Canadian Acoustical Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

16 October 2003
Edmonton, Alberta

Call to Order

President John Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. with 24 voting members of the Association present. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting on 10 October 2002 in Charlottetown PEI were approved as printed in the December 2002 issue of Canadian Acoustics. (Moved by Ramani Ramakrishnan, seconded by Cameron Sherry, carried unanimously.)

President's Report

John Bradley summarized the results of the executive meeting. First, he announced his decision not to seek re-election. He emphasized that the society is in good condition, and he thanked all those who have made major contributions to our activities, both in the annual conferences and in ongoing activities such as the website and the journal.

(In response, Ramani Ramakrishnan proposed a motion of thanks for John Bradley's five years as President, which triggered loud applause from all present.)

Secretary's Report

David Quirt presented a brief report: the membership of the Association has remained quite steady, with 333 members as of 31 August. Details are in the report from Board of Directors meeting on October 14. The administrative budget of $1414 covered website, database, and membership correspondence expenses in the last fiscal year. An itemized account was presented to the Board of Directors, and reduction to $1000 is proposed for the next year.

In response to a question from Harold Forrester, about errors in the technical interest codes in the membership directory published each December, the Secretary detailed the steps underway this year to correct this problem, and also to update other database fields such as e-mail addresses.

The report was accepted. (Moved by Alberto Behar, seconded Murray Hodgson, carried.)

Treasurer's Report

Dalila Giusti reported on the Association finances.

- We are in good shape, with $244,534 in our accounts and a variety of securities (as detailed in the Board of Directors report).
- Interest on our capital fund is providing nearly $8000 in annual interest, which is enough to cover most of the awards. Successful meetings plus increased income from advertising and subscriptions have also generated funds. There has been no need to dip into fixed assets for several years.

We budget each year's expenses and track costs and revenues; this allows us to plan. That process has identified a tightening budget situation, and the Board is therefore proposing a small increase in annual fees to maintain an adequate financial cushion. Discussion of this proposal clarified the current status of the capital and operating funds. It was explained that increases in advertising rates and fees for Sustaining Subscribers are not recommended because these were increased since the last increase in membership dues.

An increase in the dues for Members (to $60) and for Students (to $20) was approved. (Moved by Dalila Giusti, seconded Cameron Sherry, carried.)

Editor's Report

Ramani Ramakrishnan gave the Editor's report. *Canadian Acoustics* highlights were:

- For the first time, the September 2003 issue used fully digital printing, and colour is readily included.
- Articles will be very welcome and will generally be published within 2-3 months. Historically about 25% of papers get rejected. This will be published to substantiate that the articles are refereed.
- A move to 6 issues per year will be delayed until the supply of submissions increases enough to ensure a reasonable number of articles available for each issue.
- A special issue, presenting refereed conference papers on underwater sound, is planned for June 2004. The conference will cover part of the expenses for the issue, so this should both provide good content that is of interest to our audience, and help with the publication budget.
- Karen Fraser has been very effectively soliciting ads and following up advertising invoices.

Award Coordinator's Report

Christian Giguère reported the awards to be presented this year. CAA is awarding the Fessenden Prize, Eckel Prize, Hétu Prize, and Award for the Canada-Wide Science Fair. In addition, there are 2 Directors' awards, plus the student paper awards. (See separate announcement in this issue for names of recipients.)

The Board of Directors has decided to change the Directors' Awards for coming years: the two prizes for best paper in *Canadian Acoustics* written by a professional will be merged (with no criterion for author's age) with a prize value of $500.

Christian acknowledged the hard work of the awards committees, and the contributions of David Stredulinsky in updating the web pages for awards. For 2004 there will be a major effort to promote the prizes.

Past/Future Meetings

Brief reports were presented on meeting status:

Charlottetown (2002): Annabel Cohen provided a final report. The technical program was very well received, with over 100 papers and 85 full registrations plus 12 exhibitors and many 1-day participants. The final financial status was a surplus of $1412. There were many compliments on all aspects of the meeting, and the President repeated the thanks from the Board for a great success.

Edmonton (2003): Corjan Buma gave a preliminary report on the meeting. Advance registration was less than expected, but the total registration may be sufficient to balance the budget. The number of papers submitted is lower than usual (55) but this has been supplemented by excellent plenary talks, a great site visit to the Winspear concert hall, and an exhibition with very good representation of acoustical product manufacturers. An effective website based on the PEI model was developed by Steve Bilawchuk, who also handled loading of PowerPoint presentations for the session; those present expressed their appreciation with a round of applause. Corjan continued with thanks for the significant efforts by the whole Edmonton team; the visitors responded with a final vote of thanks.

Ottawa (2004): The conference will be at the recently renovated Lord Elgin Hotel in downtown Ottawa, on 6-8 October. John Bradley will lead a very-experienced team to organize this meeting. See the preliminary advertisement in this issue.

London (2005): There will be an ASA meeting in May 2005 in Vancouver but we will have a CAA meeting as usual in October. A team from London Ontario has offered to organize the meeting, and the Board has given approval to

proceed. A detailed plan will be presented at the next Board meeting in spring 2004.

International Liaison

Murray Hodgson spoke about the meeting of Acoustical Society of America planned in Vancouver on 16-20 May 2005. Murray will be the Chair, and Stan Dosso is Technical Program Chair. Murray asked for suggestions on how to highlight Canadian activities at the meeting.

John Bradley reported that the Board has decided to improve the circulation of Noise News International to interested CAA members, by adding this as an option on the annual renewal form, with a charge of $5/year to cover mailing costs. NNI is published by International Institute of Noise Control Engineering and distributed in bulk to member societies, including CAA.

CAA Website

David Stredulinsky reported that our website has current forms and information on most aspects of CAA operations and membership. It is clearly becoming the main conduit for members needing information, and traffic has doubled over the last year. A job wanted page is now available, and the student awards page is substantially revised. A complete index of Canadian Acoustics is also available on the website, and it has become a key part of advertising and managing the annual conference. David was thanked for all his hard work.

Nominations

Cameron Sherry nominated Stan Dosso as President. Alberto Behar seconded. There were no other nominations, so the candidate was acclaimed.

Cameron Sherry nominated David Quirt as Secretary, Dalila Giusti as Treasurer and Ramani Ramakrishnan as Editor. Harold Forrester seconded. There were no other nominations, so these candidates were acclaimed.

Cameron Sherry nominated Raymond Panneton (from Sherbrooke, Quebec) and Vijay Parsa (from London, Ontario) as Directors. Murray Hodgson seconded. There were no other nominations, so these Directors were acclaimed.

Karen Fraser and Meg Cheesman were thanked for their efforts as Directors for the last 5 years.

Adjournment

Alberto Behar moved and Ramani Ramakrishnan seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.