

MINUTES  
ACLA Annual General Meeting  
June 6, 2008

Present: Katy Arnett, Stephanie Arnott, Monique Bournot-Trites, Stephen Carey, Catherine Caws, Carol Chapelle, Lin Chen, Christian Colby-Kelly, Tracey Derwing, Johannes Eckerth, Jean-Marie Focroulle, Shirley Fredeen, Xnesong Gas, Guillaume Gentil, Marie-Josée Hamel, Han Han, Trude Heift, Gladys Jean, Charlotte Jones, Sharon Lapkin, Miao Li, Roy Lyster(chair), Robyn Matthew, Amy Meckelborg, Dean Mellow, Hossein Nassaji, Burcee Yamen Ntelioglou, Loretta Paoli, Robert Papen, Susan Parks, Mykola Penner, Gaëlle Planchenault, Leila Ranta, Tetyana Reichert, Marian Rossiter, Tom Ricento, Sylvie Roy, Mat Schulze, Jérémie Séror, Daphnée Simard, Merrill Swain, Jun Tian, Larry Vandergrift, Alysse Weinberg, Meike Wernicke, Sandra Zappa-Hollman

**1. Welcome (Roy Lyster)**

Roy introduced Kel Morin-Parsons, a Federation representative who talked about the 2009 Congress dates and mentioned that 5 positions are becoming vacant on the Federation board of directors. They invited everyone to visit the website if interested.

SSHRC was given a budget of 12 million dollars, one-third of what the other granting councils received. They are very interested in open access to journals, even though it means a loss of revenue to associations. Federation is encouraging associations to move in that direction, but not coercing anyone to do so. Submissions to the SSHRC Aid to scholarly publications fund are due at the end of June 2008. The VP of research dissemination, Jean-Claude Guédon, arrived at the meeting and later addressed the assembly re: the open access issue.

**Leila Ranta moves and Marie-Josée Hamel seconds the approval of the agenda (p. 47 of the conference program). Carried.**

It was noted that the minutes of last year's AGM are posted on the website for members to consult.

**Merrill Swain moves and Mat Schulze seconds that the 2007 AGM minutes be approved. Carried.**

**2. President's report**

Roy Lyster and Sylvie Roy co-chaired the conference with the assistance of Monique Bournot-Trites as Local Arrangements Coordinator and a group of UBC volunteer students:

Tim Anderson, Isabelle Denizot, Mi-Young Kim, Jérémie Séror, Michael Trottier, Meike Wernicke-Heinrich, Sandra Zappa-Hollman.

The 2008 conference includes 3 plenary sessions, 3 symposia, and more than 100 regular paper sessions. Participants come from across Canada (BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI) as well as the US (Washington, California, Arizona, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Georgia). In addition, we are especially pleased to welcome participants from Ghana, Botswana, Uganda, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, China, and the UK. Our visitors from Africa are here thanks to an initiative taken by Bonny Norton and Shelley Jones to request funding from the CIDA-CFHSS Collaborative Program to support their symposium.

Numbers registered stand at 195, double that of the past two years. The 2009 conference will take place at Carleton University: see Call for Papers in the current program. Guillaume Gentil from Carleton will be the local arrangements coordinator, and the conference will be organized by Sylvie, with Monique as co-chair. Monique will coordinate abstract adjudication. Plenary speakers include Pierre Calvé, Nina Spada, Kelleen Toohey, and invited symposia are being organized by Tracey Derwing and Murray Munro, and by Peter MacIntyre. The deadline for abstract submission is November 15.

**Sharon moves and Trude Heift seconds that student non-members pay a \$30. association fee (as an incentive to join the Association). Carried.**

### **3. Secretary-Treasurer's report**

Gladys reported 2008 membership numbers: 108 regular members and 27 student members have renewed. For 2007, we had 127 regular and 35 student members. Adding 2007 and 2008, we have 161 regular members and 56 student members. We have about 40 institutional subscriptions to the journal. (Some institutions renew for several years at a time.)

The finances of the Association are in good shape. The balance sheet shows a surplus of \$34,000., up \$5000. from last year. Because of grants (especially \$16,000. for the Saskatoon symposium, of which \$524. remains to be paid to us), our revenue exceeded expenses. Journal revenues also went up, largely because of a sale of back issues (\$1500.). Copyright revenue is negligible. Travel grants are unchanged, and we will distribute money to presenters with no other financial support, with priority given to students.

The expected expenses are higher than the expected revenues for 2007. This may necessitate using some of our surplus.

Gladys requests that receipts for expenses (Exec. Council members and students) be submitted by the end of June 2008.

**Tom Ricento moves and Robert Papen seconds to accept the annual audited financial statements. Carried.**

**Sharon Lapkin moves and Tracey Derwing seconds a motion to appoint the same auditors for the 2009 fiscal year. Carried.**

#### **4. Communications officer's report**

The Internet site is updated regularly. There was some discussion about the salience of certain information on the site, and Daphnée will attempt to address this. Futurequest does not permit attachments so the listserv is not as well formatted as some might wish. Daphnée acknowledges Michel Bastien's contribution to the website/listserv.

#### **5. Editor's report**

The minutes include highlights from a lengthy report available on request. During the past year, three issues of the journal (vol. 10) were published including the special issue entitled *Multilingualism in Canadian Schools*. Three issues are also planned for 2008 (vol.11), the first being a special issue resulting from our teacher education symposium held in 2006. That issue is in the mail. During the past year, we received 25 submissions, 16 in English and 9 in French.

Susan Parks presents the advantages of open access journals (visibility, compatible with SSHRC requirements for funding). Journal content could be accessed through Google. Members would have access via our website to journal issues 3-6 months in advance of others. For 2008, volume 11, one issue is in the mail and there will be 2 additional print issues. We would move to free access with Volume 12, 2009. SSHRC funding is based on the number of articles published (\$850. per article).

M Guédon, the Federation VP research dissemination, conceives open access as a step beyond going electronic. There are choices to be made: What type of format will we use? Most journals go to an XML system for preserving and indexing purposes. How can we make open access viable financially? Print is more expensive than e-publishing and we would save mailing costs and facilitate subscription management. One can also think about printing the most-read articles in book form and selling it.

The question of visibility is very important when the journal goes free access. The journal would be indexed in the bank of open-access journals. It can then be harvested by OAISTER (University of Michigan) and Google Scholar. We could create e-debates about key articles online (SSHRC would encourage this). Open access journals are then

no longer static objects, but are vehicles for creating dialogue. There could be a graduate-student section in the online debate space.

The open access journal system also offers free software for managing the peer review process. M. Guédon offers his services for any question relating to all of the above issues. The issue of the possible loss of EBSCO was discussed. M. Guédon says that this can be avoided. Leila Ranta asked about whether we can retain our grant, and M. Guédon responds that the grant can be retained.

**Susan Parks moves and Steve Carey seconds moving the journal towards an online open access format. Carried with one abstention.**

#### **6. Report of the Nominating committee**

Sharon Lapkin presents the report from the Nominating Committee. Attention is drawn to a proposed new procedure where there will be a call for expressions of interest in serving on the Executive each fall. Names generated through this process will be considered by the Nominating Committee. The new Nominating Committee for the 2009 year will be chaired by Roy Lyster. Members include Françoise Armand (continuing), Tracey Derwing and Miles Turnbull.

The composition of the Executive Council for 2008-09 is:

- Sylvie Roy, President
- Monique Bournot-Trites, Vice-President
- Roy Lyster, Past President
- Gladys Jean, Secretary
- Daphnée Simard, Communications Officer
- Leila Ranta, Member-at-Large
- Susan Parks, Editor

**Marian Rossiter moves and Tracey Derwing seconds that the Executive slate proposed in the report be approved. Carried.**

**Sharon Lapkin moves and Marian Rossiter seconds approval of the composition of the new Nominating Committee. Carried.**

#### **7. Other business**

Sharon Lapkin mentions interest on the part of Canadian Heritage and CASLT in sponsoring an ACLA/CASLT workshop on teacher education (FSL and perhaps anglais langue seconde) as part of the 2009 ACLA conference. Sharon promises to do some fact-finding on this and report back to the Executive.

Robert Papen asks for volunteers to write to him about doing book reviews for our journal.

Roy Lyster thanks Sharon Lapkin for her service to the Association.

Jean-Marie Farcoule suggests that more French be used at ACLA meetings.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourns at 1:30 p.m.

