

President's Report 2018 Annual General Meeting

Hola CACUSS members!!

A number of global and national events made this year a challenging and difficult one for the CACUSS Board and our members (both personally and as Student Affairs and Services professionals). As a result, the CACUSS Board, as a whole, focused much of its attention on responding to the events that took place in Charlottesville and the outcomes of the trials in Saskatchewan and Manitoba related to the deaths of Colten Boushie and Tina Fontaine. The Board issued messages of condolence for the family and friends of these two young people, of support for our Indigenous members, and a call for continued action toward reconciliation to our members and the greater community.

We crafted an Issues Management Protocol document that provides guidance to the Board with respect to responding to both national and global current events that impact our members.

In addition, the Board continued to grapple with our status as a bilingual organization vis-à-vis our capacity to provide little more than limited service to our Francophone members.

The Board dedicated its time to the review and revision of the role of the Board with respect to decision making, what can be delegated, etc. in an effort to streamline and increase its efficiency.

The Board also unanimously endorsed the "Okanagan Charter: An International Charter for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges". By doing so, we, as an organization, committed to working toward transforming the health and sustainability of our current and future societies through our campus communities and to activate the Charter to inform and support these efforts.

Board Sub-Committees and Assembly

The Board has several permanent sub-committees as well as the Assembly of Communities of Practice. These have, once again, had a busy and productive year in their own right and which have made significant contributions to advancing the work of the Board. Highlights include:

The Professional Development Committee has:

- Implemented changes based on their updated terms of reference
- Reviewed and provided feedback to the PD Manager about PD offerings, policy and operations
- Began work on a competency project with the goal of developing tools and resources to assist members better understand how they can use the Student Affairs and Services Competency Model to support their professional development and work
- Another project will look at how member data can be used to better identify the professional development needs of the membership

The Research and Awards Committee has:

- Been busy over the past year, primarily finalizing the Research Agenda for CACUSS. This has included consultation sessions at the 2017 conference, consultations with the Board and CoP Chairs, numerous discussions, drafts and revisions. The current plan is to have the Agenda finalized by the Board and presented to the membership at the annual conference. This has also meant some tough decision points for CACUSS in how to best spend allocated resources to further the Research Agenda for the organization. We are excited about the future direction and the proposed phasing in of this work.
- Worked hard to increase the number and diversity of applications and nominations for a variety of awards, resulting in the largest number ever of conference bursary applications this year! We also updated the descriptions and criteria for a number of awards; we recognize that we still have some work to do in this area and will continue to do so over the coming months. We have also undertaken a discussion around our terms of reference, which includes discussion of splitting the research work from the awards/recognition work, as they are two very different areas of focus at this point

The Policy Committee has:

- Reviewed and approved the Terms of Reference of the Committee itself
- Completed all revisions and had board approval on In-Camera Policy
- Made revisions to the Indigenous Protocol which are awaiting consultation
- Completed final revisions of the Partnership and Sponsorship Policy
- Commenced first edits of the Research Guidelines policy
- Reviewed and had the Board approve the CACUSS Professional Development Guidelines
- Final stages of the Privacy and Protection of Member Data Policy

The Nominations, Elections and Leadership Development Committee has:

- Accepted nominations for three Board Positions that were scheduled to be filled for the 2018-2019 CACUSS Board. Four nominations were received for two positions as Members-At-Large, and one nomination was received for the position of Finance Director.
- Held elections were for the Member-at-Large positions and two individuals were elected. The slate of elected and acclaimed CACUSS Board members will be presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- The membership was also encouraged to volunteer for various CACUSS Committees. The process of matching member interest with Committee openings is under way.

The Assembly of CACUSS Communities of Practice has:

- Enjoyed working with Megan Mackenzie this year in her supportive role as Manager of Professional Development and Member Engagement. Megan has been able to take on more of the administrative tasks required for the Assembly to run more effectively and consistently
- Met 3 times this year: in June 2017 with a face to face meeting to review the past year and plan ahead; followed by 2 conference calls held at the beginning of each semester. From these meetings, the Assembly will continue working with volunteers in the ongoing project of creating

the Operations and Procedures document. This document, which Megan Mackenzie will pull together as an E-Book, will be housed in Higher Logic for easy access by members

- Increased the presence of the CoP Co-Chairs at the annual conference. Co-Chairs have been invited to the Newcomers' Reception to meet new members, they have the opportunity to share information about their CoP in their roles as Concurrent Session Hosts, and they will be sporting new ribbons displaying their CoP Co- Chair positions, so members can feel free to ask any questions they may have about that particular CoP and the work they are planning for the coming year
- Now that we are at the 5 year mark with the current Community of Practice model (rather than the previous CACUSS Divisions model), along with the Board, proposed engaging in a review to explore the successes and areas for improvement moving forward. A review committee will be struck and more information will follow in the upcoming months.

In conclusion, this past year has been a year of challenge, change and hope and has given us the opportunity to a make a difference. I would like to take this opportunity to say muchas gracias to the Board, the Board Sub-committees, the CoP Co-Chairs, the CoP members and all our awesome volunteers for their excellent service this past year. And, of course, I would like to specially thank, for all their assistance all year long, our great CACUSS staff and our exceptional Executive Director!!

I will be stepping down as CACUSS Board President at the Annual General Meeting when my two year term ends. It has been both an honour and a privilege to have been of service as your Board President and to have worked with such an amazing group of Student Affairs and Services colleagues.

Muchas Gracias!!