

CEACS/AECEC Executive Committee Meeting

(26th EC meeting)

Budapest

28 November 2025

Minutes

Present

Octavian More, President – OM

Victor Kennedy, Vice-President – VK

Andrea Szabó, Secretary – AS

Don Sparling, Treasurer – DS

Excused: Jason Blake – JB

Invited: Krisztina Kodó – KK (as representative of the CEACS Hungarian Chapter)

1. Opening

OM opened the meeting at 16:45.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The following agenda was adopted:

- report on the current state of the CEJCS and the steps taken towards the inclusion of the journal in the SCOPUS database
- initial discussion of an ICCS project proposal in which CEACS has been invited to participate as a possible partner

3. Report on the current state of the CJECS

DS provided a brief report on the current state of the CJECS and the progress that has been made with a view to including the journal in the SCOPUS database. Volume 20, No. 1 of the journal has already been edited and is ready for printing. The call for contributions to the next issue will be out in a couple of days, the suggested deadline for submissions being the end of February 2026. An interview in French with Guy Delisle has already been secured, so the issue is off to a promising start.

DS also presented the latest news concerning the digitisation of past CEACS publications. The IT staff at Masaryk University have finished digitising all nineteen volumes of the journal and each article is now available with a DOI number. The volumes of the two translation projects as well as two past conference proceedings have also been completely digitised and each article has been given a handle number. DS offered to look into this further so that each article could receive its own DOI number. *Canadian Landscapes* has a unique DOI number, but not separate DOI numbers for the individual articles. On the other hand, the volume of the second translation project has already been included in Web of Science. DS suggested that older CEACS conference proceedings volumes, given that their content may no longer be of immediate interest to our readers, could possibly be scanned and put up online, without going through the trouble of assigning DOI numbers. It was, however, suggested that if possible it might be a good idea to digitise all the articles in these volumes as well. DS said this could perhaps be done, but he wouldn't like to push the IT people at the Faculty of Arts of Masaryk University too much, as the CEACS is not officially affiliated with the institution; all the work done so far has been thanks to the good will of the IT people. However, he has offered to take up this issue with them.

OM inquired about what has been done to achieve SCOPUS indexation of the journal. DS said that, as a first step, we have moved to a twice-yearly publication schedule, since this seems to be a sine qua non for the process to move ahead. In addition, VK mentioned that JB will get in touch with a specialist at the University of Maribor, David Hazemali, who will guide us through the process.

Several suggestions for topics for the upcoming issues of the journal were also made. VK has proposed to JB to conduct an interview with Maris Pruuli, the Estonian explorer and author who sailed the Northwest Passage and wrote a book about it for the next issue. DS reminded everyone of the usual shortage of contributions in French, to which VK replied that Michelle Gadpaille might be able to find a French

contributor at the Marseille University where she will be attending a conference next year.

4. Discussion of the ICCS project and partnership proposal

OM provided everyone printouts of the project proposal so that various points of interest could be discussed punctually and briefly presented the ICCS invitation, outlining the main aspects of the project. DS pointed out that this project appears to be a continuation of a former SSHRC project initiated and led by Professor Jean-Michel Montsion at the Robarts Centre of York University. DS also underlined the main material benefit from the project—the effective doubling of the annual budget of the CEACS.

A discussion of the key-aspects of the project followed, the participants highlighting various ambiguous or otherwise problematic sides of the proposal in its current form. It was agreed that these require clarification by the project proponents before the CEACS can proceed to examining the particular ways in which the Association might commit as a partner in this initiative. OM offered to draft a first version of the comments and questions, as formulated on this occasion, and share it with all meeting participants so they can contribute further comments and suggestions. OM suggested that it would help if the project team at the ICCS could organise an online meeting with all prospective project partners in order to address their questions and recommendations. He also offered to forward this request to ICCS president Anna Branach-Kallas together with the list of questions that have come after these initial discussions within the CEACS.

As no conclusion could be reached at this early stage of discussing the project, it was agreed that the subject will be examined again at a later time, after the ICCS project team has answered our initial list of questions. To this end, an online meeting is planned to take place in due time.

5. Closing

The meeting ended at 18.00.