

**SOCIETY OF CANADIAN LIMNOLOGISTS / SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE LIMNOLOGIE
BUSINESS MEETING, JANUARY 10, 2009
WESTIN HOTEL, OTTAWA**

ATTENDANCE:

Arnott, Shelley
Cyr, H  l  ne (President)
Derry, Alison
Finlay, Kerri
Frost, Paul
Guy, Martha (Vice-President)
Maranger, Roxane (Vice-President)
Marty, Jerome
McCabe, Shelley
Molot, Lewis
Paterson, Andrew (Secretary-Treasurer)
Pick, Frances
Ramcharan, Charles
Rusak, Jim
Sprules, Gary
Strecker, Angela
Venkiteswaran, Jason
Vermaire, Jesse
Vinebrooke, Rolf
Xenopoulos, Maggie
Yan, Norman (Vice-President)

H  l  ne Cyr presides the meeting. Andrew Paterson records the minutes of the meeting.

1. Acceptance of minutes of SCL 2008 business meeting (as posted on SCL website – copies also provided at the door)
 - a. Charles Ramcharan, seconded by Norman Yan
2. President H  l  ne Cyr thanks this year’s organizers of SCL-CCFFR (Martha Guy, Marco Rodriguez, John Lark), sponsors and exhibitors (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment Canada, NRC Research Press, Lotek Inc., University of Northern British Columbia, Dalhousie University, UQTR)

H  l  ne Cyr also provided a summary of registration numbers for the 2009 meeting. The total number of registrations was 215 (considered low for a meeting in central Canada), with a breakdown of 107 for CCFFR, 83 for SCL, and 25 of unknown affiliation.

3. Rigler and Peters’ awards:

H  l  ne Cyr thanked the members of the Rigler and Peters’ awards selection committees (Rigler: Roxane Maranger, Norm Yan, Gary Sprules, Yves Prairie) (Peters: Roxane

Maranger, Norm Yan, Antonella Cattaneo). The President also thanked Antonella Cattaneo and other contributors to the Peters' award. The Peters' award was presented to Jason Venkiteswaran of the University of Waterloo at the business meeting.

4. Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund:

- a. Funds available for the Clemens-Rigler Travel Fund in 2009 were \$16901.84. This included contributions of \$4000 (Feb. 2008) and \$2000 (Nov. 2008) from SCL.
- b. 70 awards were distributed, totalling \$16589 in awards for 2009 SCL/CCFFR conference. This is similar to total number of awards given in previous years (e.g., Ottawa – 2003 = 53 awards; Montréal – 2007 = 95 awards).
- c. \$6000 contribution from SCL in 2009 is higher than in other years (generally \$1000 to \$2000), and is the result of transfer of funds from SIL to SCL for student travel.
- d. H  l  ne Cyr thanked donors to travel fund (CCFFR, DFO, SCL), Rob Mackereth of CCFFR for chairing the selection committee, CARS (AFS) president Dave Stanley and Treasurer Peter Amiro for managing the fund and payouts, and CCFFR Secretary-Treasurer Julie Deault
- e. General discussion on use of remaining funds transferred from SIL to SCL (total transfer in 2008 was \$20,000 to be used for student attendance at conferences):
 - i. Cyr: in addition to supporting student travel to future SCL conferences, some of the remaining funds could be set aside to assist student travel to SIL conference in South Africa
 - ii. Quinlan and Maranger: SCL students receiving travel funding should be SCL members; should be a requirement
 - iii. Sprules: should funds be used to support travel to SIL meeting? Perhaps more efficient to use funds to support travel to SCL meetings, rather than SIL, as more students would receive assistance
 - iv. Ramcharan: if assistance is provided to students for travel to SIL, should be the same amount provided to students for travel to SCL
 - v. Yan: additional funding should be used for travel to SCL
 - vi. Arnott: what portion of students did not receive any funding for travel to 2009 meeting?
 - vii. Cyr: apart from some restrictions for those who had received multiple awards in the past, everyone who applied received some funding
 - viii. Discussion shifted to question of maintaining and enhancing student memberships in SCL
 - ix. Maranger: student membership is partly a supervisor responsibility
 - x. Cyr: we need to be more proactive regarding membership renewals, including sending frequent e-mail reminders

5. Programs for conference

Martha Guy asked whether membership would support removing abstracts from future programs to save costs/paper. Current annual cost to produce programs is ~\$2500. Proposal: produce smaller programs without abstract, with abstracts either as CD by request, or posted on-line.

- a. There was unanimous agreement.

- b. Yan and Arnott: agreed, but requested that contact info of conference participants be included in program.

6. Financial Report of Treasurer, Membership

- a. Andrew Paterson provided report on SCL finances and membership. With contribution of \$20,000 from SIL to SCL, the SCL budget saw an increase of more than \$19,000 in 2009. However, these funds are earmarked for student travel, so eliminating the funds from the calculation resulted in a deficit of ~\$900 for 2009 as of January 10th, 2009. [Note: in January, additional membership renewals have been received, taking us into a small surplus for 2009].
- b. There was general concern that membership renewals continue to decline. In part, this is related to CCFR assuming sole responsibility of registration, but decline began prior to this change in 2006-07. Student membership, by percentage, has been relatively stable over time suggesting that both full and student memberships are in decline.
- c. Possible solutions were discussed, including more frequent e-mail reminders, posting reminders with other on-line mailings (e.g., other organizations), allowing members to use Pay-Pal to renew memberships in 1-3 year blocks, require students to be members to receive Clemens-Rigler travel funding.

7. Life Sciences Canada (advocacy group)

Hélène Cyr described Life Sciences Canada as an advocacy group and umbrella organization that includes a mix of medical sciences and other groups of biologists. We were invited to attend the first organizational meeting in Ottawa last October, where 20 Canadian societies were represented. All of these societies are small and are interested in advocacy to increase support of basic research in their field, but cannot afford do this on their own (time, money). Cyr indicated she participated in the first two organizational meetings last fall, but that SCL had no formal association with this group yet. She asked if there was interest in pursuing this. There was general agreement that we should find out more.

8. CJFAS Update

- a. Rolf Vinebrooke provided an update on CJFAS following their meeting with NRC Press. In 2008, 216 manuscripts were received with a rejection rate of 68%. This was the highest rejection rate over the last 10 years, although there has been no trend in rejections rates since 1998.
- b. The journal's impact factor is now 2.06, which is similar to previous years (generally just below 2 since 2001, with highest impact factor recorded in 2003). Impact factor may be improved by increasing the number of perspectives/review papers. This may include invited reviews. Vinebrooke provided an example of Ecology Letters that, early on, sought high quality, invited reviews. There was a suggestion that the Rigler and other invited speakers at SCL/CCFR should be invited (encouraged) to submit reviews. Sprules indicated that this was previous policy at CJFAS. Cyr suggested the invitation be extended by the SCL president when first calling the Rigler awardees.
- c. There is chronic issue of fewer limnology papers being published than fisheries papers (2/3 fisheries). Not related to acceptance rates, as submissions have the same breakdown by category.

9. Election of President and 2 Vice-Presidents

- a. H  l  ne Cyr thanked previous VPs for their contributions to SCL. Paterson thanked H  l  ne Cyr for her leadership as President – Cyr will now take the position of past-president.
- b. Norm Yan and Roxane Maranger respectfully withdrew their nominations for the position of President.
- c. Martha Guy was acclaimed the New President of SCL.
- d. Jules Blais was appointed the new VP-francophone of SCL. A secret ballot was held to determine the new appointee to the position of VP-Anglophone. Jim Rusak was the successful candidate.

10. Upcoming Meeting

- a. Past meeting: SCL co-sponsored the ASLO 2008 summer meeting (June 3-8th) in St-John's, NFLD
- b. CCFRR-SCL 2010 will be in Winnipeg
 - i. CCFRR Program Chair: Darren Gillis (U. Manitoba)
 - ii. Local arrangements: Paul Blanchfield
 - iii. SCL VP involved: Jim Rusak
- c. CCFRR-SCL 2011 – Toronto
 - i. Local arrangements: Nick Collins (U. Toronto at Mississauga)
- d. CCFRR-SCL 2012 – Moncton
- e. CCFRR-SCL 2013 – Ottawa

11. Other Business

- a. None

12. Meeting adjourned.