



Report of the President 2018 | *Rapport de la présidente 2018*

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education.

Conference 2018

The Society remains vibrant and strong with respect to scholarship in higher education. Our conference this year offers a mix of session types including Keynote address by Dr. Malinda Smith, the Provosts’ Panel, an Indigenous Perspectives’ Panel, concurrent sessions, Award Winners’ presentations, an Ignite Session, Affinity Group meetings, and a Poster session.

Dr. Tamara Leary once again took the leadership on the conference in the role of Program Chair. The Program Committee, Laurie Hill (co-chair), Michelle McGinn, Dranna Andrews-Brown, Kathleen Matheos, and Twyla Salm our Local Arrangements Coordinator at the University of Regina assisted Tamara with the planning and logistics. On behalf of the Society, I would like to express my thanks to the team, presenters, and peer reviewers for their service.

Awards

The Society recognizes excellence through the George L. Geis, Master’s Thesis/Project, and the Research & Scholarship Awards. My thanks to all who served on the adjudicating committees. Special thanks to Merli Tamtik chair of the Geis committee, Michelle McGinn, chair for the Master’s Thesis/Project Award, and Michelle Pidgeon, chair for the Sheffield Award committee for their leadership. I chaired (non-voting) the Research & Scholarship Award committee.

Administration/Organizational

The Board of Directors meets monthly (virtually), and annually on the day preceding commencement of the conference. At the annual face-to-face meeting there is a strategic planning component, during which the directors review long, medium, and near term goals.

Last year, five priority goals were identified the status of which is detailed below.

| Priority | Status |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Policies and Procedures | 80%+ completed |
| Value Proposition Statement | Completed, evolving |
| Membership | Chair position created, strategy formulated |
| Communications | Chair position created, strategy formulated |
| Financial Stability and Planning | In process |

The Financial Stability and Planning goal guided the Board's decision-making throughout the year, and in the planning for the conference. The Society continues to be solvent, but lower membership numbers and fewer conference registrations have created some operational challenges. We had anticipated fewer conference attendees this year as compared to last, influenced by Congress location. Forecasting and planning relies on these projections. However, memberships and registrations were lower than expected. We are presenting a deficit budget for 2018 that reflects the reduced revenues.

Revenue for the Society comes from two main sources.

(1) **Association Conference Fee** – collected by the Federation via the Congress registration system. Members, students/retired/unwaged pay a discounted rate. The proceeds cover the fixed costs of the conference including expenses related to the keynote speaker, invited panel guests, and logistics and supports (e.g. AV, tablecloths, coffee, food etc.). The Federation holds this money and invoices or credits us for the balance.

(2) **Memberships** – due at the end of each calendar year.

The Federation of the Humanities and Social Sciences requires payment of the **Congress Registration Fee** - mandatory for everyone who attends the Congress including organizers, speakers, presenters, panelists and those chairing or attending a session, (<https://www.congress2018.ca/register#Fees>). The revenue from this fee goes to the Federation.

I can assure you that the Board has been diligent in regards to its fiduciary duties.

Board of Directors

The Society has a working board model of governance. All directors are non-paid volunteers. The Society is as strong as its members and the ongoing viability and capacity to serve the mission is reflective of this. As I end my journey as president of the society today, I hand over to Dr. Kathleen Matheos. It has been my privilege to serve CSSHE as your president. I thank the members for the opportunity to work with an exceptional team of professionals, your directors: Kathleen Matheos, Lori Wallace, Margo Baptista, Tamara Leary, Merli Tamtik, Laurie Hill, Michelle Pidgeon, Michelle McGinn, Dranna Andrews-Brown, Jackie Ottmann, and retired directors in 2017, Kathleen Moore-Clarke and Rita Eglizi, and Tim Howard, Director of Administration, CSSHE Secretariat.

Anne Charles

President, 2014–2016, 2017-2018
Conference Program Chair, 2014
Director, 2012 - 2018