

***Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution***  
2015 Annual General Meeting, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
**Agenda, Annual General Membership Meeting**; Sunday 25 May at 3:00-4:00

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**1. Attendance**

At least 60 Society members were present throughout the meeting. The requirement for quorum was 23 individuals (5% of current Society membership).

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION (J. Dench, S.Vamosi) to adopt the meeting agenda as previously circulated.**

**Passed**

**3. Minutes of the Annual General Membership meeting of May 2014**

**MOTION (D. Morris, S. Heard) to accept the minutes of the Annual General Membership meeting of 29 May 2014, Montreal, as previously distributed on the CSEE website.**

**Passed**

**4. President's Report - Judy Myers**

Judy began her report by expressing the Society's gratitude to the Saskatoon Local Organizing Committee, for organizing another successful meeting, especially Eric Lamb, who chaired the LOC, and Adam Crane, who organized the public outreach activities. Judy also thanked outgoing Councillors and CSEE representatives for their service to the Society: Fanie Pelletier and Andy Gonzalez, CSEE Councillors; Albrecht Schulte-Hostedde, CSEE representative at CCAC; and Hugh McIsaac, Chair of the NSERC Discovery Grant Evaluation Group 1503.

Judy then reported on the highlights of her activities as CSEE President over the past year. These included:

a. an open letter to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans about exempting Aquaculture from the Fisheries Act;

b. Council's annual meeting with NSERC officials in Ottawa in December 2014, emphasizing the need for reconsideration of scholarship and fellowship programs, especially, the effects on small universities of limiting MSc funding to one year, whether the window for post-doctoral fellowship applications might return to two years instead of one year, reconsideration of the impact of dollars spent on programs like the Vanier doctoral and Banting postdoctoral limit funding for regular, excellence-based scholarships, "...", improvements to the Canadian Common CV format, and refocussing the criteria for Accelerator grants; and

c. a letter supporting retention of the position of Curator of Entomology at the BC Provincial Museum (the position was retained);

Highlights of activities by CSEE Council over the past year include:

a. provision of funding to Professor Peter Kevan to attend meetings of the Special Pollination group of IPBES;

b. representation at the Canadian Biodiversity Science and Information Workshop in Montreal by Councillor Jeanette Whitton;

c. an initiative in concert with several other groups to have taxonomic keys acknowledged in scientific papers, spearheaded by Councillor Heather Proctor; and

d. modification of the CSEE Committee Structure. The CSEE Membership Committee will now be chaired by the Vice President (President Elect), while two previous committees were combined to form the Regional Conference and Outreach Committee.

Finally, Judy called attention to two recent papers, both related to environmental themes. The first was the text of Jeff Hutchings' 2014 CSEE Presidential Address (Jeffrey A. Hutchings, Thresholds for impaired species recovery. Proc. R. Soc. B 2015 282 20150654; DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2015.0654). The second paper is about the Alberta tar sands (Pauly, D. 2015. Tenure, the Canadian tar sands and 'ethical oil'. Ethics in Science and Environmental Politics 15, doi: 10.3354/esep00155).

**5. Treasurer's Report - Julie Turgeon (delivered by M. Richards)**

The Treasurer's Report provided details of the proposed Final CSEE Budget for 2015, as previously approved by Council at their meeting of 21 May 2015. Note that the Treasurer proposes an interim budget to Council at the December meeting, and this budget is revised and presented as the final budget at the Annual General Meeting.

**MOTION (A. Schulte-Hostedde, B. Moyers) to accept the 2015 Final Budget as proposed.**

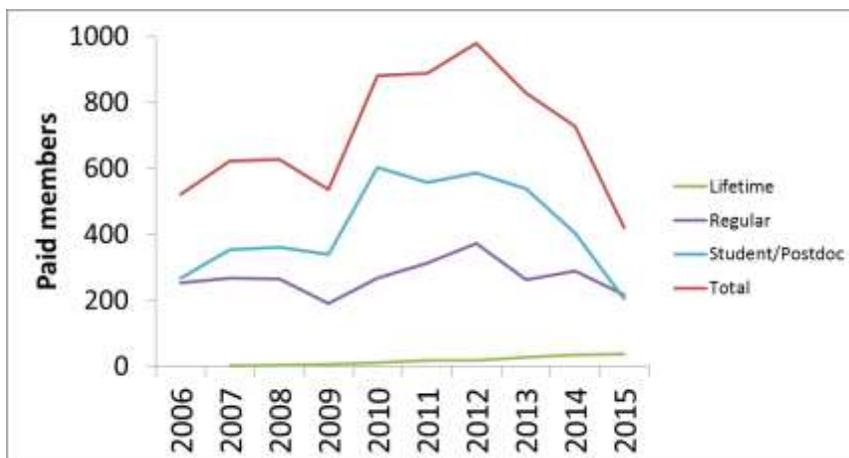
**Passed**

**6. Secretary's report - Miriam Richards**

The following table (next page) provides a snapshot of membership as of 15 May 2015.

Row Labels	Membership as of 15 May
<b>Early Career Award</b>	<b>4</b>
Early Career Award 2012-2021	2
Early Career Award 2014-2023	1
Early Career Award 2015-2024	1
<b>Lifetime</b>	<b>38</b>
Lifetime	38
<b>Regular</b>	<b>212</b>
Regular 2014-2015	56
Regular 2014-2016	3
Regular 2014-2017	1
Regular 2015	120
Regular 2015-2016	30
Regular 2015-2017	2
<b>Student/Postdoc</b>	<b>205</b>
Student/Postdoc 2014-2015	45
Student/Postdoc 2015	129
Student/Postdoc 2015-2016	31
<b>Total Members, May 2015</b>	<b>459</b>

The following figure suggests that membership, especially student/post-doc membership, may be declining. A possible reason is declining enrolment in ecology and evolution graduate programs. A membership survey should be undertaken to investigate this possibility.



## Reports and Other Business

### 7. Nominations Committee - Jeremy Kerr

Jeremy reminded members that in early 2016, there will be an election for five Council positions: Student/Postdoc Representative, two Councillor positions, Treasurer, and Vice President (President Elect).

**8. Student/Postdoc Report**

Anne Dalziel presented a proposal to include in the 2016 conference at Memorial University, a new graduate student symposium in addition to the usual student workshops.

**8. NSERC News- Doug Morris**

Doug presented a summary of the results of this year's NSERC Discovery Grant Competition for Evaluation Group 1503 (Ecology and Evolution). A continuing issue is growing evidence that small and medium universities are faring badly in the competition. In particular, rankings are lower for people from small and medium universities, perhaps because HQP figures as one-third of the ranking. Another issue highlighted is disproportionately low representation of women and small universities on the panel – the current panel includes only 4 women and only 2 people from small universities. Hugh McIsaac (Chair of EG1503) has recommended that these numbers be increased.

On the subject of scholarships and fellowships, it is possible that there may be a return to two years of eligibility for post-doc applications. There is no plan to return the MSc scholarships to a national competition.

In the next reallocation exercise, NSERC plans that no groups will lose funding, but only some will receive increased funding. The criteria for increased funding will be “strategic for Canada”.

**9. 2016 CSEE Conference – Memorial University, Nfld.**

Representatives of the Local Organizing Committee for the 2016 conference in St. John's described their plans and showed a short movie.

**10. CIEE - Peter Leavitt and Diego Steinaker**

A short summary of recent projects and organizational progress was delivered. CIEE is considering synthesis activities for the 2016 conference.

**11. New Business**

Arne Mooers urged CSEE members to comment on the new proposed NSERC Strategic Plan. Comments can be made until June.

**12. Adjournment**

**MOTION (M. Jean, J. Vickruck) to adjourn the meeting.**

**Passed**