

**Vice President's Report to the Annual General Meeting
Canadian Association for the Study of Educational Administration (CASEA)
Ryerson University, Toronto
Tuesday, May 30, 2017**

Proposals:

3	Panels
5	Symposia
14	Round Table Discussions
56	Papers
1	Conversation session

CASEA was allotted 23 spaces in the program based on past attendance and on membership. Of those 23 sessions, 4 of them were already dedicated to events that we agreed to hold during the conference:

- AGM and Luncheon
- Graduate Student session
- CASEA conversation
- T.B. Greenfield presentation

We had 10 symposia or panel proposals submitted this year which was unusual and which made it a bit more difficult to program given that these sessions require an entire 60 or 75 minute session timeslot. Additionally, some of these were not 4-5 papers. We had to do some juggling to fit them into the program by either topping them up with aligned papers or moving them to the roundtables and requesting an entire table for their themed session.

The Review process

This year the review process was problematic. Many emails were sent to our membership and to those who had submitted papers, however, many did not respond. It became clear that many emails were not making it into inboxes, hence, there were few responses. One possible explanation for this is the increase in university security settings due to necessary increases in ICT security. It appeared that communication facilitated through the Open Conference System (OCS) that CSSE uses were either being snagged in the junk or quarantine filters or were not getting through due to other issues. This issue was reported to Tim Howard and was also experienced by other program directors who also reported their concerns at the program meeting. Tim was not sure how to manage this issue. As a result, the bulk of the reviews were undertaken by a small group of academics who agreed to help out and were sent personal emails by Tory or me. Tory and I also did more than our fair share of reviews to make up the deficit in available reviewers and missing emails. Overall the quality of the submissions was high and only a handful were not accepted. Most that were not accepted were either incomplete proposals or were clearly not aligned with educational administration in any way.

Round Table Discussions (5)

We had four proposals for round table sessions but we moved 10 paper proposals and one short symposia proposal into the round table format to ensure we were able to include as many of our submissions as possible. Space for the round table discussions was provided by CSSE and did not come out of our allotment of 23 spaces.

Symposia/Panels (10):

We received proposals for 10 symposia. Most were proposed by experienced faculty and most held the promise of excellent learning opportunities. However, as program chairs we were confronted with the understanding that every time we accepted a symposium, this meant we had to turn down four or five paper proposals or move these to the round table sessions. On the final program, we found space (through some negotiation) to accept seven out of the 10 symposia. One paper proposal was added to the program as a round table discussion, one was rejected as it was incomplete, and one was withdrawn.

Question: Is there a limit on the number of symposia that we prefer to have on the program?

Conversations Sessions (1)

We had one conversation session this year. Thus, we were able to include it without creating too much stress on the program logistics.

Question: Is there a limit on the number of conversations?

Multipaper Sessions

There are 10 multi-paper sessions in the program this year. We placed four papers in each 60-minute time slot and five papers in each 75-minute slot. We did not assign a chair person to each session, simply because we ended up running out of time with the logistical issues we faced this year and the problems in communicating with our membership through the OCS system. Upon receiving feedback, we integrated our francophone presentations in the program, thus ensuring inclusion of this important component of our membership in program sessions attended by all language and cultural groups.

Banquet

The CASEA banquet is being held on Tuesday 30 May, 2017 at Pappas Grill, 440 Danforth Ave, Toronto. Tory Handford and Polina Denisova organized the banquet this year so many thanks to Tory and Polina for their efforts.

CASEA Book Launch

The CASEA Book Launch is being held on Wednesday 31 May, 2017 at the Pear Tree Restaurant, 507 Parliament St, Toronto. Polina Denisova and Tory Handford also organized the Book Launch this year so many thanks to them both for their efforts.

Conference Software:

This year we entirely worked through CSSE's OCS software database system. This made it easier to track the proposals and to ensure that responses, etc. All proposals were channeled through this system, and meant that our previous experience last year made it easier this year. The big issue we faced this year was that it appeared that not all emails made it into the inboxes of all of our membership, with many being redirected to junk or quarantine. CSSE is aware of this issue but they are not sure what can be done about it. This raises the issue of what should we do about this. We don't really want to go back to reviewing outside of the system as this is a massive task but we also don't want the program directors to have to do all the reviewing themselves with a small team of willing but overworked colleagues.

Question: Should we formulate a dedicated team of reviewers who work with the executive to review all the papers in a more timely way? We assume that this team would need to have their service formally recognized so they can use this for performance reviews. Should the team include doctoral students? Suggestions?

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