved plaque, a 1-year-membership in BBCS, and a t-shirt from this year's meeting. The prize for honorable

mention is a 1-year-membership in BBCS and a t-shirt. Letters will be sent by the incoming BBCS President to the students and the Chair of their Departments.

Pictures from the award ceremony and more detail about the award winners will be available at <http://psych.mcmaster.ca/bbcs/hebb.html>

On behalf of BBCS, Daphne thanked the 2003 panel of judges for their careful adjudication of the awards. The members of the 2003 Hebb Student Awards Committee were:

Scott Allen (University of Lethbridge)
Sue Becker (McMaster University)
Walter Bischof (University of Alberta)
Terri Lewis (McMaster University)
Laura Melnyk (University of Western Ontario)
Melissa Rutherford (McMaster University)
Bruce Whittlesea (Simon Fraser University)

8. **BBCS Olympics** – Allison Sekuler

As noted in the presentation by David and Bruce, the BBCS Olympics was a new event this year. Allison announced and congratulated the winners. Each winner who was present at the meeting received a BBCS t-shirt.

9. **Prizes** – Allison Sekuler

Also new this year were donations of prizes by various sponsors. During the Olympic events, participants could enter a draw for these prizes. Fran drew the names of the winners. The prizes were generously donated by **Apple Inc.** (2 golf jackets), **The McMaster Bookstore** (2 hat/t-shirt bundles and 2 travel mugs), **Lordley Jones Furnishings** (2 glass chess sets), **BBCS** (t-shirts), **The Pita Pit** (dinner for 2), and **TCBY** (free frozen yogurt).

10. **Other business**

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM.

Appendix A

FINANCIAL STATEMENT				
May 30, 2002 - June 12, 2003				
Balance 2002				59,940.31
Income	dues	2002	2,320.00	
		2003	13,150.00	
		2004 -	180.00	
				15,650.00
Expenses				
	BBCS Office			
		Admin Stipend	2,400.00	
		Postage	26.63	
		Misc	37.72	
	Hebb Awards			
		plaques	322.32	
	CPA membership		391.62	
	BASICS		350.00	
Commitments				
	LOVE		350.00	
	Teaching Release		4,320.50	
	CCR		300.00	
				8,498.79
Balance				67,091.52