



**Business Meeting, 04 January 2013
St. Clair Centre for the Arts, Windsor, Ontario**

Attendance

Shelley Arnott, Pat Chow-Fraser, Jan Ciborowski, Brian Cumming, Alison Derry, Jocelyne Heneberry, Karen Kidd, Andrea Kirkwood, Michelle Palmer, Alain Patoine, Roberto Quinlan, Charles Ramcharan, Audrey Reid, Mike Rennie, Marilynne Robidoux, Jim Rusak, Sherry Schiff, Gary Sprules, Zofia Taranu, Bill Taylor, Jason Venkiteswaran, Rolf Vinebrooke, Richard Vogt, Norman Yan

Jules Blais (SCL President) presides the meeting. Roberto Quinlan (SCL Secretary-Treasurer) records the minutes of the meeting.

1. Acceptance of minutes of SCL 2012 business meeting.
 - a. Moved by Charles Ramcharan, seconded by Bill Taylor, passed unanimously.
2. President Jules Blais thanked this year's CCFFR-SCL-CWS conference organizers, including the local organizing committee, Sherrylynn Rowe, the Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund administrators, sponsors and exhibitors.

Total registration numbers for the 2013 meeting were 309, including 69 SCL members. Forty-seven percent of all registrants were students.

3. Rigler and Peters Awards:

Jules Blais thanked the members of the Rigler Award and Peters Award selection committees. The President also thanked Antonella Cattaneo and other SCL members for their donations for the Peters Award. The Peters Award was presented to Zofia Taranu. Jules Blais noted that there was a continued misconception that students conducting fisheries research were excluded from being nominated for the Peters Award –students from all disciplines of the aquatic sciences are eligible for nomination.

4. Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund
 - a. Jules Blais thanked donors to the Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund (CRTF) and organizers of the awarding of funds.
 - b. 86 students applied for funding, requesting \$33,225, including 22 SCL students. This number of applications has only been exceeded in the last decade by 2007 (Montreal) and 2005 (Windsor). The CRTF offered awards of \$19,020. Awards were given based on distance to travel (West, Central, Maritimes) and if past travel awards had been granted.
 - c. 21 of the awards were offered to SCL students (one application was withdrawn), totalling \$4,325. This compares to 18 awards in 2012, 27 in 2011 and 20 in

2010. SCL made a contribution of \$2000 to the CRTF. SCL students received 21% of the CRTF funding, while SCL's contribution to the CRTF represented 11% of the total funding.

5. Financial report from the Treasurer:

- a. Roberto Quinlan (RQ) provided a report on SCL finances and membership, by reviewing annual incomes and expenses over the past decade. In eight of the last ten years, SCL was left with a net positive balance in its account. The 10-year net balance for SCL was \$9,233. As of November 30th, 2012, the account balance of SCL funds was \$ 32,974.36.
- b. 2012 summary details as follows:
 - i. Income (SCL dues, SIL dues, paraphernalia (mugs) sales, Peters Award Donations) = \$8,425.00.
 - ii. Expenditures (SIL dues transfer to SIL account, bank charges, PayPal charges, graphic design charges (new logo), Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund contribution, PAGSE membership dues, Rigler Award and Peters Award) = \$8,979.94.
 - iii. Net balance 2012 to 2013: \$(-554.94).
- c. Of the \$20,000 transferred from SIL to SCL for student travel (following the 2007 SIL conference in Montreal), \$3,500 remains for student travel. The SIL money has been spent as follows: a \$5K enhancement to the Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund (CRTF) in 2007-08 (Halifax meeting); a \$1K enhancement to the CRTF in 2008-09 (Ottawa meeting); \$5K for 2 SIL Student Travel Awards (awarded in Winnipeg, 2009-10); a \$1K enhancement to the CRTF in 2009-10 (Winnipeg); a \$1.5K enhancement to the CRTF in 2010-11 (Toronto); a \$1.5K enhancement to the CRTF in 2011-12 (Moncton); a \$1.5K enhancement to the CRTF in 2012-13 (Windsor).
- d. Total membership in 2012 decreased to 85 from 97 in 2011, but is slightly above the 5-year average of 83. This was a higher than expected membership based on the relatively low SCL attendance of the Moncton conference, and may reflect the increased convenience of membership payment via PayPal. 23.5% of 2012 SCL members were students, which is slightly above the 5-year average of 22.1%.
- e. Following suggested best accounting practices for non-profit organizations, \$15,000 of SCL's bank account balance should be held in reserve.
- f. RQ noted that there may be low attendance at the 2014 Yellowknife conference, but if the historical relationship between SCL conference attendance and membership levels no longer exists due to paying membership dues via PayPal, there may be diminished or minimal impact on membership dues revenue if SCL membership attendance at Yellowknife is low.

6. Advocacy by the Society of Canadian Limnologists

- a. Discussion ensued with regards to advocacy by SCL.
- b. 2012 was an active year for advocacy.
- c. Our advocacy would be stronger if we had a larger membership.
- d. There has been an important development with Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (PAGSE) – former SCL President Martha Guy is now Chair of PAGSE. PAGSE co-hosts (with NSERC) the “Bacon and Eggheads” monthly breakfast meeting where parliamentarians are updated on recent advances in science and engineering. SCL Membership in PAGSE will continue.

7. Experimental Lakes Area update
 - a. There was a motion for *in camera* discussion of an update on the status of the Experimental Lakes Area.
 - b. Moved by Jason Venkiteswaran, seconded by Jules Blais. Accepted unanimously.
 - c. *In camera* discussion proceeded.

8. CJFAS Update
 - a. Rolf Vinebrooke provided an update on CJFAS.
 - b. This is a year of transition to Canadian Science Publishing. Publishing software updates include plagiarism detection, mobile device usage, and contributions in French.
 - c. Diane Orihel's rapid communication has become the journal's most downloaded publication.
 - d. There was little change in the journal's Impact Factor, at 2.3. There is currently a 66% rejection rate of submitted manuscripts. Processing time of submitted manuscripts is at 2.5 months, from submission to decision.
 - e. CJFAS will be looking for additional associate editors.

9. Membership dues changes
 - a. SCL will initiate a 2-year membership dues option, to alleviate year-to-year fluctuations in membership associated with conference location.

10. SCL visioning committee (Jim Rusak)
 - a. There was a September 2012 meeting to start discussion on the scope and purpose of the visioning committee.
 - b. The visioning committee will be looking to carry out a survey similar to that conducted by Peter Leavitt in 2004, using Survey Monkey.

11. Upcoming meetings
 - a. Canadian Society of Ecology and Evolution (CSEE) 2014 - Montreal
 - i. SCL will be a co-partner in the 2014 CSEE meeting in Montreal, which has an anticipated registration of 600+.
 - ii. The 2013 Peters Award winner will be highlighted at CSEE.
 - iii. There will be a SCL meeting the day before the conference.
 - iv. There will be a symposium each of the 4 days of the conference, one per partner society (ie. there will be a one-day SCL symposium within the 2014 CSEE programme).
 - v. Host societies have put forward financial contributions to running the conference including: CSEE \$7,000; CSZ \$5,000. SCL is requested to contribute a \$5,000 loan.
 - vi. There was a motion for a membership vote to agree to \$5,000 loan; forwarded by Alison Derry, seconded by Shelly Arnott. A friendly amendment (motion forwarded by Norman Yan, seconded by Brian Cumming) was included. Amended motion carried, with 1 opposed.
 - b. CCFR-SCL 2014 – Yellowknife
 - i. There were continuing concerns about Yellowknife as a conference destination in January 2014. The main concerns were: cost, travel time, and the possibility of travel delays due to weather.

- ii. There was a straw vote of the business meeting's attendees to gauge possible SCL membership attendance; 6 members were going or possibly going, 10 members were not going.

12. Other Business

- a. Updates on the SCL newsletter (The Current), SCL's new logo, and use of social media (SCL Facebook and Twitter accounts).
- b. There was a motion to offer postdoctoral researchers a discounted membership rate, equal to the student rate, starting for 2014 membership dues. Motion forwarded by Norman Yan, seconded by Shelley Arnott. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Alison Derry thanked the outgoing student representative.
- d. Jorge Negrin Dastis (UQAM) is the incoming student representative; a 2nd student representative is needed.

13. Meeting adjourned.