



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

June 1, 2023, 13:15—14:15, Curtis Lecture Hall H, York University
Minutes prepared by Shlomo Gleibman

Attendance (22)

Kurosh Amoui Kalareh, Sanjukta Banerjee, Lee Dylan Campbell, Chris Corker, Ludwig Deringer, Shlomo Gleibman, Doris Hambuch, Susan Ingram, Louis-Thomas Leguerrier, Jack Hang-tat Leong, Jessica Tsui-yan Li, Jeanne Mathieu-Lessard, Agatha Mergler, Paul Morris, Markus Reisenleitner, Elena Siemens, Laurence Sylvain, Joshua Synenko, Irene Sywenky via Zoom, Mark Terry, Josh Tricilo, Jerry White

Reports from the Executive

Doris Hambuch, President:

Approval of the 2022 Minutes: Approved unanimously.

Doris reported on the open group session on polyglot art practices at the ICIA Congress in Tbilisi last year.

Research Groups. Doris held a meeting with all research group organizers in September, which predicted that instead of virtual activities, the past year's focus would be on the publishing of special issues: *CRCL* 49.1-2 is based on work by the Post-Magical Realism group; *CRCL* 49.3, "Polyglot Art Practices," is based on work by the Multi-/Plurilingualism group; and the group on Comparative Materialities is still editing their special issue, which is forthcoming with *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies*.

Esther Cheung Award – honoring recent award recipients: Lee Campbell (2020); Flora Roussell (2021); and Shlomo Gleibman (2022). Students and the underemployed were encouraged to submit their papers for the Esther Cheung Award as per instructions on our webpage. The Executive will consider ways in which actual presentations could be judged next year instead of printed versions submitted after the conference.

Federation's Merit Award – congrats Lee Campbell!

The Tribune was successful and hopes to continue. Doris encouraged students to consider participating next year, having chaired a panel at this year's edition and witnessed the rigorous and stimulating discussions engendered by this event.

Next year's conference. The Federation announced that Congress 2024 will take place at McGill University in Montreal, QC, on May 8-17, 2024. The dates coincide with l'ACFAS, the equivalent to Congress in French, which may pose a problem for francophone researchers who will be forced to choose between the two events. Moving the conference dates to early May also may be too tight to organize the conference with just one or two weeks after a busy semester. Alternative option: to hold the CCLA 2024 conference separately from Congress, perhaps at Trent University.

Paul: In favour of holding the 2024 conference separately.

Doris announced that the biannual elections stipulated by the association's constitution would take place at the end of the meeting and thanked all for the support all year round. Huge thanks to the Executive team in which everyone truly contributes continuously in the spirit of optimal collaboration. Doris emphasized the need for volunteers to take up positions at the upcoming elections.

Jack Hang-tat Leong, VP and Program Chair:

Jack provided summary of the CCLA/ACLC Annual Meeting Program and Congress highlights:

- Theme: Reckonings and Reimaginings in Comparative Literature.
- About 70 presentations forming about 20 panels covering a wide variety of topics.
- Keynote address on “Re-imagining Encounters: Notes of a Comparatist in Postcolonial Hong Kong”
- A film screening on planetary health
- Joint roundtable with the CCA on sustainable publishing and the climate crisis
- Celebration of new book publications and a social gathering

Jack outlined the topics of papers accepted to the conference. He mentioned the Tribune, other congress activities, lunch with the keynote speaker, and Big Thinking events involving indigenous and black histories.

Jack reminded panel chairs to consider nominations for the special issue and for the Esther Cheung Award.

Jack acknowledged all Executive members' input. In particular, Jack thanked Doris Hambuch, Susan Ingram and Jessica Li for their guidance; Shlomo Gleibman for local arrangements, communications and co-organizing; Jerry White for taking care of the membership and finances; Jeanne Mathieu-Lessard for the French translation; Susan Ingram for proofreading and transformative editing; and Lee Campbell and Flora Roussel for organizing the Tribune conference.

Shlomo Gleibman, Media and Communications Officer:

Shlomo summarized the activity on the CCLA channels, reporting on the CCLA website, mailing list, and social media (Facebook and Twitter).

The membership mailing list currently consists of 65 members (2023 Conference participants).

Website (complit.ca) May 2022-May 2023 stats:

- Between 500-1,000 views per month
- In 2023: 749 from Google and other search engines; 66 from the Federation website (federationhss.ca); 62 from Facebook; 30 from Twitter; 7 from LinkedIn

Facebook Group:

- 1,309 members (104 joined since June 2022)
- From 10 countries: India, Canada, United States, Egypt, Turkey, United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Brazil, Italy, Germany
- 12,771 views since June 2022
- Between 1,000-1,500 views per month

Twitter:

- 407 followers (28 new since last year)
- Average 100 visits per month

Announcements & CfPs:

- Events, seminars, conferences
- Journal publications & books
- CCLA research groups

Irene Sywenky, Editor, *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature/Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée*:

Irene provided an update on published and upcoming issues in 2022-2023.

Published issues:

48.3 General issue

48.4 General issue

49.1-2 Special issue: Post-Magical Realist Worlds (Guest Editors Agata Mergler, York University; Justyna Poray-Wybranowska, independent scholar)

49.3 Special issue: Polyglot Art Practices (Guest Editor Doris Hambuch, UAE University)

Delayed / forthcoming issues (49.4 [December 2022], 50.1 [March 2023], 50.2 [June 2023], 50.3 [September 2023])

- Special issue World Literature and the Production of the Minor (Guest Editor Núria Codina Solà, University of Leuven)

- General issue

- Special issue Divergence and Convergence in Comparative Literature (Guest Editor Jack Hang-tat Leong, York University)
- Special issue Two Solitudes: Canadian Graphic Novels (Guest Editors Christian Reyns, University of Alberta; Sylvain Rheault, University of Regina)

Special issue in preparation: Tropes of Globalization (Guest Editors Vid Stevanović and Claudine Bollinger, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München / Universität Bern)

Proposed special issues:

- Legacies of the “Chinese School” of Comparative Literature: in Memory of John Deeney (李達三) (Guest Editors Daniel Fried, University of Alberta, and Sheldon Lu, University of California, Davis); to be submitted in September 2023.
- Bridging the Caribbean: Literature, Hermeneutics, and Methodology / Brancher les Caraïbes: Littérature, herméneutique et méthodologie (Guest Editors Erica Durante, Brown University; Amaury Dehoux, Catholic University of Leuven)
- Special issue in honour of Mario J. Valdés (Guest Editors Cristina Santos, Brock University; Jonathan Allan, Brandon University)

The Editor has not been receiving teaching relief for the editorship of CRCL/RCLC since July 2020; the journal’s home department at the University of Alberta (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies) continues to provide support in the form of two research assistantships per year (fall and winter semesters).

CRCL/RCLC funds (May 24, 2023)

SSHRC funds (after commitments): \$69,516.92

Operating account funds (after commitments): \$74,909.87*

*More funds are expected to be deposited in the next couple of months. CRCL/RCLC is transitioning to electronic banking with Project Muse and Ebsco, which has delayed some deposits.

Miscellaneous updates:

- Upcoming 50th anniversary of CRCL/RCLC (1974-2024)
- CRCL/RCLC is in the 2022-25 SSHRC/CRSH triennial funding cycle;
- The journal has been included in the Web of Science’s Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI). As of 2022, the ESCI is included in Web of Science’s Core Collection. Web of Science (WoS) is a globally international research database, and the Core Collection is its most broadly used database. Inclusion in this index will significantly boost the global reach of the journal. There was a question from the floor about the ownership of the Web of Science, which because of difficulties with the Zoom setup, it was agreed to table for a future meeting.
- The CRCL/RCLC Editor participates in the annual meetings of the Canadian Association of Learned Journals (CALJ), Project Muse workshops and webinars, as well as the University of Alberta Libraries relevant events.

Lee Dylan Campbell, Early Career Scholar Representative:

1. Tribune

Co-organized the 7th Annual Comparative Literature Students Tribune.

- Thanks to co-organizer Flora Roussel (U. de Montreal)
- Theme: “Relation / Constellations pour repenser notre relationalité”
- 3 panels, 10 speakers: 7 English, 3 French

In order to have the Tribune close to Congress, it was necessary for the CCLA to sponsor it as a separate day of conference activities under the CCLA umbrella.

Thanks to the Executive for supporting the Tribune and to Doris Hambuch for chairing a panel. Several people have already indicated interest in Tribune 2024, and Lee will facilitate.

Notes on funding:

- CCLA provided \$200 for AV equipment fees.
- Annual budget indicates \$350 estimate for Tribune catering, but this should be \$0 because catering was sponsored by the York Graduate Program in the Humanities, and they will reimburse CCLA asap. The CCLA Treasurer should invoice York Humanities for the catering expense of \$467.79. Lee will follow up with Josh to facilitate this.

2. Esther Cheung Award

- Nomination and adjudication will proceed as in 2022, based on the evaluation of written essays.
- In 2024, criteria may change to reflect executive discussions about evaluating presentations in-person rather than essays submitted after the conference. New criteria will need to be communicated to participants before the conference to ensure fairness and preparation for contenders and adjudicators.

Elections for the 2023-2025 Executive

President: Jack Hang-tat Leong

VP and Program Chair: Jeanne Mathieu-Lessard

Treasurer: Joshua Synenko

Early Career Scholar Representative: Lee Dylan Campbell

Media and Communications Officer: Shlomo Gleibman

French Translator: Louis-Thomas Leguerrier

Two motions to increase the number of Executive members at large. Moved Markus, seconded Laurence, unanimous.

Members at large: Jessica Tsui-yan Li, Margot Mellet, Josh Trichilo, Laurence Sylvain, Mark Terry, Christopher Corker, Jerry White