



Business Meeting, 09 January 2016
Signal Room, The Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland

Attendance

Helen Baulch (SCL Vice-President), Christine Campbell, Paul del Giorgio, Jerome Marty (SCL President), Dolores Planas, Roberto Quinlan (SCL Secretary-Treasurer), Madeline Rosamond, Chris Solomon, Bill Taylor, Norman Yan

Jerome Marty (SCL President) presides the meeting. Roberto Quinlan (SCL Secretary-Treasurer) records the minutes of the meeting. Commenced 5.20 pm.

1. Minutes

Acceptance of minutes of SCL 2015 business meeting. Moved by Norman Yan, seconded by Chris Solomon; unanimously carried.

2. Thanks by Jerome Marty

Thank you to the 2016 organizers Ian Bradbury, Martha Robertson (science program, DFO St. John's office), Craig Purchase (local organization at St. John's) and Alain Patoine (SCL liaison). Sponsors and exhibitors: The sponsorship revenues for the 2016 conference are \$23,713, raised via the CCFR committee. These revenues came from private sources, local universities and governments. Thanks to 2016 selection committees: Rigler Award: Paul del Giorgio, Peter Dillon, Alexandre Poulain, Jerome Marty and Helen Baulch. Peters Award: Jerome Marty, Charles Ramcharan and Helen Baulch. Thank you very much to Antonella Cattaneo for her generous \$500 donation to the Peters Award fund. Thank you to Rob Mackereth for coordinating the allocations to the Clemens-Rigler Travel Award applicants; after doing this job for 10 years, CCFR will be seeking a replacement and is grateful to Rob for his many years of service in this capacity.

3. Peters and Rigler Award [Jerome]

Please remember to nominate your students. Rigler Award nominations are held for subsequent year(s); the nature of the Peters Award means that nominations cannot be held for a subsequent year. A Peters Award nomination doesn't necessarily have to come from the student's supervisor. SCL is grateful that this year's CCFR conference committee provided a plenary slot to the Peters Award.

4. Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund [Jerome]

The CRTF supported close to 40 students this year (numbers are not finalized as of date of business meeting). SCL contributed \$2,500 towards the travel fund, the same as the previous year. With CCFR now being incorporated, future contributions to the travel fund will go directly to CCFR, whereas previously they went to a third party for disbursement (Margot Stockwell at the Canadian Aquatic Resources Section of the American Fisheries Society).

5. Financial Report from Treasurer, Membership [Roberto Quinlan]

- a) Roberto Quinlan (RQ) provided a report on SCL finances and membership, by reviewing annual incomes and expenses over the past fiscal year (which commences 01 October of each year). Details in Appendix 1 of this report.
- b) Total membership in 2015 decreased only slightly to 120 from 2014's 128 members. The 5-year average is 106. 38% of 2015 SCL members were students, which is above the 5-year average of 28.7%; this is the highest student percentage since 2004-2005 (Windsor meeting).
- c) This year's net increase in the account balance was large (\$6,220.34); however, this includes the repayment of the loan to the Genomes to Biomes conference, which was an expense in a prior fiscal year. If the repayment of this loan is discounted, the net increase in SCL's account balance is a more modest \$1,995.90.
- d) There was a 'bump' in revenue from dues as numerous members renewed their 2-year memberships (for 2015 and 2016), which were first offered for a 2-year term for 2013-2014.
- e) Following suggested best accounting practices for non-profit organizations, \$19,500 of SCL's bank account balance should be held in reserve (2.5x annual operating costs). SCL's current bank account balance as of January 2016 is approximately \$16.5K above the reserve amount.

6. SCL website update [Jerome on behalf of Mike Rennie]

The SCL has become very active on the social media front. The website is receiving about 800 to 1000 visits per month. Members should contact Mike Rennie to contribute to the blog page. Some of the web blog stories are also published in our newsletter, The Current. The translation of the webpage is still in a work in progress, as is the 'store section'. We will be working on the next issue of the Current in the coming weeks. Members are invited to provide pictures, stories, new projects and paper releases. SCL has a Facebook account, and a Twitter account (@Can_Limnology) with over 2000 followers. In 2015, the SCL was asked to provide 5 interviews to CBC on freshwater science topics, mostly about Great Lakes issues (nutrients, contaminants, offshore wind farms).

7. Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (PAGSE; www.pagse.org/en/main.htm) Update [Jerome]

The SCL is part of PAGSE. PAGSE has meetings 2-3 times per year in Ottawa. The role of PAGSE is to promote science in Canada and connect several societies (science and engineering). The last contribution of PAGSE consisted in a letter to the current government regarding funding of science in Canada and commenting in the March budget. Due to election, there was no feedback received following the PAGSE comments.

9. SCL Visioning Committee [Jerome on behalf of Andrew Paterson or Jim Rusak].

The SCL board had 3 conference calls since the last conference, mostly to discuss the steps required to incorporate. The board recognises the need to incorporate to be able to attract new sources of funding and participate more actively in co-organizing other conferences (as we did with the Genomes to Biomes conference). Information were retrieved from CRA on the application to register the SCL as a non-governmental, not-for-profit, not-charitable organization. The cost associated with the registration is expected to vary between \$500 to \$1000. Advice from various sources (internal to SCL and from CCFR) were retrieved to assess the need for insurance, and the need for an accountant to produce an annual declaration to CRA (which would cost about \$2,000). The SCL visioning committee is helping with the production of the SCL Bylaws. In the next months, the board will finalize discussion and submit to the membership a plan on the incorporation. Paul del Giorgio forwarded a motion of support for the Executive to proceed with these activities, seconded by Bill Taylor; passed unanimously.

10. Upcoming Meetings [Jerome]

2016: SIL conference in Torino, Italy (end of July, early August): call for abstracts open.
2016: IAGLR conference in Guelph, ON (first week in June). Call for abstract due at the end of January.

2017: CCFR Montreal- led by limnologists (Irene Gregory- Eaves, Chris Solomon and Zofia Taranu), Program Chair: Marco Rodriguez.

2018: CCFR Edmonton (Mark Poesch) or BC (if not in Alberta)

2019: CCFR London (Brian Neff)

2020: CCFR East, TBD.

Roberto Quinlan proposed a motion to offer \$1,000 student travel awards to SIL 2016 in Italy, seconded by Norman Yan. A friendly amendment to the motion proposed that SCL offer up to four \$1,000 student travel awards (of a SCL student member) via a competitive application process. Motion passed unanimously (with one abstention).

11. Institutional charges for job advertising on the website

The SCL executive is proposing to charge for the advertising on our web page as done by other societies. Based on current demand, this fee could support current R. Peters Award. About 70% of visits on the SCL web page is for the job page.

Suggested fee structure:

Institutional postings for limnology-related jobs: \$50

Featured postings: additional \$25 on top of base fee; fee for members: free
Motion for voting at the meeting (proposed by Michael Rennie, seconded by Jerome Marty): Be it resolved that the membership present at the business meeting approve a fee structure for job postings on the SCL website as listed above (free for members seeking students/techs/postdocs, fee for institutions and industry, additional charge for premium postings), or as amended and approved by the membership, to be in place and outlined on our website no later than January 31, 2016.

Discussion on the motion: One member stated concern that some institution's search committees are denied funding to pay a fee for a job posting to a society's webpage. A member suggested that SCL waive the fee if the institutional search committee cannot pay the fee. Another member stated that the revenue from such institutional job ads might be small, and imposing fees might result in the SCL webpage losing many job postings, which is the main traffic to the website. Amended motion: for SCL to have the flexibility to waive the fee. The amended motion was carried unanimously.

12. Other Business

- a) Roberto Quinlan proposed that we offer a formal award (a permanent plaque) to the Peters Award winner, equivalent to the small Secchi-disk permanent plaque that is sent to Rigler Award winners; motion seconded by Norman Yan. Motion carried unanimously.
- b) A member suggested that, based on the success of co-sponsoring the Genomes to Biomes conference in Montreal, the society seek to expand beyond our current association with CCFRR, to seek additional associations with other societies such as the Ecological Society of America, given the large overlap in common interests. The Executive will discuss this matter in the months to come.

13. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Taylor, seconded by Dolores Planas, carried unanimously.
Adjourned at 6.30 pm.

Appendix 1. Details of incomes and expenditures for SCL, 2014-15 fiscal year.

INCOME

SCL dues 2014	\$ 7,440.00
SIL dues 2015	\$ 237.80
Conference registration (G2B 2013)	\$ 4,224.44
SCL sales of mugs, t-shirts, buttons	\$ 95.00
Ad revenue – The Current	\$ 150.00
Peter's Award Donations	\$ 565.00
Canadian Science Publishing	\$ 1,340.00
Subtotal	\$14,052.24

EXPENDITURES

Bank & PayPal charges	\$ 344.57
Website	\$ 2,464.40
Clemens Rigler Travel Fund	\$ 2,500.00
PAGSE membership contribution	\$ 500.00
Rigler lecturer	\$ 976.71
Rigler lecturer Registration	\$ 270.00
Rigler award & small plaque	\$ 38.42
Peter's Award	\$ 500.00
SIL dues - transfer	\$ 237.80
Subtotal	\$ 7,831.90
New Account Balance	\$37,648.07
Change in Account Balance	\$ 6,220.34

Final values are as of 01 October 2015.