

President's Report, 2014

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I would like to begin by acknowledging the efforts of the CASCA 2014 organising committee for all their efforts and to congratulate them on a highly successful conference, particularly the co-organisers Albert Schrauwers & Zulfikar Hirji. I also wish to thank the editorial team of *Anthropologica* for all their efforts this year. Finally, I wish to thank our executive for their efforts, particularly by thanking the out-going members of the CASCA Executive, Ellen Judd (Past President), Susan Vincent (Secretary), and Robin Whitaker (anglophone Member at Large). Caura Wood will be continuing as treasurer, Christine Jourdan will be the new President after this AGM, Alexandrine Boudreault-Fournier is the francophone Member at Large and our Webmaster, Michel Bouchard is continuing as a member of the executive, but in the position of president-elect. The Membership Secretary is Karli Whitmore. We are about to be joined by Pauline Aucoin (incoming Secretary) and Mary-Lee Mulholland (incoming Anglophone Member at Large). *Anthropologica* is edited by Naomi McPherson (editor-in-chief (EIC) and anglophone editor), and Alicia Sliwinski (francophone editor), with the support of an editorial board and book review and art and museum review editors Albert Schrauwers, Karine Vanthuyne, Barbara Lawson and Élise Dubuc. We are especially grateful to Sylvie Poirier, who was until recently the Francophone editor. Although she is unable to attend this conference, we will be sending her a gift in gratitude for her service.

Strengthening CASCA

We have worked closely with Albert and Zulfikar, in our efforts to support the local organising committee for CASCA 2014, which also includes Maggie MacDonald, Denielle Elliott, and Magdalena Kazubowski-Houston. I wish to congratulate them on their successes in organising this year's conference and to thank them for all of the work that they have done. The executive plays only a supporting role, but I know that Susan, Karli and Caura have worked closely with

the LOC to provide our best support, and we have also arranged for executive sessions to take place during the conference that address issues of concern to the membership. I am pleased to be able to announce that the venue for next year's conference will be Université Laval, in Québec City, under the leadership of Francine Saillant. Furthermore, we have made an effort this year to improve our forward planning by ensuring that we have conference locales identified through 2019. Look for announcements about locations for 2016, 2017 and 2018 before the end of this year, and we have executed an MOU with the American Anthropological Association for a joint conference to be held in Canada in 2019.

Another area of growth has been in building networks. The Women's Network (organized by the team of Pauline McKenzie Aucoin, Heather Howard and Martha Radice) continues to be highly successful, and has seen the number of subscribers to its listserv double from 60 to 120 over the last year. The Medanth network listserv, led by Janice Graham, has seen its subscribers increase from 74 to 117 over the past 12 months. A Practicing Anthropology list has also been created, and we hope to see it become active in the near future. I am also pleased to announce that a contact list has been created for an environmental anthropology network, and that Nora Pederson, who is currently a doctoral candidate at the University of Alberta, has agreed to act as co-ordinator of the network. In addition, a legacy project of this conference will be a student network and listserv that will become a forum for all graduate students in Canada and Canadian students abroad to connect, build their networks, and share pertinent information. This is in addition to the Student's Zone that has been established on the CASCA website.

Anthropologica, the journal of CASCA, has completed its move to the University of Toronto Press, where Anthropologica will benefit from services including online peer review, copyediting, circulation and financial services, and marketing and promotion. This move was made in order to increase our online exposure and to prepare the journal for the changes that will result from open access publishing. With professional services provided by the UTPress, the EIC will be able to concentrate on content and maintaining the high quality of the journal, as well as extending its reach. I would like to congratulate Naomi and Caura on a job well done. In

addition, Naomi has successfully completed her first term as EIC and I am happy to announce that she has agreed to stay on for a second, three year term.

Recognition

CASCA also plays a role in recognising the accomplishments of its members. This year we acknowledge the following individuals:

- Letha Victor, Salisbury Award for doctoral research, 2014
- No submissions, Women's Network Award for Student Paper in Feminist Anthropology, 2014
- Regna Darnell, Weaver-Tremblay Award in Canadian Applied Anthropology, 2014
- TBC, Women's Network Lifetime Achievement Award for Contributions to Feminist Anthropology in Canada, 2014

I would like to draw the memberships attention to the fact that we have raised the value of the Salisbury award from \$1500 to \$2000. If you want to make a donation to support the Salisbury award, you can do so when you register for membership online, or you can choose to support the student travel bursaries, the Women's Network, or you can simply make a donation to support the Society itself.

Last year, CASCA initiated the designation of Fellow of the Canadian Anthropology Society, in an effort to recognise the contributions of our colleagues and predecessors. For the first three years we are acknowledging our Founding Fellows, who have built anthropology as we know it in Canada. This year, the fortieth anniversary of the founding of CASCA, we are acknowledging, among others, colleagues who were involved in the original founding of the society, and who actually signed the Letters Patent that we will be renewing this year. These literal founders have contributed much more to anthropology however. They, along with the rest of this year's founding fellows, have been teachers, administrators, bureaucrats, researchers, consultants, advocates, and mentors. As such, they have all contributed to the discipline and to Canadian society in a wide variety of ways. I am pleased to announce that we are privileged to honour the following Founding Fellows this year:

- Jim Freedman
- Gerald Gold
- Frances Henry
- Andrea Laforet
- Richard Lee
- Richard Preston
- Donat Savoie
- Margaret Seguin Anderson
- Gerald Sider

Internal Organisation

Organizational work for CASCA has, as in years passed, included reviewing financial, membership and conference registration data, both current and historical. We have seen steady improvement in membership, which is due in part to annual conference attendance, which has increased steadily since 2011 and markedly this year. This in turn is due in part to location, and in part to promotion. However, I think that it is fair to suggest, as evinced by the increases in network participation, that increased services offered by CASCA have led to increased participation in the society, which in turn leads to increased conference participation. This year Karli has made use of the networks to connect with potential members, which has also helped with recruitment. In addition, the renewal of the website under the leadership of Michel Bouchard has enhanced our ability to attract new members and retain established members. Of course, Michel has also worked closely with Robin Whitaker and Alexandrine Boudreault-Fournier, on the Culture newsletter that is also critical to our outreach and to our internal communications.

This year we have worked to better connect with members. One example is our donation campaign. Members received a message from the president in November encouraging them to support CASCA through donations, as I described above. This initiative will continue annually. I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that this year an agenda for the AGM and

proxy materials were sent out to all paid-up members. This is another change that you can expect to see continuing in the future.

Bylaws

The new Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act was promulgated in June, 2009 and we have until October 17 of this year to comply with it. Over the past year I have been working at revising our bylaws in accordance with the requirements of the new act. As such, I have removed sections that are explicitly excluded from NFP bylaws according to the Act, added or revised sections that are required by the act, and retained sections that are neither required nor excluded, but are allowed and are of use to the Society. The language of the new sections was taken directly from the bylaw builder tool provided by Industry Canada. In addition, previously existing sections were revised to ensure that their wording was consistent with the requirements of the new act, again using the bylaw builder. For retained sections that were not required or excluded, language was not provided by Industry Canada. In that case the previous wording was retained, as there is no potential for conflict with the Act.

Public Anthropology

CASCA can operate as a forum for the expression of opinions on matters of public interest. There has been some concern over the past year about the present governments move to require charitable organisations to adhere to the requirements of the relevant legislation with respect to advocacy. Essentially, non-partisan activities that are connected and subordinate to the charities' purpose are allowed but may only constitute 10% of a charity's activities (by budget). The executive thoroughly examined the requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency in this regard, and has been careful to ensure that the entirety of our public advocacy is non-partisan in nature. As for the budgetary requirement, we have not actually spent any money on these activities. This year we supported petitions or wrote letters expressing our concerns regarding missing and murdered aboriginal women, the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered persons, homophobia in Russia in the context of the Sochi Olympic Games, the

deportation of two students at the University of Regina, and the transformation of the Museum of Civilization into the Canadian Museum of History. All of the relevant documents are posted on the Positions page of the CASCA website. In addition, I testified before both the Commons Standing Committee on Heritage and the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science, and Technology regarding the museums issue.

In most of these instances, the impetus for establishing a position came from the membership. The CASCA executive appreciates and encourages suggestions from the membership and is always prepared to respond actively. In a similar vein, when a member suggested that anthropologists ought to be prepared to speak out on the so-called secular charter in Quebec, the executive responded by soliciting submissions from members for the autumn edition of *Culture*, and happily received two submissions which were included in that number.

External Communications

CASCA remains a member of the Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences and benefits from the use of the CFHSS online registration system for membership and conference registration. Christine Jourdan attended its annual conference and AGM in March as CASCA's representative, and will also be going to Congress.

CASCA participated in the online consultation regarding the Draft Tri-Agency Open Access Policy, which refers to the idea of open access for federal agency-supported research publications.

We continue to be active in the World Council of Anthropological Associations. Ellen Judd attended the WCAA interim meeting in Manchester in conjunction with the IUAES in August. Deirdre Meintel and Marie Nathalie LeBlanc attended the World Social Science Forum in Montréal in October 2013 on behalf of the WCAA. I have recently sent a video greeting from CASCA to be used by JASCA at the IUAES 2014 in Japan on the subject of the future of anthropology.

After the AAA conference in Montreal in 2011, Ellen Judd met with members of the AAA executive and initiate a discussion which led, earlier this year, to the signing of an MOU between CASCA and the AAA on the terms of a joint meeting to be held in either Vancouver,

Toronto or Montreal in 2019. The MOU is appended to this report. The essential elements involve joint planning and programming, a revenue guarantee for CASCA, costs borne by the AAA and assistance in promoting the CASCA 2020 meeting. This represents both an excellent collaborative opportunity and a way of strengthening CASCA in response to the impacts of the 2011 AAA meetings. My thanks to Caura and Christine, who worked with me to pull this together, and to the AAA for their flexible and collaborative attitude throughout this process. In addition, members have raised concerns about AAA conference registration fees for Canadians. I have been in communication with the President of the AAA regarding this matter, and she has assured me that they will rectify the current discrepancy whereby Canadians cannot register for the AAA conference as non-members.

Another important collaboration was the Seminario Virtual, a virtual seminar pilot project on “Language and Anthropological Knowledge”. It involved the collaboration of four anthropological associations the EASA, ABA, AAA and CASCA (Marie-Nathalie LeBlanc was the organizer for CASCA). Four scholars, one from each association (Christine Jourdan from CASCA) presented papers in advance, which were then the subject of discussion live and online. Four discussants, including Petra Rethmann from CASCA, commented on the papers and online participants were able to submit comments and questions. The moderator of the event was Deirdre Meintel, also from CASCA.

The Canadian Anthropology Society is delighted to announce the launch of ASF: Antropólogos sem Fronteiras (Anthropologists without Borders), a collaborative undertaking of the international community of anthropologists. It is now generously hosted in Brazil, and includes a wide representation of anthropologists around the world, including both anglophone and francophone Canadian anthropologists. We invite everyone to explore the ASF website, consider becoming involved and distribute the ASF flyer to your networks.

In conclusion, thanks to all of the members of the executive and the other volunteers who keep CASCA running for the contributions they have made to the society over the last twelve months. I hope that those of you who have not had the opportunity to play a role in CASCA as yet will consider volunteering to become more involved.

I wish you an enjoyable conference.