

MINUTES OF THE 2015 AGM
Canadian Society for Chemistry, Inorganic Division (CSC-ID)

17:40, Tuesday, June 16, 2015
Shaw Convention Centre, Room 206
Ottawa, ON

In Attendance (51 attendees vs 46 in 2014 and 52 in 2013; m.a.l. = member at large)

Eric Rivard (U Alberta)	Tom Baker (U Ottawa)
Steven Bergens (U Alberta)	Deryn Fogg (U Ottawa)
Dietmar Kennepohl (Athabasca U)	Muralee Murugesu (U Ottawa; Treasurer)
Mark MacLachlan (UBC)	Mehdi Mostajeran (U Ottawa, PhD Candidate)
Curtis Burlinghette (UBC)	Andrew Grosvenor (U Saskatchewan; ICE chair)
Mike Wolf (UBC)	Stephen Foley (U Saskatchewan)
Mike Fryzuk (UBC)	Jeff Warren (Simon Fraser U)
Jennifer Love (UBC; Past Chair)	Charles Walsby (Simon Fraser U)
Pierre Kennepohl (UBC; Webmaster and m.a.l.)	Danny Leznoff (Simon Fraser U; m.a.l.)
Kevin Smith (UBC Okenagan)	Jason Clyburne (Saint Mary's U)
Sean Barry (Carleton U)	Jason Masuda (Saint Mary's U)
Xavier Ottenwaelder (Concordia U)	Bob Morris (U Toronto)
Dmitriy Soldatov (U Guelph)	Lisa Rosenberg (U Victoria)
Kathryn Preuss (U Guelph; m.a.l.)	Neil Burford (U Victoria)
Craig MacKinnon (Lakehead U; m.a.l.)	Robin Hicks (U Victoria; Vice-Chair)
Frederic Fontaine (U Laval)	Kim Baines (Western U)
Paul Hayes (U Lethbridge)	John Corrigan (Western U)
Rajarshi Mondal (U Manitoba, PhD Candidate)	Johana Blacquiére (Western U)
Chris Kozak (Memorial U)	Louise Dawe (Wilfrid Laurier U)
Fran Kerton (Memorial U)	Sam Johnson (U Windsor)
Mike Katz (Memorial U)	Charles MacDonald (U Windsor)
David Emslie (McMaster U; Secretary)	Ken Sakai (Kyushu Univ., Japan)
Garry Hanan (U Montreal)	Ashlee Howarth (Northwestern U, PDF)
Christian Reber (U Montreal; Chair)	Marek Majewski (ANSER / Northwestern U)
Steve Westcott (Mount Alison U)	Richard Layfield (Manchester U, UK)
Glen Briand (Mount Alison U)	

1. Christian Reber called the meeting to order at 5.50pm

Christian asked everyone to make sure they sign the sign-up sheet so that we can prove that we have quorum (which requires a minimum of 20 attendees).

Christian asked whether there any points to discuss with the agenda, or any additions. There were none.

MOTION to approve the current agenda and the minutes of the 2013 AGM

Motion: Robin Hicks
2nd: John Corrigan
PASSED Unanimously

Christian noted that Muralee will talk next because he has to leave to attend the awards dinner.

2. Treasurer's Report (Muralee Murugesu).

Muralee thanked Fran for handing over all the documents.

He noted that the accounts are in good shape with a total of approximately \$52,000, and that details for May 25 2014 to June 16 2015 are provided in the handouts being circulated.

Specific notes were that we have a \$1642.80 divisional contribution from the CSC, which is the 2nd highest of any division, and that we will also receive \$5265.24 as the divisional share of profit from the Vancouver CSC.

Various amounts are provided for different awards, and also ICE, IDW, AIDW conferences. These are conferences that we traditionally support, and will continue to support.

The DIC graduate prize for 2015 will be mentioned later, and funds are allocated for this.

Finally, there are the usual contributions towards the Strem and Steacie awards, and we gave a total of \$300 towards undergraduate and graduate poster awards at the 2014 CSC. Additionally, there is an anonymous donor who also contributes to these awards.

MOTION to accept the financial summary.

Motion: Danny Leznoff

2nd: Bob Morris

PASSED Unanimously

Christian Reber thanked Muralee, noting that it is a significant job. He also noted that Fran did a great job with it. Danny Leznoff asked that it be entered into the minutes that all of us thank Fran for a fantastic job. [applause]

3. Chair's Report (Christian Reber).

Christian Reber congratulated the ID award winners and the two new fellows of the CSC:

Rio Tinto Alcan Award - Steven Holdcroft (Simon Fraser)

Strem Chemicals Award - Muralee Murugesu (Ottawa)

Clara Benson Award - Laurel Schafer (UBC)

New Fellows of the CIC – Danny Leznoff (SFU) and Mike Wolf (UBC)

[applause]

Christian also thanked the industrial supporters of our 2 divisional awards – the Strem and Rio Tinto awards. He noted that support for awards in chemistry has been very volatile this year, and we really appreciate their support.

A big item at last year's AGM was the new division charter; we voted on it and Christian made a few minor changes based on the suggestions from the AGM. The resulting document was handed over to the CSC, and they hope to formally accept the charters from all of the different divisions later this month. Christian thanked everyone for their help with this, and noted that it is not yet clear whether the format will be searchable or not – he will enquire again about this.

In terms of finances – as Muralee mentioned, things have changed, and we now receive a certain percentage of the profits from the last year's symposium (the amount depends on the number of abstracts submitted – we have \$5200, from Vancouver conference).

Additionally, we receive a contribution from CSC based on number of members (only the Analytical and Organic divisions have more members). This contribution is about \$2-3 per member, which means that we receive between \$1600 and \$1800 each year.

There were discussions last year about what to do with these new funds. It was very clear that there is a preference to use these funds for more student (graduate and undergraduate) awards. Christian encouraged anyone with ideas for this to contact any member of the executive, and noted that the executive would come up with a plan for this over the summer, at which point it will be circulated. He also noted that later in the agenda, a motion will be discussed to support the endowment of the Steacie Award.

Other items from last year – Jen Love is in charge of UK/Canada collaborative efforts. The plan is to have a UK/Canada symposium every 2 years at the CSC, and in other years there will be a similar symposium in the UK. The next UK/Canada symposium will therefore be in Toronto in 2 years.

Last year we also passed a motion to have Kathryn and Danny in charge of graphical promotion of the website. This largely fell by wayside, but we will try to do more this year.

Christian noted that two things that didn't go well this year were the graduate and undergraduate awards, and that he takes responsibility for this. No graduate award (AGWIC) was given this year, due to a lack of communication. He stated that the executive has decided to announce the competition in the next 2 weeks and to have the graduate award talk for this in Halifax in 2016.

Craig MacKinnon discussed the undergraduate award (AURIC) from this year, noting that an award winner was selected (Amelia Hesketh (a former ICE student) nominated by Scott McIndoe and Tim Kelly), but that she was not informed, and so did not speak at the conference. Again, the best solution will be to have 2 AURIC award talks in Halifax in 2016.

Craig noted that we receive nominations for the AURIC award from across country, and they are all very high quality. He also noted that David Emslie (secretary) will send out an email about this in November(ish), and if you have a really strong student (e.g. best in last 20 years), you should nominate them for the award.

4. Nominations (Jen Love – past chair)

At this stage, we only have a nomination for Vice Chair.
Laurel Schafer could not attend the AGM, but she has agreed to do this.

MOTION to approve Laurel Schafer as Vice Chair.

Motion: Danny Leznoff

2nd: Lisa Rosenberg

PASSED Unanimously

Christian asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none.

5. Conferences

(a) CSC 2015 Ottawa: overview of inorganic program (Darrin Richeson)

Darrin Richeson provided a short overview with several overheads detailing the symposia. He thanked all of the organizers, since they are the ones that do all the hard work. He also pointed out two of this year's joint symposia that people might not have noticed – one symposium listed under Organic and one listed under Surface Science.

In total there were 286 abstract submissions, and over-subscription to the General session was a problem this year. In total, there were 52 submissions to the general session plus 1 award talk. In the end, they were able to accommodate a total of 44 talks plus the Strem award talk, but he did have to email some people (especially those with multiple abstracts from one group) to ask them to withdraw or convert to a poster.

Sean Barry organized the mixer. He noted that if you need a ticket, you should talk to him after the meeting.

Christian Reber thanked Darrin Richeson [*applause*]

(b) CSC 2016 Halifax: proposed inorganic program (Robin Hicks for Marc Stradiotto)

Christian noted that Marc can't be here, but that he has sent a list of symposia that Robin Hicks will present briefly. Robin Hicks displayed a list of the 7 symposia proposed for 2016. These are:

1. Laura Turculet (Dalhousie) - "Ligand Design In Metal Chemistry"
2. Mike Organ (York) - "Advances in Catalyzed Carbon-Element Bond Formation: Cross-Coupling and Beyond"
(JOINT WITH ORGANIC)
3. Bernie Kraatz (Toronto) - "Advances in Bioinorganic Chemistry"
4. Neil Burford (Victoria) - "Advances in Main Group Chemistry"
5. Rob Singer (St. Mary's) & Chris Kozak (Memorial) - "Sustainable Materials and Catalysis in Green Chem."
(JOINT WITH ENVIRONMENTAL and MATERIALS)
6. Mario Bieringer (Manitoba) - "From Discovery to Processing of Novel Solid State Materials"
(JOINT WITH MATERIALS)
7. Mark Stradiotto (Dalhousie) - "General Inorganic Chemistry"

This is a bit less than usual. For example, there were 9 this year. The reason for this is that the conference was supposed to be in a new conference centre, but the new centre is not ready, so we are in the small old conference centre, and space is limited. Definitely, no additional symposia will be possible. This is likely to result in some problems and less talks will be accommodated.

MOTION to approve the list of symposia for the 2016 CSC.

Motion: Dietmar Kennepohl

2nd: Kathryn Preuss

PASSED Unanimously

(c) CSC 2017 Toronto: nomination of Inorganic Program and Mixer Chairs (Jen Love)

Jen Love noted that the Centennial CSC conference will be in Toronto in 2017, and that we need to nominate a program chair.

MOTION to approve Bob Morris as 2017 ID Program Chair.

Motion: Neil Burford

2nd: Deryn Fogg

PASSED Unanimously

MOTION to approve Doug Stephan as 2017 ID Mixer Chair.

Motion: Lisa Rosenberg

2nd: Neil Burford

PASSED Unanimously

6. ICE report (Andrew Grosvenor).

Andrew Grosvenor introduced himself and started with a brief description of the ICE program (a program where undergraduate students, usually in 2nd or 3rd year, will go to a different university to perform a 4 month research project). This year there were a total of 46 applications from 9 universities. This is slightly lower than last year, but close. In the end, there are 7 exchanges going on (compared with 12 last year).

Andrew noted that ICE student supervisors not only provide a summer stipend, but they also pay for travel, which can be somewhat expensive, although if the student is able to obtain a USRA, this really helps. This year, 6 of the 7 students were awarded USRAs and the other got a create award. This is an increase in the success rate – last year only 8 out of 12 received a USRA, and historically, the USRA success rate is about 78%.

We have now had a total of 101 exchanges (98 students since some have done it twice), and 43 faculty members at 22 universities have participated. We know of 29 papers that have resulted from the work, but there are presumably more. Andrew asked ICE supervisors to please let him know if there are others.

The purpose of the ICE program is to introduce students to inorganic research and cultivate their interest in the subject so that they will hopefully continue on to do a graduate degree in Inorganic Chemistry. David Emslie (secretary) will send an email about the ICE program to entire division in August, but you can contact him (Andrew) at any time.

Andrew noted that it is very important to remember that when you say that you are in the ICE program, you are in. Certainly the students have good success with USRA program, but it is expensive if your student does not get a USRA. Some people have dropped out part way through the process for financial reasons, and this is not something that should happen, since is not fair to the student and it can jeopardize the program.

In terms of the ICE meeting, it was organized last year by Chris Kozak, and this was a great meeting. This year the ICE meeting will be hosted at Ryerson by Bryan Koivistu, and organizers for the following 2 meetings are already lined up.

Any questions? None.

Christian Reber noted that it cannot be underestimated how successful this program is, and that most similar programs started have not survived.

7. Steacie Award - Funding (Christian Reber).

Christian Reber – The Steacie award is a very important award given to faculty from any division. He was contacted last summer by Jeff Peeler, the award chair, since there have been some problems with the award.

In the past few years, the Inorganic Division has provided \$100-\$200 (each year) because the Steacie award no longer has Industrial funding. Jeff Peeler wants to change the situation by establishing an endowment. The CSC board has given a contribution of \$20,000 towards such an endowment. The idea is to create a \$60,000 endowment, and this will result in a sustainable award (providing a contribution to travel and also a cash prize), and will restore the prestige of this award.

As of this morning, 7 divisions have voted to contribute about \$4,000 each to this award. The executive has also unanimously voted to recommend that we also contribute \$4,000. Christian noted that some other divisions are trying to do this with their own awards, but this is harder to do, and we don't need to do this.

Question – Do we have the money for it.

Christian Reber – Yes.

Pierre Kennepohl – The \$4,000 just delays the windfall from the conference.

Fran Kerton – It is fantastic that 7 other divisions have supported it, especially since not all divisions were supporting the award with small annual amounts as we have been doing over the past few years.

Danny Leznoff – We should just do it.

***MOTION** to support the Steacie award in the same way that BM division did, using text along the lines of: "The Inorganic Division offers \$4,000 in support of this initiative, and hopes that other divisions will do likewise":*

Motion: Craig MacKinnon

2nd: Pierre Kennepohl

***PASSED** Unanimously*

8. Other business

Sean Barry mentioned that Tom Dobbins is leaving, and he has bought him a hockey jersey. Christian Reber noted that we really recognize and appreciate Tom Dobbins' support.

Danny Leznoff mentioned that the Canadian Journal of Chemistry has decided to provide funding for student poster awards at conferences, so if you are organizing a small conference, make sure that you contact the editor and he will provide a small number of small awards (e.g. 2 or 3 x \$100).

Mark MacLachlan pointed out that this year's inorganic symposia did not stop for the Strem award etc, and he thinks we should revert back to the way we usually do things. Christian replied that we had a lot of submitted talks this year and they didn't want to deprive students of giving talks, so that was the reason for the decision.

Meeting Adjourned.