

## **2004 MINUTES FROM THE CWSA/ACEF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**June 1, 2004, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Prepared by Lori Chambers, Secretary**

### **WELCOME**

President of the CWSA/ACEF, Barbara Crow, extended a warm welcome to everyone at the AGM.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2003 AGM**

Ann Braithwaite moved to accept the minutes of the 2003 AGM.

Habiba Zaman seconded the motion.

No discussion.

All in favour. Motion carried.

### **REPORTS**

#### **President's Report**

Barbara Crow officially thanked the conference committee for their excellent work on this year's conference. Both the program committee, composed of Marie Lovrod, Ann Braithwaite, Roewan Crowe, Ana Isla and Susanne Luhmann, and the local organizing committee, composed of Colleen Berry, Leigh Anne Caron, Roewan Crowe, Janice Dodd, Crystal Gartside, Fiona Green, Rhonda Hinthier, Janice Ristock and Kerstin Roger, worked long hours to ensure a successful and exciting conference program and venue.

Barbara reported on the work of the board in the past year. The board has worked hard to sustain and expand its membership base and has added a strong professional development component to the annual conference. The association has also established a book award (now in its second year) and essay prizes that will enhance the visibility of the association and the discipline. Barbara also reported on her work with Aid to Scholarly Publications. This year she read 36 funding requests, a reflection of the volume of work in the field. Marie Lovrod also did extensive work with SSHRC. Monthly conference calls have been established for the executive.

Barbara presented Ann Braithwaite, incoming President, to the members. Ann thanked Barbara for all her work, presenting her with a token of the appreciation of the executive and membership.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Anne Forrest reported that the debt to Brock University is now paid off. This means that the association will have money to spend in the future and that we must make decisions about how to spend such funds. The possibility of supporting student travel to the conference was raised. Also, Ann Braithwaite will need administrative funds, as her institution, the University of Prince Edward Island, cannot provide the financial support that York has given to Barbara in the last two years.

Motion to accept the report by Anne Forrest.

Seconded by Fiona Green.  
No discussion.  
All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion to waive requirement for an external audit by Anne Forrest.  
Seconded by Susan Heald.  
No discussion.  
All in favour. Motion carried.

Motion to thank Anne Forrest for her work as treasurer by Katherine Side.  
Seconded by Fiona Green.  
No discussion.  
All in favour. Motion carried.

### **Membership Report**

Beth McAuley reported that she has been busy and that there are currently 157 paid members of the association. She wants to do more outreach in the coming year to Women's Studies departments and individuals and is working on automating the process on line. She reminded members that the CWSA/ACEF membership year runs from January to December and that the cost of renewal remains the same whatever time in the year you renew; members must be clear when they submit membership fees as to whether they are submitting an individual or institutional payment. Chairs who pay for an institution must still register as individuals; next year all presenters must be members of the association in good standing. All participants must pay conference fee, CWSA/ACEF conference fee and CWSA/ACEF membership fees. The membership fee will be required at the time of submission of an abstract for consideration by the program committee.

Motion: Any student joining for the first time, after September first, shall be considered a member until December 31 of the following year. By Susan Heald.<br/>  
Seconded by Katherine Side.  
Much discussion of wording.  
All in favour. Motion carried.

### **Book Prize Report**

Meg Luxton reported that the committee considered 15 monographs, but that no French submissions were received. The winner will present at the conference each year and July 6 is the deadline for submission of books for consideration for the prize for 2004. Both Meg Luxton and Lori Chambers are willing to serve on the committee for another year, but a third member of the committee is required. It was suggested that information about the book award be sent to French language presses. An interview with last year's winner is being published in Atlantis and the journal would like to continue with this practice. Lori Chambers also reported on a list of assessment criteria that the committee has come up with in assessing the nominations.

Motion to accept the report by Meg Luxton.  
Seconded by Lori Chambers.  
No discussion.  
All in favour. Motion carried.

## **ELECTIONS**

According to the CWSA/ACEF by-laws, elections are handled by the past-president, who is now Barbara Crow.

Barbara announced the continuing members of the Board of Directors as follows:

President: Ann Braithwaite, UPEI

Secretary: Lori Chambers, Lakehead University

2 Year Member-at-Large: Darlene Juschka, University of Regina

Membership Coordinator: Beth McAuley, Sumach Press

Barbara also presented the slate of nominees as follows:

1 Year Member-at-Large: Susanne Luhmann, Laurentian University

and asked for additional nominations from the floor. None were forthcoming.

Call for elections.

All in favour. Barbara welcomed and thanked the new Board of Directors.

Also, Anne Wagner has been working ex officio as a graduate member of the Board. In order to continue this on a permanent basis, we need a by-law change. This will cost \$150.00.

Motion by Habiba Zaman to spend \$150 to have the by-law changed so that we can have a grad member of the Board.

Seconded by Fiona Green.

Discussion with friendly amendment from Susan Heald. Barbara to see if firm can come up with a flexible wording so that by-law changes re: membership do not cost each time.

Friendly amendment accepted by Habiba and Fiona and seconded by Susanne Luhmann.

All in favour. Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATION BY DON FISHER, CFHSS**

Don reported on the on-going consultation that is taking place across the country with regard to the transformation of SSHRC. After a day in Ottawa which members from most associations, including CWSA/ACEF, attended, a draft document is now in circulation. He asks us to respond to this document as individuals by the end of June.

He also reported that we should submit materials to the Congress that we want to be released for purposes of publicity.

He reported that the women's issues committee is now the women and equity issues committee. The CWSA/ACEF was opposed to this change.

Susanne Luhmann raised the concern with regard to scheduling that there is currently a day without meetings (being used for the SSHRC consultation) and that the Humanities and Social Science divisions are increasingly divided in regards to times of presentation. This creates problems for interdisciplinary programs. This concern was rudely dismissed by the presenter.

## **UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE**

There was much discussion of the terms of the prize as presented in the Annual Report. Members suggested that the undergraduate prize be open to anyone in a Women's Studies course and that all students, not only full-time students, should be eligible. With regard to the graduate student prize, members wished the prize to be open to all graduate students, not simply those in designated Women's Studies programs, as these are still too few in number. Again, the prize should be open to all students, not just those studying full-time. Finally, both the undergraduate and graduate papers must be nominated by a member of the CWSA/ACEF in order to be eligible. It was also decided that CWSA/ACEF would attempt to contribute to the costs of travel for students traveling to present winning papers at the conference.

Motion to accept the amended terms of the undergraduate and graduate student essay prizes by Darlene Juschka.

Seconded by Fiona Nelson.

All in favour. Motion carried.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Susanne Luhmann announced that the GBLT society has made a tentative decision to change its name to Critical Studies in Genders and Sexualities. It was determined that members of the executive need to meet with this body in order to discuss this decision and its ramifications for CWSA/ACEF. Susanne Luhmann offered to initiate such discussions.

Darlene Juschka presented materials from her interactions with Atlantis. Atlantis wants an enhanced relationship with CWSA/ACEF. (They already sponsor the book prize and essay prizes). They are hesitant to be the official journal of the association because of funding and legal consequences but would like to be our journal of choice. Members would be able to renew their journal and membership at the same time, but an opt-out clause would also be available. The journal would promote the association and members of the association would make themselves available to serve on panels and as editors. Darlene answered the question 'why Atlantis'? The journal is very interdisciplinary, has numerous special issues that we could use to our benefit, it is reasonably priced and they are already supportive of the organization.

Marie Lovrod asked all members to complete the questionnaires with regard to the conference.

Fiona Green expressed concern about the lack of childcare for conferences. Although some care is available through the Congress, you have to register before the time when people even know whether or not their papers have been accepted. This is particularly problematic for students and the unwaged. We would also ask the Congress to make a concerted effort to ensure that buildings are fully accessible (note being taken of the fact that the room in which the AGM was held was NOT wheelchair accessible). Executive instructed to take these issues up with the Congress.

Motion to adjourn by Susan Heald.

Seconded by Sharon Rosenberg.

All in favour. Motion carried.

**Members in attendance at AGM:**

Marie Lovrod

Anne Forrest

Linda Christiansen-Ruffman

Darlene Juschka

Habiba Zaman

Anne Wagner

Michelle Meagher

Kathleen McConnell

Sharon Abbey

Si Transken

Beth McAuley

Janice Ristock

Angela Miles

Ana Isla

Fiona Green

Roewan Crowe

Fiona Nelson

Janice Dodd

Sharon Rosenberg

Susanne Luhmann

Lori Chambers

Ann Braithwaite

Susan Heald

Meg Luxton