

CANADIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY/ SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ASTRONOMIE

Minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting Saint Mary's University, Halifax Thursday May 27, 2010, starting at 16:00

The meeting started at 16:00 with 52 members present.

1. Adoption of the agenda / Adoption de l'ordre du jour (President)

Motion (Hanes/Racine) : to adopt the following agenda. Carried.

1. Adoption of the agenda / Adoption de l'ordre du jour (President)
2. Selection of scrutineers / Sélection des surveillants d'élection
3. Adoption of the minutes of the 2009 AGM / Adoption du compte rendu de la réunion de 2009 (Secretary)
4. Nominations to the Nominating committee / Nominations du comité de nomination
5. Business arising from the minutes / Affaires découlant du compte rendu
6. President's report / Rapport du Président
 - a) status of new awards
 - b) status of Coalition activities
7. Secretary's report / Rapport du Secrétaire
 - a) Membership report
 - b) By-laws Revisions; terms of office
8. Treasurer's report / Rapport du Trésorier
 - a) Financial statements
9. Election of Auditor / Élection du vérificateur
10. Information Items/Autres informations
 - a) International Year of Astronomy Report
11. Committee reports / Rapports des comités
12. Future CASCA meetings / Prochaines réunions de la CASCA
 - a) UWO 2011
13. Ethics statement
14. Adjournment / Levée de l'assemblée

2. Selection of scrutineers / Sélection des surveillants d'élection

Scrutineers have been elected. The paper ballot result was added to the votes compiled from the BigPulse website. There is a tie for the Director election. The Board will investigate how to perform a second election, and will announce the process to the membership.

Motion (Crabtree/Hanes) : to destroy the paper ballot. Carried.

3. Adoption of the minutes of the 2009 AGM / Adoption du compte rendu de la réunion de 2009 (Secretary)

Motion (Manset/Hesser): to adopt the minutes of the 2009 AGM. Carried.

4. Nominations to the Nominating committee / Nominations du comité de nomination

Ernest Seaquist proposes Michael De Robertis.

David Hanes proposes Rob Thacker.

Motion (Hesser/Wilson) : that the nominations cease. Carried.

5. Business arising from the minutes / Affaires découlant du compte rendu

None.

6. President's report / Rapport du Président

a) status of new awards

The newest award is the Peter G. Martin award, and it is endowed. The other 2 newest awards are not endowed yet.

b) status of Coalition activities

The LRP2010 is moving forward. There is a push for TMT. However, there is no funding identified.

7. Secretary's report / Rapport du Secrétaire

a) Membership report

The report included a short description of the online voting system that was used for the first time.

Motion (Manset/Hanes): to approve the Secretary's Report. Carried.

b) By-laws Revisions; terms of office

Before the AGM, the membership was presented with a proposal from the Board to change the terms of the President and the Vice-Presidents to one year (instead of 2), with a provision to have the President serve up to 2 years. The proposal is to change the by-laws in the following way:

5.5) The term of office of the President shall normally be ONE YEAR. The Board may invite the President to stand for election for an additional one-year term. Unless invited to do so by the Board, the President shall not be eligible for re-election as an Officer or Director for ONE YEAR after the expiry of her term of office, although she may sit as an advisor to the Directors, during this period, as provided above. Each Vice-President shall hold office for ONE YEAR, and thereafter shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office. The Directors by resolution, however, shall be empowered to distinguish between the first and second Vice-Presidencies as separate offices. The term of office of the Secretary and Treasurer shall each be three years. Either Officer is eligible for a second term, but thereafter will not be eligible for re-election to the same office for at least three years. The terms of those Directors who are not Officers shall be three years. At the expiry of a term, such Directors who are not Officers shall not be eligible for re-election as a Director for a period of one year, except as an Officer of the Corporation.

Discussions included a preference for the President to stay for 2 years, to get a better continuity.

Motion (B. Harris/Johnstone): to amend the proposal so the Vice-Presidents' term of office is 1 year, and the President's term of office is 2 years. The membership was invited to vote. More than 2/3 of the members who voted are in favor of the amendment.

The Secretary read the modified text:

5.5) The term of office of the President shall normally be TWO YEARS. Unless invited to do so by the Board, the President shall not be eligible for re-election as an Officer or Director for TWO YEARS after the expiry of her term of office, although she may sit as an advisor to the Directors, during this period, as provided above. Each Vice-President shall hold office for ONE YEAR, and thereafter shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office. The Directors by resolution, however, shall be empowered to distinguish between the first and second Vice-Presidencies as separate offices. The term of office of the Secretary and Treasurer shall each be three years. Either Officer is eligible for a second term, but thereafter will not be eligible for re-election to the same office for at least three years. The terms of those Directors who are not Officers shall be three years. At the expiry of a term, such Directors who are not Officers shall not be eligible for re-election as a Director for a period of one year, except as an Officer of the Corporation.

The Secretary will submit the revised by-laws for ministerial approval.

8. Treasurer's report / Rapport du Trésorier

a) Financial statements

The Treasurer presented the financial statements and the report from the auditor.

Motion (Wade/Hanes): to accept the auditor's statement. Carried.

Wade presented the Education Coordinator H. Theismeijer's performance review.

Motion (Wade/Hanes): that the EPO coordinator contract with H. Theismeijer be renewed for one year. Carried.

Wade announced that the student travel support will double (from \$4k to \$8k per year) and that we will start travel support for post-docs, with \$2k per year.

9. Election of Auditor / Élection du vérificateur

Motion (Wade/Hanes) : to re-engage the same auditors, Wilkinson & Co. Carried.

10. Information Items/Autres informations

a) International Year of Astronomy Report

The report is ready and available on the web.

11. Committee reports / Rapports des comités

Reports were received and reviewed by the Board and will be posted on the web.

12. Future CASCA meetings / Prochaines réunions de la CASCA

a) 2011 at the University of Western Ontario

A. Sigut is organizing the meeting. The LOC has been formed. The meeting will be scheduled for the week of May 30 2011.R.

b) 2012

The 2012 AGM might be held in Calgary. To be confirmed.

13. Ethics statement

A CASCA member asked if CASCA had an Ethics statement, like other societies (like AAS) have. Doug Welch has started to work this ethics statement, and invites members to come forward and help. The members will be asked to vote at the next AGM.

14. Adjournment / Levée de l'assemblée

Gilles Joncas thanked P.G. Martin, the past president, and R. Thacker, Chair of the 2010 AGM LOC.

P. Hickson invites the chair of the Graduate Students Committee (or its designated representative) to attend the Board meeting next year at the AGM.

Motion (Crabtree/Petit): to adjourn. Carried.