



CSA Newsletter

Canadian Society of Agronomy

May 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow CSA members,

Over the past year, it has been an honour, and an enjoyable and rewarding experience for me to serve the Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) as president. In this message, I will try to summarize the activities of the executive board over the past year.

Your CSA executive board over the past year worked with the Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) on a joint meeting to be held from June 18 to 22 in Winnipeg. We are very excited by this opportunity to be able to enhance interaction between members of the two societies, and to expand educational and research opportunities for our members. An excellent meeting has been planned, which includes several exciting invited keynote talks, specific scientific symposia and workshops, as well as scientific papers submitted by CSA and CPS member graduate students and researchers. We will have a CSA-CPS joint plenary session on fusarium head blight pathogenesis, mycotoxins and management, a CSA symposium on extending the growing season, as well as workshops on experimental designs and statistics, and manuscript preparation and a field tour. The joint meeting is now just a few weeks away and I look forward to seeing many of you in Winnipeg. My special thanks to the executive board of CPS for working with us to co-host the meeting and to Drs. Yvonne Lawley, Anfu Hou, and Ramona Mohr for representing CSA on the local organizing committee.

Your CSA executive board, over the past year, also worked with the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) and the Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) to plan a joint ASA-CSSA-CSA meeting in 2018. We signed a memorandum of understanding with ASA-CSSA for this joint meeting. CSA has appointed a Liaison (Dr. Helen Booker) to represent CSA in the program planning process. Please mark your calendar for November 4-7, 2018 and plan to participate in this joint meeting in Baltimore, MD. You may also want to note that for 2019, our annual meeting is scheduled to be held as part of Plant Canada Conference, which will be held in Guelph, Ontario.

Over the past year, your CSA executive board also discussed a new initiative to encourage active participation of CSA members through forming working groups. Through this initiative, the executive board is proposing that CSA members form targeted working groups of different disciplines. The working groups will plan to meet during the annual meetings and *via* conference calls during the year to discuss issues that concern their discipline. These discussions may target making recommendations to governing bodies, while they may also result in designing specific plenary sessions to address specific issues in the next annual meeting. I hope we can spend some time during our up-coming AGM in Winnipeg to discuss this initiative with our members.

In our AGM in Winnipeg, we will say farewell to executive members who will be stepping down and welcome new executive members. Dr. Tarlok Sahota (past-president), Dr. Yvonne Lawley (Secretary/Treasure), Dr. Bill Biligetu (Western Director), Dr. Doug Cattani (Western Director to become Secretary Treasurer) and Dr. Caroline Halde (Eastern Director) will finish their term on the executive board and I would like to thank them for their instrumental service to the society. I would also take this opportunity to welcome new executive members joining the board; Dr. Jaswinder Singh (President-Elect), Dr. Sheri Strydhorst and Dr. Harpinder Singh Randhawa (Western Directors), and Dr. Mumtaz Cheema (Eastern Director).

My term as CSA president will also end at our AGM meeting. I will continue to serve on the executive board for an additional year as past-president. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Steve Sheppard, for his long-term service to the society as executive director, Dr. Tarlok Sahota, our past president, Dr. Hellen Booker, the incoming president, and other members of the executive board for their invaluable support during my term as president. I would also like to encourage CSA members to volunteer to join the executive board and help maintain the long term-legacy of CSA.

Alireza Navabi, President

CSA Executive—New and Retiring Members

Retiring

Tarlok Sahota	Past President and Awards and Nominations Chair	
Yvonne Lawley	Secretary/Treasurer	after 2 terms (4 years)
Bill Biligetu	Western Director	after 1 term (2 years)
Doug Cattani	Western Director (to become Secretary/Treasurer)	after one year
Caroline Halde	Eastern Director	after 1 term (2 years)

Executive for 2017/2018

Alireza Navabi	from President to Past President	one-year term
Helen Booker	from President Elect to President	one year term
Jaswinder Singh	President Elect	one-year term
Doug Cattani	Secretary/Treasurer	two year term
Harpinder Randhawa	Western Director	two year term
Mumtaz Cheema	Eastern Director	two year term
Sheri Strydhorst	Western Director	two year term
Dave Hooker	Eastern Director	second year of two-year term
Gurcharn Brar	Student Representative	second one-year term
Brian Beres	Editor of CJPS	

Meet your New CSA Executive Members

PRESIDENT—Helen Booker

Dr. Helen Booker is an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan. She is also a Flax Breeder in the Crop Development Centre developing cultivars for production in Western Canada. Her research program centres on understanding the genetics of traits of economic importance in flax. Helen Booker was raised in Southern Ontario. She received a BSc and an MSc from the University of Guelph and a PhD in plant science from the University of the West Indies, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Canada's seed bank, Plant Gene Resources Canada (PGRC), Saskatoon Research Centre (AAFC). She then worked as a Research Associate in Cereal Breeding at the University of Alberta. Her move to the University of Saskatchewan in 2009 brought the opportunity to apply her training in plant breeding and experience with other self-pollinating crop plants (legumes and wheat) to the only university-based flax breeding program in Canada. Dr. Booker has co-developed, with Dr. Gordon Rowland five flax cultivars and she coordinates national pre-registration and Saskatchewan provincial variety testing for flax.



Helen Booker has authored or co-authored 21 published peer-reviewed papers, 2 published cultivar descriptions, and contributed to a book chapter. Since 2013, she has worked as an associate editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Sciences. She has been a member of the Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) since 2010 and participated as the Western Director from 2012-14. She holds the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture (SMA) Strategic Research Program (SRP) Chair for the Flax Program and, since her appointment, has served as a director at large on the Board of the Flax Council of Canada (FCC) and as a Scientific Advisor to the SaskFlax Development Commission (SFDC). Moreover, she co-developed a course on Tropical Crops of the World and coordinates a course on Global Plant Genetic Resources at the University of Saskatchewan.

Meet your New CSA Executive Members (continued)

PRESIDENT-ELECT—Jaswinder Singh

Dr. Jaswinder Singh is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant Science, McGill University, Canada. Dr. Singh received his PhD from the University of Sydney and CSIRO Plant Industry, Canberra Australia and did his postdoctoral studies at the University of California Berkeley, U.S.A. His research focuses on the enhancement of quality traits, stress tolerance and bioenergy capability of crop plants using modern genomic, molecular breeding and biotechnological tools. Dr. Singh is an internationally recognized innovator in the use of transposon tagging in cereal crops. His findings have shown for the first time the reversal of epigenetic silencing in plants. Recently, his laboratory discovered a key gene that acts as a switch to determine how a particular plant responds to high humidity and excess rainfall. The research opens up a new epigenetic-based direction for exploration of seed dormancy and Pre Harvest Sprouting (PHS). He has delivered 47 invited talks in international meetings and renowned academic institutes. He has published over 48 research articles in high impact peer reviewed journals, books and conference proceedings. He also presented his research at prestigious conferences and published 78 abstracts. Additionally, he is actively involved in teaching plant breeding, plant biotechnology, genetics, plant biology courses, training graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and lab assistants. To date, he has trained 44 researchers, which include undergraduate, technicians, graduate students and PDFs. Beside this, he is an editor for two international journals (Canadian Journal of Plant Science, PLOS ONE) and a reviewer for numerous granting agencies. He is honored to serve as panel member for various national and international funding organizations including US Department of Energy, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. He has served as Eastern Director of Canadian Society of Agronomy (2010-2012), executive member of International Committee of the American Society of Plant Biologists (2012-15) and executive committee member of International Association of Plant Biotechnology- Canada (2013-2014). He is currently a member of Gleb Krotkov award committee of the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists. In addition, he has successfully co-chaired two prestigious conferences (Canadian Plant Biotechnology -2014 and CSA-CSHS -2016) in Montreal.



WESTERN DIRECTOR—Harpinder Randhawa

Harpinder Randhawa is a spring wheat and triticale breeder working at Lethbridge Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. His prime focus of research is to develop spring wheat cultivars that have better agronomic performance, excellent end use quality and resistance to various biotic and abiotic stresses in western Canada. He has developed eight high yielding spring wheat cultivars and co-developed four high yielding triticale cultivars for general production in western Canada. Dr. Randhawa's Wheat Breeding program is funded through a unique P4 partnership involving Alberta Wheat Commission, Canterra Seeds and AAFC. His other research interests include the identification of new sources of disease resistance in wheat, genetic mapping of important traits, doubled haploid production, and developing new breeding tools to enhance efficiencies.



His passion for wheat breeding developed during his childhood while he grew up and worked alongside his parents on the family farm in Punjab. He obtained his B.Sc Agriculture (Hons) in 1990 and M.Sc with a specialization in Plant Breeding in 1993 from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. In 1994, he was appointed as Assistant Rice Breeder at the Punjab Agricultural University where he was part of a team whose objective was to develop high yielding cultivars of rice. He completed his PhD in Plant Science at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada in 2002 and then worked as a post-doctoral Fellow at the Washington State University, Pullman, USA. Dr. Randhawa focused his research to develop new wheat genomics tools, novel strategies for rapid introgression of traits using marker assisted backcrossing, genetic and physical mapping of agronomically important traits in wheat and eventually developing improved wheat cultivars. Since 2007, Dr. Randhawa has been working as a spring wheat and triticale breeder with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at the Lethbridge Research Centre, Alberta..

Meet your New CSA Executive Members (continued)

EASTERN DIRECTOR—Mumtaz Cheema

Dr. Mumtaz Cheema is currently serving as Associate Professor agronomy in the School of Science and Environment, Grenfell Campus Memorial University of Newfoundland. Dr. Cheema received his PhD from University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan (UAF), and did his postdoctoral studies from Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Iowa, Ames, USA. His research focuses on integrated nutrient management practices (INMP) that conserve or enhance soil fertility through efficient nutrient cycling and management strategies to maximize nutrient use efficiency and maintain optimum economically sustainable crop productivity with minimize damage to the environment. Waste/manure management for P-uptake in plants, sustainable agriculture, abiotic stress management strategies to induce stress tolerance using innovative agronomic interventions, estimation of greenhouse gases emission and mitigation strategies in different cropping systems. His research group is also monitoring in-situ root morphological traits, root exudates and their role in enhancing nutrient use efficiency.



He has authored four book chapters/monographs and published more than 86 research articles in refereed journals. He participated and presented his research at several International conferences in US, UK, Canada, Australia, Germany, Sri Lanka, and India. He is actively involved in teaching of undergraduate and graduate courses and training of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and lab assistants. Dr. Cheema has supervised 36 MSc, and 16 PhD (supervised and co-supervised) theses. Currently, he is graduate officer of Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences (BEAS) program and supervising or co-supervising 7 MSc and three PhD students. He also worked as visiting scientist at Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus, Truro, Nova Scotia. Before joining Grenfell Campus, he was a Professor in agronomy, and Director graduate studies at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan.

WESTERN DIRECTOR—Sheri Strydhorst

Sheri Strydhorst is a cereal agronomic research scientist, Crops Research and Extension Branch, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Barrhead, Alberta. Her work focuses on enhancing the profitability and competitiveness of Canadian agricultural crop producers. Her research program centres on maximizing the genetic potential of cultivars by using cultivar specific agronomic management. She is also an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta - Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences.

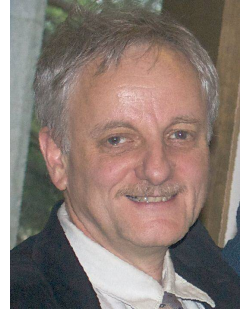


Sheri Strydhorst was raised in St. Albert, Alberta, but now farms with her husband, Shane in Neerlandia, Alberta. She completed her BSc, MSc and PhD at the University of Alberta. Her MSc work centered on developing agronomic practices for low tannin faba bean production and her PhD studied rotational benefits of pulse crops. She then worked as the Executive Director for the Alberta Pulse Growers Commission. Sheri returned to agronomic research in 2013 where her research activities focused on cereal crop agronomy. She works on advanced agronomic practices including: nitrogen fertility, plant growth regulators and foliar fungicides. Her most interesting work involves studying different responses of these agronomic practices on various wheat cultivars. The next stage of her research program is to lead prairie-wide agronomic research on wheat cultivar specific agronomy.

Sheri Strydhorst focuses on extension of her applied research so that it can be implemented on-farm. She has strong partnerships with industry and is currently collaborating with SeCan and Syngenta. Sheri authored or co-authored 7 peer-reviewed papers and has made 47 invited presentations at producer meetings. Currently she co-supervises a graduate student, sits on 2 graduate student committees and serves as an external examiner for numerous graduate student defenses. She is a member of the Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) and American Society of Agronomy (ASA). She has been a member of the organizing committee for CSA annual meetings in 2014 and 2015.

DISTINGUISHED AGRONOMIST—Shabtai Bittman

Dr. Shabtai Bittman is recognized for his contributions in the area of agronomy and crop physiology, his significant work with CSA as Treasurer, President (2009-2010) and Editor of the Canadian Journal of Plant Science (CJPS), but most importantly for his care and sincere efforts to ensure the future of our organization and agronomy as a discipline in Canada. He has fought hard to ensure that there will be a society for future Canadian Agronomists. He has also always placed high priority on our true customers, the farmers. For example, he and has published several manuals on forage and corn product written specifically for farmers to help them increase yield and crop quality.



Shabtai's notable contributions include a dual manure stream concept, work on the long term sustainability of dairy manure application and on ammonia emission assessment and abatement. He has been a co-chairperson of UNECE Expert Panel on Mitigating Agricultural Nitrogen since 2008. His expert advice is routinely being sought by various national and international agencies including OECD (Paris), EU (Brussels) and ECCC (Canada). He has published numerous peer reviewed papers and delivered many keynote lectures. Based on Scopus data, he has 96 publications and a good H index of 18 (18 of his papers have each been cited more than 18 times). His support for Canadian agronomy is evident: he has 17 papers in CJPS, 10 in Canadian Journal of Animal Science and 7 in Canadian Journal of Soil Science. It is notable and characteristic of Shabtai that he has worked with over 150 coauthors – always collaborative and multidisciplinary. Above all, Shabtai goes about his work and relationships with humour and humility.

Due to his strong commitment to agricultural sciences, his contributions have been recognized by several key awards which include the Merit Award: American Forage and Grassland Council Lifelong contribution to forage science and extension (2005), Golden Harvest Award Career Achievement Award (2012), Merit Award: American Soil and Water Conservation Society (2005), Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy (2002) and AE50 Award American Society Agricultural Engineers (2001). Shabtai is a tireless researcher and project facilitator and well deserving of this recognition of Distinguished Agronomist Award from the CSA.

FELLOW—Brian Beres

As commented by those who nominated Brian for this award, 'Dr. Brian Beres has provided great service to the agronomy research community in Canada through his work with the Canadian Society of Agronomy'. A key role for Brian has been with the Canadian Journal of Plant Science (CJPS), the publication associated with our Society. Brian was instrumental in navigating through the difficult period when the Journal transitioned from being published by the Agriculture Institute of Canada to Canada Science Publishing. This occurred during Brian's term as President of CSA. Brian had the best interests of the Society and Canadian agricultural researchers at heart throughout this transition, and the outcome was beneficial to all. Brian has been recognized as an Outstanding Associate Editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Science, and was also recognized with the 2013 Best Paper Award in the Canadian Journal of Plant Science. He serves as Co- Editor-In-Chief for the Canadian Journal of Plant Science, Associate Editor for Agriculture and Environmental Letters.



Brian has authored 27 papers in CJPS, out of 62 total papers and 2 book chapters (based on Scopus records). Very notable is that in doing this he has worked with 131 different coauthors. This speaks to Brian's ability to work as a team member and collaborate effectively. His main interests are wheat, oilseed and pulse agronomy, development of integrated crop management tools and solutions to sustain the economic and environmental viability of farming systems in western Canada. He also designed a new no-till plot planter. Brian has several international collaborations and represents Canada on the Research Committee of the International Wheat Initiative, where he also recently developed and now Chairs an Expert Working Group for global agronomy wheat research.

Brian is noted for his enthusiasm and energy. While serving on the CSA Executive his advice was consistently logical, well thought out and incisively directed to the core issues at hand. We look forward to more contributions from him in future.

CSA Awards 2017 (continued)

EARLY CAREER AGRONOMIST—Yvonne Lawley

Dr. Yvonne Lawley has been an Associate Professor of Crop Systems Agronomy at the Department of Plant Science of the University of Manitoba since 2011. She teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in agronomy and cropping systems. Yvonne conducts agronomy research on a range of crops including soybeans, corn, winter wheat and cover crops. Her research interests also include crop residue management, soil conservation and plant associations with soil micro-organisms. She has actively led the development of a new multi-disciplinary corn agronomy research project in Manitoba and worked with several researchers to obtain funding for new corn and soybean research projects. These researchers relied heavily on Yvonne's expertise and knowledge of this relatively new crop to Manitoba, to plan and execute their research. For such a young professor at the University of Manitoba, Yvonne rapidly became the motivator for many projects with her colleagues and department graduate students. She is held in very high regard by the corn and soybean industry in Manitoba and frequently consulted by the commodity associations in Manitoba who actively support her ongoing research. This has allowed her to mentor several graduate students and undergraduate students. Yvonne is an enthusiastic team player that cares deeply about the farmers of Manitoba and Canada. She has worked tirelessly to advance her research program and that of her collaborators, nicely balancing this work with a young family. Yvonne's has exhibited the maturity and progress of a much more advanced researcher.



Yvonne has served the Society diligently as a Director and two terms as Secretary/Treasurer and she consistently interacted with members in a highly professional manner. Yvonne has lead recent updates of CSA bylaws and website. She also served on the 2013 conference organizing committee for the joint meeting with ASA and is currently serving as the CSA co-chair for the 2017 joint meeting with CPS. She brought fresh perspective and injected enthusiasm regularly and could always be relied upon to step up and provide additional help when needed.

Yvonne has proven to be an excellent collaborator. She is highly engaged and focussed in her research and extremely detail-oriented with respect to managing protocols. Yvonne sets a high standard for the agronomic research she conducts and expects the same from others. Yvonne sets a standard for which all early-career agronomists should strive.



PEST MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AWARD—Jocelyn L. Smith, M.Sc.

Jocelyn Smith has managed the field crop entomology research program at the Ridgetown Campus of the University of Guelph under the direction of Dr. Art Schaafsma since 2007. Her current research activities include collaboration with commodity organizations, the seed and pesticide industries, public researchers, and OMAFRA specialists to develop pest management strategies for key pests in corn, soybeans, and wheat. Jocelyn leads research into resistance management stewardship for insect control with transgenic corn, conducting susceptibility bioassays to Bt toxins with key corn pests such as western corn rootworm, European corn borer, and western bean cutworm. Jocelyn is also an executive member of the Canadian Corn Pest Coalition which is a multi-stakeholder group dedicated to stewardship of transgenic corn technologies. Jocelyn has been working on her Ph.D. on a part-time basis over the last 5 years on the management of western bean cutworm, a new pest of corn in Ontario.

AWARD for BEST CJPS PAPER 2016

Sugar beet response to rotation and conservation management in a 12-year irrigated study in southern Alberta

Francis J. Larney, Jennifer J. Nitschelm, Peter J. Regitnig, Drusilla C. Pearson, Robert E. Blackshaw, Newton Z. Lupwayi. Canadian Journal of Plant Science, 2016, 96(5): 776-789, 10.1139/cjps-2016-0005

NOTE: We will highlight the content of the paper in our next newsletter.

Minutes of 2016 CSA Annual General Meeting

Note: In order to approve these minutes at the Annual Meeting, we need you to read them in advance.

CSA Annual General Meeting

July 24, 2016

La Plaza Conference Center, Montreal, QC

20 members present (quorum is 13 members)

1. Welcome and Introductions – Tarlok Sahota
2. Agenda
 - a. Additions to Agenda. None arising.
 - b. Move to accept agenda by Allison Nelson, second by Ali Navabi - passed
3. Canadian Journal of Plant Science Update – Brian Beres
 - a. The Canadian Journal of Plant Science (CJPS) is now fully integrated into the Canadian Science Publishing (CSP) system. CJPS has still retained the three editor system (rotation of editors from each of three societies involved with the journal). The turnaround times for publication have improved; however the impact factor has dropped in the past year. We will be working with CSP to understand why.
 - b. CSP will have a presentation at the conference to provide an update on CJPS
 - c. CSA has new MOU's with AIC and CSP. These MOU's include \$2000 in sponsorship from AIC that is being allocated to student travel awards and up to \$8000 in sponsorship from CSP for conference related activities.
4. Awards – Brian Beres
 - a. The CSA Executive decided to present student awards and the fellow awards at the banquet this year. The Distinguished Agronomist Award, Pest Management Award, and Best Paper award will be presented after their respective presentations at the conference.
 - b. Award winners were reported as follows:
 - i. Distinguished Agronomist: Malcolm Morrison
 - ii. Fellow: Alireza Navabi
 - iii. Pest Management: Gurcharn Singh Brar
 - iv. CJPS Best paper: Kubota, H., Quideau, S. A., Hucl, P. J. and Spaner, D. M. 2015. The effect of weeds on soil arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and agronomic traits in spring wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) under organic management in Canada. *Can. J. Plant Sci.* 95: 615–627.
 - v. Student Travel Awards: Erin Zahradka (Univ of Manitoba), Laura Schmidt (Univ of Manitoba), Noabur Rahman (Univ of Saskatchewan), Patrick Walther (Univ of Manitoba), Jing Xie (Univ. of Saskatchewan)
5. Election Results – Brian Beres
 - a. New member joining the Executive were announced:
 - i. President-Elect - Dr. Helen Booker (Univ. of Sask.)
 - ii. Eastern Director – Dr. David Hooker (Univ. of Guelph)
 - iii. Western Director – Dr. Doug Cattani (Univ. of Manitoba)
 - iv. Graduate Student Rep. – Mr. Gurcharn Singh Brar (Univ. of Sask.)
6. President's Report
 - a. Report given in the newsletter as President's message
 - b. Thanks were given to the Past President and Executive members for their service over the past year.
 - c. Thanks were given to members from the executive and local organizing committee involved in fund raising sponsorship for the 2016 conference.
 - d. Thanks were given to CSA members on the local organizing committee and certificates presented
7. Treasurer's report and budget – Yvonne Lawley
 - a. Budget available to members in July 2016 CSA Newsletter and as a handout at the AGM
 - b. Move to accept 2015 budget as printed in the July 2016 CSA Newsletter by Yvonne Lawley, second Gavin Humphreys - passed
 - c. Move to accept the proposed budget for 2016 as printed in the July 2016 CSA Newsletter by Yvonne Lawley, second Gavin Humphreys - passed
 - d. Move to reappoint Anita Drabek as auditor for the CSA for the coming year by Yvonne Lawley, second by Brian Beres - passed.
8. Next CSA Conference in Winnipeg 2017 held jointly with the Canadian Phytopathology Society.
9. Adjourned.

CSA Profit/Loss for 2016 / 2017

Canadian Society of Agronomy Profit/Loss for 2016/2017

Item	Budget Jan - Dec 2016	Actual Jan - Dec 2016	Year to date Jan 1-May 11, 2017	Budget Jan - Dec 2017
Income				
Conference surplus from previous years ^a	\$1,452	\$1,452		
2016 conference registration net of transaction fees		\$31,534		
2016 conference specific sponsorship	\$3,500	\$7,250		
2016 total conference profit		\$7,315		
Membership fees and subscriptions	\$10,000	\$11,155	\$7,423	\$7,500
Annual sponsorship for awards ^b	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Advertising in the newsletter		\$140		
Interest Income	\$1,000	\$984	\$354	\$1,000
Total Income	\$27,952	\$71,830	\$19,777	\$20,500
Expense				
Awards at conference ^c	\$7,500	\$7,500		\$10,400
Conference expenses on behalf of CSA ^d	\$7,235	\$5,564		\$4,000
Transferred to 2016 conference committee ^e		\$33,174		
2016 conference profit share sent to CSHS		\$1,552		
Bank service charges	\$10	\$10	\$1	\$10
Book keeping review	\$150	\$158		\$158
Business license	\$20	\$20		\$20
Copying and reproduction	\$100	\$141		\$100
Insurance	\$846	\$846	\$877	\$877
Internet website	\$500	\$0		
Office supplies	\$25	\$0		\$25
Postage and shipping	\$100	\$499	\$112	\$250
Fee for Executive Director	\$8,728	\$8,875	\$2,182	\$8,728
Subscriptions sold on behalf of CSP	\$2,550	\$3,245	\$963	\$1,000
Total Expense	\$27,764	\$61,582	\$4,135	\$25,568
Net Income	\$188	\$10,248	\$15,642	-\$5,068
2016 conference net income, as part of overall net income		\$5,763		
Comments				
^a 2015 Conference				
^b AIC, CSP, SeCan and Monsanto				
^c new awards added for 2017				
^d speaker travel and conf. reg. refunds				
^e working funds for conference				

CSA Balance Sheet for 2016 / 2017

New Student Membership Discount for Multiple Societies

Canadian Society of Agronomy Balance Sheet for 2016/2017

	to Dec 31, 2016	to May 20, 2017
Bank Accounts		
Chequing	\$2,390	\$16,876
Petty cash	\$550	\$438
Super Savings general CSA	\$60,443	\$59,660
Super Savings Pest Management Trust	\$21,231	\$20,822
Credit union shares	\$220	\$245
Total Assets	\$84,834	\$98,041
Accounts Payable	\$2,329	-\$105
Equity		
Retained earnings	\$72,258	\$82,506
Net Income	\$10,248	\$15,641
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$84,835	\$98,042

All the scientific societies are interested to attract new members. Students probably have the most to gain by membership. It is a chance to meet established people in the field and decide if that is a crowd to identify with. The next boss might be a member. There are lucrative student awards, and there is a chance for recognition beyond the Department level. But students may have a bit of a dilemma. In today's multi-disciplinary environment, not many people can be purely Agronomy, or purely Soils, or purely Pathologists.

Several societies have partnered to help solve this problem. Starting in 2018 membership campaign, students can join as a student member of CSA for \$25, but they can also opt to join one or two other societies for an additional \$10 each. These are full student memberships with all the privileges of any student member. This way, a student can 'sample' several groups of colleagues, and have access to several sets of benefits. This is reciprocal: for example a student member of CSHS will be able to 'add on' a membership in CSA for \$10.

Although details are still to be finalized, it would appear now that student members of CSA, Canadian Society of Horticultural Science (CSHS), Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) and Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) will have this opportunity.

Journal Update—Changes to CJPS Editorial Structure

One year after Canadian Science Publishing (CSP) acquired the Canadian Journal of Plant Science (CJPS), the Journal is thriving and continuing to evolve. Some changes in manuscript handling are needed to ensure consistency among all journals owned by CSP. As such, CSP has updated the process for handling the editorship of CJPS. Previously, the Journal operated with three editors, each with a three-year term with terms staggered so that a new Editor replaced an outgoing Editor-In-Chief every year. Editors would then assume the Editor-in-Chief role for the last year of their term. This required a new Editor-in-Chief each year, which limits the ability of the incumbent to enact positive change and keep the journal current and relevant to its readership.

In consultation with the three Societies, CSP has opted for longer terms for the CJPS Editor-in-Chief. This will provide time to learn all aspects of the position and become comfortable in the role of providing strong leadership and stability for the journal. Thus, Chris Willenborg has agreed to be a Co- Editor-in-Chief of CJPS from January 2017 to December 2018. Brian Beres has agreed to be Co-Editor-in-Chief for the same period and remain the Editor-in-Chief from January 2019 to December 2020. After Brian assumes the Editor-in-Chief role, the Journal will consider moving forward with just an Editor-in-Chief, depending on manuscript volume. Chris and Brian were part of the previous three-Editor team. We are confident that this new model will be a positive change for the journal and for the Editor-in-Chief.

We are confident CSP is committed to working with the Societies for the selection of future Editors-in-Chief and CSP will be requesting suitable candidate recommendations as the terms of the current appointments come to an end. While the final approval on the editorial appointment rests with CSP and the CSP Executive Editor-in-Chief, we expect CSA, CWSS and CSHS to lead the process and for that individual to be nominated from its membership - ideally a member already serving as an AE on the editorial board of CJPS. A process will be developed by Brian, Chris and Executive Editor-In-Chief, Jim Germida this spring and presented to the Societies this year. This process will then be utilized toward the end of Brian's term as Editor-in-Chief, where the Societies will be asked to make a recommendation for an Editor-in-Chief to replace Brian.

We thank you for supporting CJPS by publishing your research in the Journal and reading and sharing the work of your peers and colleagues. You are invited to sign up for the quarterly CJPS newsletter by accessing the following link and selecting "Canadian Journal of Plant Science". <http://cdnsiencepub.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=3dbbb7edc0980303245831e0e&id=241d9ce737>. CJPS is also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CanJPlantScience.

Brian L. Beres, Co- Editor-in-Chief
Chris Willenborg, Co- Editor-in-Chief

CSA EXECUTIVE

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