**CEACS/AECEC Executive Committee and Advisory Board Joint Meeting**

**(18th EC and 12 AB Meeting)**

**Online**

**4 March 2022**

Minutes

**Present**

**Executive Committee**

Katalin Kürtosi, President – KK

Michelle Gadpaille, Viee-President – MG

Diana Popović, Secretary – DP

Don Sparling, Treasurer – DS

Jason Blake, CEJCS Editor-in-Chief – JB

**Advisory Board**

Andrei Andreev, Bulgaria – AA

Petra Sapun, Croatia – PS

Mirna Sindičić Sabljo, Croatia – MSS

Tomaš Pospišil, Czech Republic – TP

Attila Takacs, Hungary – AT

Cristina Petras, Romania – CP

Sergej Macura, Serbia and Montenegro – SM

Natasa Radusin-Bardic, Serbia – NRB

Jana Javorcikova, Slovakia – JJ

Tjaša Mohor, Slovenia – TM

Janos Kenyeres (conference organizer) – JK

1. **Opening**

**CEACS President** Katalin Kürtösi (KK) opened the meeting at 16.00.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted

* update about ICCS-CIEC
* the CEACS Secretariat (membership, financial situation)
* the upcoming conference
* the journal CEJCS/AECEC
* AOB

The agenda order was changed slightly – JK presented details about the upcoming conference as the first item.

1. **Upcoming conference in Budapest (Canadian Landscapes, Budapest, Hungary October 27–29, 2022)**

* JK reminded us that four universities (in addition to CEACS) will be organizing and supporting the conference in various ways:

EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY

KÁROLI GÁSPÁR UNIVERSITY OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN HUNGARY

PÁZMÁNY PÉTER CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

and

BUDAPEST BUSINESS SCHOOL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

* there may be a second call for applications, given that we have not received that many yet
* the plan is to have the conference in person – and online if need be
* keynote speakers:

i) Petr Kyloušek, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Masaryk University, Brno

ii) Oliver Botar, School of Art, University of Winnipeg

iii) Felicia Mihali, novelist with Romanian roots, Montreal

iv) depending on financial resources, a fourth keynote might be invited.

* If possible CEACS should cover Oliver Botar’s costs: the other two keynotes’ costs will be covered by Pázmány Péter University (Kyloušek) and Károli Gáspar University (Mihali)
* Registration fees will be payable in euros
* DS suggested sending a reminder of the deadline

1. **Update about ICCS-CIEC**

KK explained the “new situation” at ICCS-CIEC (see updates sent to members via e-mail)

* KK indicated that ICCS-CIEC is hoping to obtain some financial support from the Government of Canada
* the deadline for ICCS Certificate of Merit is in two weeks: KK requested an e-mail from country reps, either to nominate a candidate or to state that their country is not nominating a candidate
* The next ICCS-CIEC general meeting is in July, 2022
* **From the CEACS Secretariat (membership, financial situation, etc.)**

DS reported on activities linked to the CEACS Secretariat in Brno

* Membership
  + in 2021 the association had 188 members, up from 2020 (177 members) – the highest number since 2014 (before Canada cut funding, we had c. 295 members)
* Finances
  + in a “normal” year the income from membership fees is c. 3200 euros
  + in 2021, with reduced membership fees, it was c. 1850 euros
  + 90% of expenditures go to publications (journal and research projects); conference grants; research stays in Brno
  + 10% go to web hosting, paying the auditor, and other incidental costs
  + we receive help “in kind” from the English Dept. in Brno (payment of the student who acts as CEACS Secretary)
  + we save a bit each year to help pay for the CEACS conferences
  + our overall financial situation at present is solid (c. 2000 euros after covering the publication of Vol. 16 of the journal)
  + this means we might be able to be more generous with conference grants
  + if there were a new research project, we could probably contribute to it financially
* Facebook – DS mentioned that the Facebook platform is not overly active but that it seems to be followed by many; he encouraged country reps to ask their members to use it more
* Student members – DS mentioned the need to encourage more students (esp. PhD students) to join the association
* TP said that some show little interest in joining the CEACS, one reason being that, depending on their university, they may receive generous funding for research, conferences, etc., so see little advantage in joining

1. **About the journal**

* JB accounted for the delays – mostly due to a very late response from Cambridge University Press about re-publishing a chapter in David Staines’s new history of Canadian literature (which in the end proved too expensive). Nevertheless, Vol. 16 has been sent to the printers.
* there will be three interviews – two in English, one in French
* DS initiated a discussion on a recurring problem with the journal – that it is increasingly difficult to get articles for it.
* DS felt that one of the main problems is that it isn't in any of the indexes that allow contributors to get “points” for their academic evaluations.
* DS suggested that one possibility might be to encourage retired academics and doctoral students to submit to the journal
* DS mentioned that we could aim to publish twice a year (in order to get onto indexed databases)
* KK suggested “recruiting” article writers from Quebec studies to achieve English-French balance
* CP noted that a journal can still be in venerable indexes even if it is published once per year
* KK pointed out that other Canadian Studies journals have similar problems with submissions, among them the *International Journal of Canadian Studies*, published by the ICCS-CIEC.
* JB noted that some revered names in Canadian studies read the journal, which is of course a positive

1. **AOB**

* SM noted that the volume from the 2019 Belgrade conference on postmodernism and Canada have been printed and sent to various people
* MM spoke about her idea for a possible CEACS research project. This would deal with the paratextual “framing” of works by Canadian authors translated into the languages of our countries through an examination of their cover images. After some discussion, Michelle was asked to prepare and send to the ExCom and Advisory Board members an outline of such a project for them to consider.

KK closed the meeting at 17:22.