

Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science

The Meeting was held on June 17 during the Annual Meeting of the Society at The University of Victoria, in Victoria, BC. Carolyn Harley (President) chaired the meeting and Peter Graf (Secretary/Treasurer) was the recording secretary.

1. Approval of the Agenda

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2006 Annual General Meeting

Carolyn noted that the minutes of the 2006 AGM 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 Jamie Campbell and Doug Mewhort.

3. Report from the Executive

A: Financial Report & Membership Statistics

The Financial Report, presented by Peter Graf, was prepared in collaboration with Lorraine Allen, the outgoing Secretary/Treasurer of CSBBCS. Peter noted that CSBBCS continues to be in excellent financial health and that we continue to operate at a small annual surplus.

Peter reminded the meeting that the financial statement provided at the meeting is an interim report of the society's financial health, a statement which includes neither a full accounting of the conference costs nor of the society's membership. In order to provide the society with a financial statement which includes the full cost of the annual meeting, the Executive decided henceforth to use August 31 as the financial year end of the society.

Peter reported that as of June 15 2007 (the start of the conference), CSBBCS had 376 paid up members (212 full and 164 associate members). [At the end of the fiscal year [August 31 2007], CSBBCS had a total of 463 paid up members (259 Full and 204 associate members).

Click [here](#) for Member Stats Report (as of August 31 2007)

Click [here](#) for Financial Report (as of August 31 2007)

B: Web Implementation

Peter provided an update on the society's web, explained that its development is on course and within budget. He described the paypal option for paying membership fees and conference registration fees and noted that approximately 80% of all payments are being made via this option.

Future work on the web will focus on the development of a linkage between the membership system and the conference registration system. Among other things, this link -- scheduled to be in place by early 2008 (in time for the next conference) -- will ensure that conference registrants are paid up members of the society.

C: Motion to Amend Article 3a of the CSBBCS Charter

In the name of the society, Carolyn thanked the former Secretary/Treasurer, Lorraine Allen, for her many years of dedicated service.

Carolyn reviewed Article 3a of the society's charter, and introduced a motion to amend this article by the addition of the text shown in red & italics and by the deletion of the text shown in blue & italics:

Article 3a: The Executive Committee will consist of the President, the President-elect, the past-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, and two additional representatives. ***The Secretary-Treasurer may serve an indefinite term. All other members (Each member)*** of the Executive Committee will normally serve for three years and the terms will be staggered. ***(One of the members should be from the Ottawa area and this individual will serve as the Society's representative on the National Consortium.)***

Carolyn explained that a longer term of office for the Secretary/Treasurer will provide much needed continuity to the society. Following a brief discussion, the motion was approved as moved by Ray Klein and seconded by Bill Hockley.

D: Report/Update on the Negotiations between CPA and CSBBCS concerning the Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology (CJEP)

Carolyn outlined the history of discussions and negotiations between the CSBBCS and the CPA concerning the use of CJEP as an outlet for the CSBBCS convention abstracts and for the publication of the Donald O. Hebb Award lecture. Carolyn explained that a draft proposal had been circulated to all CSBBCS members in January 2007. She explained that the draft proposal generated no objections, and consequently, with the help of Wendy Josephson (Chair of the CPA Publications Committee) and Simon Grondin (Editor of CJEP), it was used as a platform to craft a formal agreement between CPA and CSBBCS. The agreement has the following critical clauses:

1. BBCS will adopt *CJEP* as its representative publication, and encourage its members to submit work to *CJEP* as the Canadian journal representative of the research supported by NSERC's GSC 12 Committee.
2. BBCS will enter into negotiations with CPA (and CPA's provider of publication services, if applicable) to establish a price at which print or electronic subscriptions to *CJEP* could be offered to all members of BBCS as a benefit of membership. Once this bulk subscription rate has been agreed upon in principle, and the necessary increase in membership dues communicated to the BBCS membership, this provision will be subject to ratification by majority vote of the membership of BBCS.
3. If the membership of BBCS does not ratify the necessary dues increase to provide *CJEP* as a membership benefit,
 - a. BBCS members who are not members of CPA will be offered a discount of 25-30% off the regular non-member price charged to Canadian subscribers. [At the current subscription price of \$85, this would be a price of \$59.50 to \$63.75. With expected an increase in non-member subscription rates, this will likely rise to a level between \$60 and \$81.]
 - b. BBCS will encourage its members to subscribe to *CJEP*. BBCS will do this by means such as including subscription information and a link to the subscription page for *CJEP* on the membership renewal page of the BBCS website, and raising the visibility of the journal by sending an electronic notification to BBCS members when a new issue of *CJEP* comes out, with a brief table of contents.

4. BBCS will encourage its members to review manuscripts for *CJEP*, stand for nomination as Editor of *CJEP*, and serve as Associate Editors and members of the *CJEP* Editorial Board. BBCS will circulate important announcements regarding *CJEP*, such as calls for nominations to the position of Editor, calls for manuscripts and reviewers, and announcements of upcoming special issues, to its members electronically. BBCS members who become Editors or Associate Editors of *CJEP* will also become members of CPA, consistent with the publication guidelines for CPA journals.
5. BBCS will publish its annual Donald O. Hebb Award lecture in *CJEP*, in a manner comparable to the publication of the CPA Donald O. Hebb Award address in *Canadian Psychology*.
6. BBCS will publish the abstracts of its annual convention as part of an expanded issue of *CJEP* following the BBCS convention. The direct cost of including the abstracts, beyond the usual costs of producing and mailing the issue, will be paid by BBCS. [The direct cost of printing and mailing the additional pages for the abstracts is currently estimated to range between \$1,360 and \$3,240 Canadian.]
7. The participation of BBCS in the publication of *CJEP* will be acknowledged by the following description on the journal's masthead: "Published by the Canadian Psychological Association in collaboration with the Canadian Society for Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Science."
8. A position will be added to the CPA Publications Committee for a representative of BBCS, who will be a full voting member of the Committee.
9. The procedures for soliciting nominations for the Editor of *CJEP* will include seeking the input of BBCS through a formal request to BBCS from the CPA Publications Committee for input, and through the participation of the BBCS representative on the Publications Committee
10. BBCS will not share in either the revenues or losses of *CJEP*.
11. If CPA enters into an agreement with a third party to provide publishing services for its journals, the per page cost for printing the abstracts and bulk subscription rates for BBCS members will be defined explicitly in an agreement that specifies the costs, rights and obligations of all parties.
12. This agreement can be terminated at any time by either party giving six months written notice to the other of its intention to terminate the agreement.
13. BBCS will retain no rights or ongoing responsibilities to the journal if this agreement is terminated.

Following a brief discussion, Ray Klein thanked the individuals and the committee who worked hard to pave the way toward the formal agreement.

E: Lobbying for Increased Research Funding in Canada

Carolyn listed a number of potential initiatives designed to facilitate lobbying for increased research funding in Canada, including the following:

A link will be created on the BBCS website for members to access their MP's coordinates to facilitate making an appointment as a constituent to discuss the benefits of research funding for your University and province and to ask about upcoming votes related to research funding.

MPs should be interested in hearing about new knowledge development, the training and funding of HQP and the opportunities provided for local students.

The CSBBCS Executive would appreciate hearing any reports of your experience with this form of 'grassroots' lobbying.

4. Report from Committees

A: Donald O. Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award

Michael Masson, Chair of the Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, presented the report. There were 2 nominations, 1 new and 1 from the previous 2 years. Morris Moscovitch, University of Toronto, was selected.

B: Donald O. Hebb Graduate Student Award

Ray Klein, Chair of the Hebb Student Awards Committee, reported that the procedure used this year was similar to that instituted last year. There were 32 submissions considered for the award.

For the spoken presentation, the award was won by Andreas Breuer (University of Victoria), with Sari Van Anders (Indiana University Bloomington) as the runner-up. In the poster presentation category, the winner was Christopher Warren (University of Victoria), with Simon Spanswick (University of Lethbridge) as the runner-up.

C: Richard Tees Distinguished Leadership Award

Carolyn Harley, Chair of the award explained that there were 2 nominations for the award this year. Vince Di Lollo, University of British Columbia, was selected.

5. CIHR and NSERC Reports

Carolyn introduced VIPs in attendance at the AGM, representing CIHR (Nathalie Gendron), NSERC (Paule Boulanger & Andrew Woodsworth) and the Grants and Scholarship Directorate (Mario Lamarca).

A: CIHR

Nathalie Gendron, CIHR Deputy Director, gave a presentation on behalf of CIHR, entitled "Turning Research Into Improved Health". Highlights of the presentation were the upcoming international review of CIHR and its institutes, with a focus on its governance structure, the peer review process, the research funding mechanism, and ongoing efforts to improve knowledge translation. For a pdf of the presentation, [click here](#) (1.9 Mb).

B: NSERC

Presentation by Paule Boulanger, NSERC's Program Officer, Life Sciences Division, GSC 12, Andrew Woodsworth, Project Director for NSERC's GSC Restructuring Review, and Mario Lamarca, NSERC Grants and Scholarship Directorate. The presentations entitled "NSERC Update", addressed the most recent federal budget, the most recent Discovery and RTI competition, an update on GSC 12 and its restructuring, as well as on the internal review of the discovery grants program. For a pdf of the presentation, [click here](#).

6. Executive Committee Election Results and New Executive Committee

In an email call for nominations, Rob Sutherland were nominated for President-Elect, while Denis Cousineau and William (Bill) Hockley were nominated for Member-at-Large. Rob Sutherland was acclaimed as President-Elect. By means of an electronic ballot, Bill Hockley was elected for a 3-year term.

2007 - 2008 Executive

President: Doug Mewhort, Queen's University
Past President: Carolyn Harley, Memorial University
President-Elect: Rob Sutherland, University of Lethbridge
Secretary-Treasurer: Peter Graf, University of British Columbia
Members-at-Large: Lisa Kalenchuk, University of Saskatchewan (2006-2009)
William Hockley, Wilfrid Laurier University (2007 – 2010)

7. Report on the Conference

Michael Masson has prepared the following report on the 2007 conference. For a pdf of the report, [click here](#).

8. Future Annual Meetings

2008: University of Western Ontario (Steve Lupker)
2009: Joint meeting with EPS at York (Aimee Suprenant)
2010: Dalhousie University (Ray Klein)
2011: Manitoba University (Tammy Ivanco)

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.

8. Other business

Doug Mewhort thanked Mike Masson and all the others who helped organize the 2007 conference. Doug also expressed thanks on behalf of BBCS to Carolyn as outgoing President for all her efforts and contributions to BBCS.