# Report of the Editor, Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes Heather J. Coleman 29 May 2013

# Dear Colleagues:

Overall, the journal is in solid intellectual shape; finances present more of a challenge, as will be outlined below. Our major accomplishment this year was a special double issue, "Historical Memory and World War II in Russia and Ukraine," guest-edited by our Associate Editor, Professor David R. Marples of the University of Alberta. In addition to a substantial introduction by Professor Marples, the issue presented ten research articles by scholars from Canada, Ukraine, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Finland working in the fields of history, literature, anthropology, and political science. An issue containing a special section devoted to papers to be presented by Canadian scholars at the International Congress of Slavists in Minsk in August, 2013 is in press. We continue to seek ways to preserve and strengthen the journal's financial position. A financial statement is included at the end of this report.

I would like to thank the University of Alberta, which has hosted our journal for over twenty years, for its continuing support. I am especially grateful to the administrative staff in the Department of History and Classics for their ongoing assistance, in particular Ms. Melanie Marvin for expert and efficient help in financial matters.

Here, in point form, are some highlights of the year:

### **Publication**

Volume 54 of *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavistes* appeared as two double issues in 2012. We published 16 articles and 5 review articles for a total of 578 pages:

- Vol. LIV, Nos. 1-2 (March-June 2012)
- Vol. LIV, Nos. 3-4 (September-December 2012)

# **Subscriptions**

Currently, CSP/RCS has 263 individual member/subscribers and 226 institutional subscribers, for a total of 489. This represents a drop in both individual and institutional members for the third year in a row. On the membership side, this seems to be associated with declining conference attendance. A long-term decline in institutional subscriptions is a real concern (from 270 in 2011 and 252 in 2012). As a result, revenue from subscriptions and membership declined from \$28,688.12 to 25,001.31.

### **CSP/RCS** Archive

The CSP/RCS archive continues to be updated; it now contains everything we have published between 1956 and 2013. The archive is searchable and individual articles are available for purchase via PayPal for non-members. For the second year in a row, we saw an increase in the number of scholars subscribing; readers from North America and around the world continue to

make use of this service, purchasing individual articles or back issues in PDF format. CAS members can have complete and unlimited access to the archive for \$5.00 a year. We encourage all CAS members who have not already done so to explore the benefits that the archive offers by visiting

http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~csparxiv/index.php and subscribing.

# **Agreements with EBSCO and JSTOR**

In 2009 CSP/RCS signed an agreement with EBSCO Publishing, the world's largest database aggregator, to include all our current and past content in their databases. We envisioned two benefits from this agreement: 1) authors are assured that their research is accessible to, and discoverable by, a worldwide reading audience; 2) CSP/RCS receives additional royalties. At present EBSCO continues work on adding CSP/RCS content to its databases. So far, royalties have fluctuated, so it is hard to judge the overall result in that respect. Overall, we are convinced that the net benefits of being part of EBSCO outweigh any potential danger to our subscriptions.

Our agreement with JSTOR to participate in its archive is now active: our archive is digitized and available. JSTOR is "an independent not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping the scholarly community discover, use, and build upon a wide range of intellectual content in a trusted digital archive." It allows scholars "to browse, search and print materials directly from their desktops." CSP/RCS is now part of a consortium of 6000 institutions and 700 scholarly societies and publishers throughout the world participating in JSTOR. In order not to jeopardize our subscriptions, we have not included current issues, creating instead a two-year "moving wall" that represents the gap between the last issue available in JSTOR and the most recently published issue of CSP/RCS. JSTOR also makes possible the sale of single articles to individuals unaffiliated with a JSTOR participating institution. JSTOR promises to be a good source of royalties as well; a statement of 2012 earning that was mailed to us earlier this spring, but that will only be reflected in next year's financial report, reports \$4,258.84 in royalties revenue.

CSP/RCS is also available digitally on Proquest Canadian Periodicals and Proquest CBCA Complete, from 1996 onwards, to subscribing libraries.

#### Administration

This year, the CSP/RCS office was once again in the hands of our Assistant Editor, Dr. Svitlana Krys. I would like to express my deep appreciation for her truly excellent work and commitment to CAS and its journal. Svitlana remains a constant source of editing expertise, advice, institutional knowledge, and moral support. My research assistants, Ms. Oksana Vynnyk and Ms. Iuliia Kysla, also helped with various administrative tasks cheerfully and efficiently.

Our book review editorial team this year included Christina Kramer, University of Toronto (Language and Linguistics), Mark Conliffe, Willamette University (Literature and Art), and Alison Rowley, Concordia University (History and Social Sciences). We were delighted to welcome Professor Kramer to the editorial group last fall and we are thankful to her predecessor, Dr. Sarah Turner, for her assistance during the transition period. I am deeply grateful to all of the book review editors for their hard work, collegiality, and skilful editing.

Our members have, as always, been faithful in their service to the journal as book reviewers and article referees. I would especially like to thank those who acted as an anonymous reviewer. In the last year alone, approximately 60 scholars from Canada and throughout the world generously contributed their time and expertise to evaluate articles submitted to CSP/RCS. Without their unsung help, the high standards of our collective enterprise would be impossible to maintain.

As I begin my third year as editor, I continue the process of rethinking the editorial and advisory boards to better serve the needs of the journal, most especially in providing me with intellectual support as editor. We are also moving forward slowly to realize my objective of making CSP/RCS truly bilingual both in presentation and in fact. We received some funding through SSHRC to assist in this process and were able to hire a graduate student, Ms. Genia Boivin, to translate English-language article abstracts into French for the first issue of 2013.

#### **Finances**

The CSP/RCS Financial Report appears on the next page. The Report reflects our fiscal year cash flow, i.e., income and expenses. We have a back-up savings fund called the CAS Reserve Fund, a balance that carries over from year to year but is not part of annual operating expenses or income. Currently our annual equity stands at a deficit of -\$7,333.48 (last year, the deficit was \$8,219.54, in 2011 it was -\$7,309.70 and in 2010 it was -\$11,050.13). These continuing deficits have been covered by our Reserve Fund. Our current equity stands at \$72,141.42 (this includes our SSHRC installment for 2013-14 of \$21,450).

Overall, our budget has been feeling pressure from some drop in income and increased salary costs over the last few years. It has become clear that, even with our SSHRC grant, we have a long-term chronic deficit and that our savings are running out. We have so far not found any promising grant opportunities (such as the one-time grant of \$5326.23 last year from the Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council that allowed us to subsidize the Assistant Editor's salary). In an effort to address our ongoing deficits, I have been exploring means of eliminating them. This past year, our Assistant Editor's hours were reduced and some of the research assistant time I have through my Canada Research Chair grant was used to provide an internship position for a student. Although much use can be made of students, the journal and our association also need a permanent employee year-round; moreover, the CRC money will not last forever and we need to find ways to pay for the work that it takes to produce a journal from the journal's own revenue. Moreover, and this will be reflected only in next year's annual report, the human resources department at the University of Alberta caught up with us and said that Svitlana was not a temporary but an auxiliary employee and charged us close to \$6000 in back benefits for her, thereby wiping out the savings I thought we had achieved (and more). This means that the rate we pay her actually costs 28.1% more than we had been calculating. So the need to rethink our staffing arrangements is all the more urgent. I remain committed to both balancing the budget and preserving a professional position (Assistant Editor) for a scholar in our field in Canada. That said, we have been approached by the British publisher, Taylor & Francis (a division of Routledge) with a very interesting proposal to publish our journal. I have been investigating this option and feel that it is one we should seriously consider: although it would significantly reduce the position of Assistant Editor, it would also end our financial worries.

		CSP Financial Report			
		April 1, 2012 - March 31, 2013: 2012 Fiscal Year			
April 1 2012-March 31 2013		April 1 2011-March 31 2012		April 1 2010-March 31 2011	
INCOME		INCOME		INCOME	
Advertisements	250.00	Advertisements	95.00	Advertisements	994.36
Archive Subscription	95.90	Archive Subscription	40.90	Archive Subscription	157.08
SSHRC	20,600.00	SSHRC	22,750.00	SSHRC	16,900.00
Other Grants	0.00	Other Grants (Canadian Printing	5,326.23	Other Grants (Canadian Printing	7,423.77
		Industries Sector Council - salary		Industries Sector Council - salary	
		subsidy for the Assistant Editor)		subsidy for the Assistant Editor)	
Membership and Subscription	25,001.31	Membership and Subscription	28,688.12	Membership and Subscription	32,259.18
Other	0.00	Other (Cash from book sale)	65.00	Other (Paypal deposit to verify account)	0.14
Royalties	452.36	Royalties	1,318.97	Royalties	154.49
Sales	341.31	Sales	301.75	Sales	39.39
TOTAL INCOME	46,740.88	TOTAL INCOME	58,585.97	TOTAL INCOME	57,928.41
EXPENSES		EXPENSES		EXPENSES	
Uncategorized: Advertising at the 2011	245.00	Uncategorized: Advertising at the 2011	50.00	Uncategorized: Membership in	155.00
Congress Book Fair (\$50) and		Congress Book Fair; paid through		Canadian Association of Learned	
Membership in Canadian Association of		Canadian Association of Learned		Journals	
Learned Journals (\$195)		Journals			
Bank Charges	72.72	Bank Charges	75.02	Bank Charges	84.37
CAS Transfer	1,874.21	CAS Transfer	4,882.82	CAS Transfer	4,200.74
CAUS Transfer	621.74	CAUS Transfer	0.00	CAUS Transfer	931.74
Computer Equipment and Maintenance	1,741.20	Computer Equipment and Maintenance	40.00	Computer Equipment and Maintenance	155.49
Office Expenses	439.48	Office Expenses	685.49	Office Expenses	426.62
Postage and Delivery General	3,166.50	Postage and Delivery General	7,047.02	Postage and Delivery General	4,637.93
Printing and Paper	4,177.43	Printing and Paper	9,990.57	Printing and Paper	7,814.10
Salary, Wages	41,700.06	Salary, Wages	44,034.59	Salary, Wages	46,832.12
Cancellations / Refunds	36.02	Cancellations / Refunds	0.00	Cancellations / Refunds	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	54,074.36	TOTAL EXPENSES	66,805.51	TOTAL EXPENSES	65,238.11
Equity April 1 2013	-7,333.48	Equity April 1 2012	-8,219.54	Equity April 1 2011	-7,309.70

Heather J. Coleman CSP Editor