

# Science Atlantic Atlantique

## Fall 2015 Annual Stakeholders' Meetings

**November 20-21, 2015**

**Cape Breton University, Sydney, Nova Scotia**

**Verschuren Centre Boardroom (CS101) (Building 23 on map)**

### Friday, November 20

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>4:30-6:30 pm</b> | <b>Board Meeting and Dinner (Board Directors only)</b>             |
| <b>7:00-7:45 pm</b> | <b>Annual Members Meeting (All welcome)</b>                        |
|                     | <b>Break</b>   |
| <b>8:00-9:00 pm</b> | <b>Stakeholders* Session 1 (All welcome)</b>                       |
| <b>9:00 pm</b>      | <b>Reception and Hall of Fame Award Presentation (All welcome)</b> |

### Saturday, November 21

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>8:00-10:15 am</b>  | <b>Committee Chairs' Breakfast and Meeting (Committee Chairs/Designates)</b> |
|                       | <b>Break</b>   |
| <b>10:30-12:00 pm</b> | <b>Stakeholders* Session 2 (All welcome)</b>                                 |
|                       | <b>Bag Lunch</b>   |

**\* Stakeholders:** All Institutional Representatives, Committee Chairs/Designates, and other interested individuals

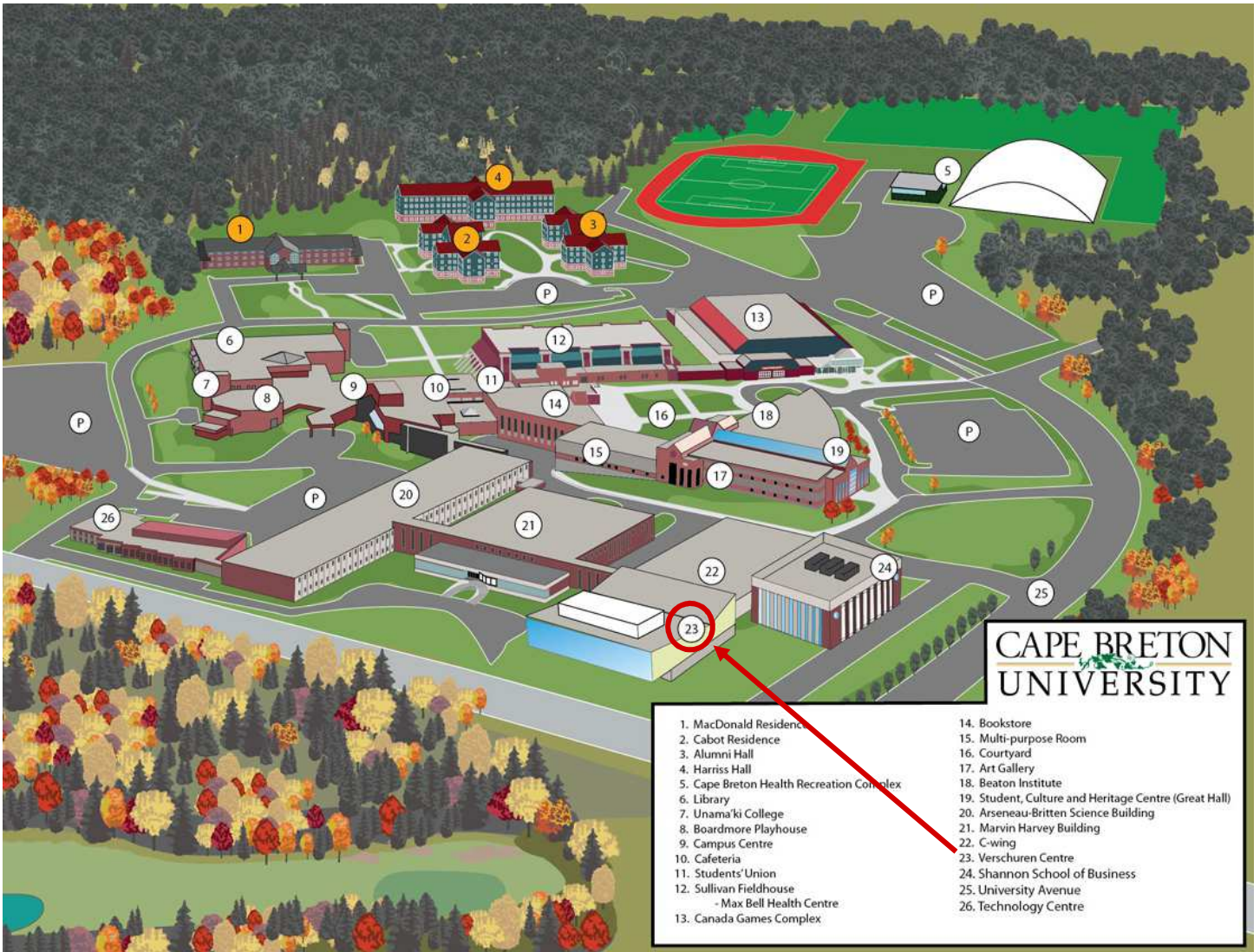
# Our Mission

The mission of Science Atlantic is to advance post-secondary science education and research in Atlantic Canada by:

- Providing opportunities that foster and enrich students
- Supporting and inspiring researchers and educators
- Using our collective voice to address important regional science issues



# Cape Breton University Campus Map



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# Fall Agenda

November 20-21, 2015  
Verschuren Centre Boardroom  
Cape Breton University, Sydney, NS

## Annual Members Meeting: Friday 7:00 pm – 7:45 pm

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Establishment of Quorum
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Presentation the final Council Meeting Minutes, April 24-25, 2015
5. Report of the Chair and Executive Director
6. Presentation of the Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2015
7. Appointment of Financial Reviewer for 2016
8. Acceptance of the Committee Reports
9. Election of 2015-16 Board of Directors
10. Other Business
11. Annual Members Meeting Adjournment

## Stakeholders' Session 1: Friday 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introductions  | (2 min)         |
| 2. Update on Board Activities   | (10 min)        |
| 3. Update from the Executive Director                                     | (10 min)        |
| 4. Report from the NSERC Atlantic Regional Office, Gordon Deveau, Manager | (30 min)        |
| <i>Adjourn for evening</i>  | <b>(52 min)</b> |

## Reception and Hall of Fame Presentation: Friday 9:00 pm



## Chairs Breakfast Meeting: Saturday 8:00 am – 10:15 am

1. Introductions
2. Review Agenda
3. Committee purpose; fit in new governance structure
4. Board Business
  - Representative to the Board
  - Reporting to the Board: Committee and conference reports
  - Financial reports and Committee Holding Accounts
5. Discussion Topics:
  - Increasing conference participation
    - How to increase faculty participation
    - Increasing the value of conferences
  - Student engagement
  - Speakers/Speaker Tours
  - Other committee activities
  - Conference planning and Committee Chair's role
6. Other topics

*Adjournment*

## Stakeholders' Session 2: Saturday 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

1. Updates from the Committees (10 min)
    - Summary of the Committee Chairs Meeting
    - Questions Arising from the Circulated Reports
  2. Presentation: *Women in Science: Insights and Perspectives*, Tamara Franz-Odenaal, Stephanie MacQuarrie, Ashley LeBlanc (40 min)
  3. Atlantic Facilities and Research Equipment Database Update, Patty King, AFRED Program Manager (30 min)
  4. Other Business (5 min)
  5. Date and Location of Next set of Annual Meetings (2 min)
- Adjournment* (87 min)

## Bag Lunch: Saturday 12:00 pm



# Meeting Participants

Dave McCorquodale	Chair; Institutional Representative	CBU
Rob Raeside	Past Chair; Acting Institutional Representative	Acadia
Steve Smith	Treasurer; Institutional Representative	SMU
Dave MaGee	Member-at-Large (Dean); Institutional Representative	UNB-F
Ruth Shaw	Member-at-Large (Dean); Institutional Representative	UNB-SJ
Ken Kent	Member-at-Large (Chair); Computer Science Chair	UNB-F
Tamara Franz-Odendaal	Member-at-Large (Community)	MSVU
Seth Crowell	Acting Institutional Representative	Crandall
Ian Hill	Institutional Representative	Dal
Kenny Corscadden	Acting Institutional Representative	Dal-Ag
Andy Foster	Institutional Representative	MUN
Jeff Ollerhead	Institutional Representative	MtA
Brook Taylor	Institutional Representative	MSVU
Gordon Deveau	Institutional Representative	NSERC-Atlantic
Petra Hauf	Institutional Representative	StFX
Debbie MacLellan	Institutional Representative	UPEI
Ken Oakes	Animal Care Representative	MUN
Alyre Chiasson	Biology Chair	UdeM
Stephanie MacQuarrie	Chemistry Representative	UNB-F
Deanne van Rooyen	Earth Science Representative	Dal
Carolyn Peach Brown	Environment Chair	UPEI
Scott Rodney/James Preen	Math & Stats Representative	UPEI
David Hornidge	Physics & Astronomy Chair	MtA
Jennifer Stamp	Psychology Chair	Dal

## Staff/Guests

Stephanie MacQuarrie	Guest Speaker	CBU
Ashley LeBlanc	Guest Speaker	CBU
Lois Whitehead	Executive Director	Science Atlantic
Patty King	AFRED Program Manager	Science Atlantic

## Regrets

Trevor Avery (Aquaculture & Fisheries Chair), Jacqueline Blundell (Animal Care Chair), Kim Fenwick (STU), Robert Gallant (MUN), David Gray (Dal-Ag), Francis Leblanc (UdeM), Gordon MacDonald (Math & Stats Chair), Rick Mehta (Interim Board Member), James Rusthoven (Crandall), Ray Syvitski (Chemistry Chair), Grant Wach (Earth Science Chair), Peter Williams (Acadia)



# Presentation: Women in Science: Insights and Perspectives

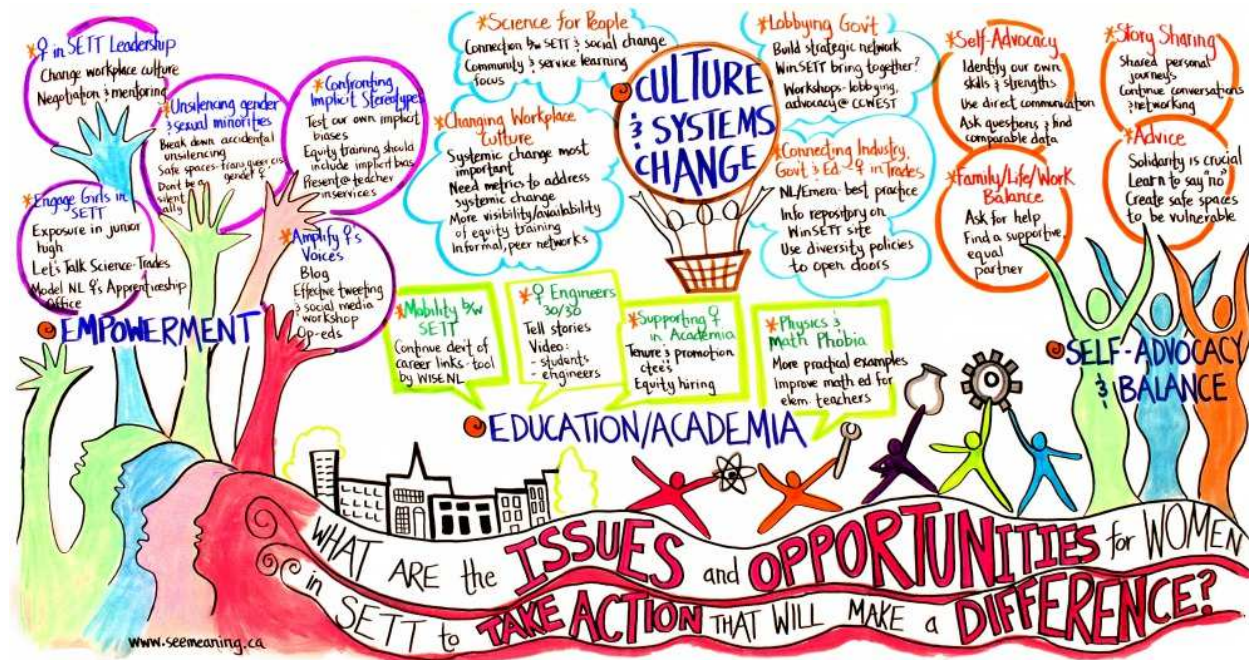
Dr. Tamara Franz-Ondendaal, NSERC Atlantic Chair Women in Science and Engineering & Professor of Biology, Mount Saint Vincent University

Dr. Stephanie MacQuarrie, Associate Professor of Organic Chemistry, Cape Breton University

Ashley LeBlanc, 3rd year student, Cape Breton University

As the NSERC Atlantic Chair for Women in Science and Engineering, Dr. Tamara Franz-Ondendaal will share some of the insights she has obtained from the literature and from speaking to women in science (faculty and students) from our region. She will present her program objectives, action plan and successes.

Dr. Stephanie MacQuarrie and one of her students, Ashley LeBlanc, participated in the Atlantic Connections Conference for Women in STEM, organized by Dr. Franz-Ondendaal this past summer. They will also share their experiences and perspectives.





# Minutes of April 24-25, 2015, Council Session

Acadia University, Wolfville, NS

## MINUTES (draft)

### Participants

Dave McCorquodale	Chair of Council; Dean	CBU
Chris Moore	Vice Chair; Dean	Dalhousie
Rob Raeside	Past Chair of Council	Acadia
Steve Smith	Member-at-Large; Dean	Saint Mary's
Robert van den Hoogen	Member-at-Large; Dean	St. FX
Dave MaGee	Member-at-Large; Dean	UNB-F
Peter Williams	Dean	Acadia
Raj Lada	Representing the Dean	Dalhousie Ag. Campus
Jeff Ollerhead	Dean	MtA
Gordon Deveau	Institutional Representative	NSERC-Atlantic
Del Brodie	Institutional Representative	St. Thomas
Jacqueline Blundell	Chair, Animal Care	MUN
Alyre Chiasson (Sat)	Chair, Biology	U de Moncton
Allison Walker (Fri)	Biology Representative	Acadia
Bobby Ellis	Chemistry Representative	Acadia
Ken Kent	Chair, Computer Science	UNB-F
Milton Graves	Chair, Earth Science	Dalhousie
Carolyn Peach Brown	Chair, Environment	UPEI
Gordon MacDonald	Chair, Math & Stats	UPEI
Carl Adams	Past Chair, Physics & Astronomy	St. FX
Rick Mehta	Past Chair, Psychology	Acadia
Gillian Mainguy (Fri)	Guest Speaker	Atlantic Wine Institute, Acadia
Lara Gibson (Sat)	Guest Speaker	Dalhousie
Anne Marie Ryan (Sat)	Guest Speaker	Dalhousie
Allison Schmidt (Sat)	Guest Speaker	Dalhousie
Lois Whitehead	Executive Director	Science Atlantic

### Regrets

Trevor Avery (Aquaculture & Fisheries Chair; Acadia), Andy Foster (Member-at-Large; MUN), David Gray (Dalhousie Ag Campus), David Hornidge (Physics & Astronomy Chair; MtA), Francis LeBlanc (UdeM), Debbie MacLellan (Treasurer; UPEI), James Rusthoven (Crandall), Aimee Surprenant (MUN), Ray Syvitski (Chemistry Chair), Brook Taylor (MSVU)



## 1. Welcome and Call to Order

Dave McCorquodale called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

**Moved** (Lada/Kent) that the agenda be approved as circulated with two amendments:

- Under “Business Arising”, add “APES+ Conference”
- After “Announcements from the Membership”, add “Report from the Governance Committee” and “Report from the Nominating Committee”

**Carried as amended.**

## 3. Approval of the Minutes of the November 21-22, 2014, Council Meeting

**Moved** (MaGee/Graves) that the Minutes of the November 21-22, 2014, Council meeting be approved as circulated with one amendment:

- Under 15. “Discussion: AFRED’s Potential Contribution,” the seconder for the motion was Dave MaGee

**Carried as amended.**

## 4. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Animal Care Committee Chair: Dave McCorquodale reported that Jacqueline Blundell (MUN) accepted the position of Chair.
- Atlantic Physical Exercise Scientists Plus (APES+) Conference: Robert van den Hoogen reported that the conference organizers used Conference-in-a-Box and would like to try CIAB again next year. Since the conference was cancelled due to weather, faculty were unable to discuss joining Science Atlantic, and will instead discuss at the 2016 conference.

## 5. Executive Committee Report

Review of 2014-15 Priorities: Dave McCorquodale highlighted some of the year’s achievements.

Area 1: Improve Involvement with and Support of Organization

- Governance model and draft bylaws have been prepared and are ready for approval.
- The first print/online Annual Report was completed and distributed.

Area 2: Develop Programs and Services

- The scope of AFRED has been expanded, with an increase in stakeholders.
- CIAB continues to be refined and updated based on user feedback.

Area 3: Stabilize Resources

- The multi-year membership fee structure revision continues to approach parity.



## 6. Hall of Fame Report

Steve Smith reported that he and the other subcommittee members, Francis Leblanc (UdeM) and Debbie MacLellan (UPEI), reviewed the nominations for 2015 and unanimously recommended that:

- Dr. Allen J. Britten be awarded “Outstanding Contributing Member” designation;
- Dr. David H. S. Richardson be awarded "Outstanding Contributing Member” designation; and,
- Ms. Holly Baker be awarded “Outstanding Alumna” designation.

A report detailing the nominations is included in the April 2015 Council package.

**Moved** (Smith/Mehta) that the three nominees be inducted as recommended. **Carried.**

## 7. Research Working Group Report

Chris Moore reported that, after seeking feedback from faculty at various member institutions, there was little interest in developing the College of Reviewers concept, so this project will not be pursued.

Chris also reported that he would be on leave beginning July 1. Aimee Surprenant (MUN) has agreed to chair the Research Working Group on an as-needed basis over the next year.

## 8. Executive Director’s Report

Lois Whitehead summarized fundraising and staffing successes. Fundraising provided approximately 25% additional income exceeding projections for 2014-15. This funding enabled the hiring of six co-op and summer students, which in turn advanced AFRED and Conference-in-a-Box development.

A written report is available in the April 2015 Council package.

## 9. AFRED Update

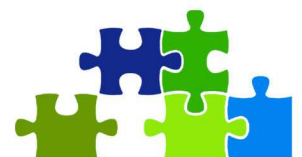
Lois reported that since the November Council meeting, funding was received from NSERC-Atlantic’s Regional Opportunities Fund to enable bringing the project to the next level. An application to ACOA for funding over three years has been submitted, with results expected in May. The funds will be used to hire a full time project manager (18 months) to promote AFRED and expand its user base to include colleges, hospitals and medical research institutions, government labs, and industry, as well as technical staff (six months) to complete the database and address the recommendations from our extended stakeholders and beta users.

A written report is available in the April 2015 Council package.

## 10. Financial Report

Steve Smith, on behalf of Debbie MacLellan, Treasurer, presented several draft reports for information and discussion (listed below). The reports are available in the April 2015 Council package.

- i. Draft Income Statement and Balance Sheet for the Year Ending March 31, 2015



- ii. Holding Account Balances as of March 31, 2015
- iii. Summary of Investment Performance (oral): Steve summarized investment activity. The portfolio performed well, with an estimated gain of close to \$8,000, significantly exceeding our budget estimate. The exact value will be calculated during the financial review.
- iv. 2015-16 Draft Budget: Steve presented the draft budget for discussion and approval.  
**Moved** (Smith/Moore) that the draft budget be approved as circulated. **Carried.**
- v. Approval of Financial Reviewer for 2015-16  
**Moved** (Smith/Ollerhead) that Grant Thornton be selected as the financial reviewer for 2015-16. **Carried.**

Thanks were extended to Steve and to outgoing Treasurer Debbie MacLellan.

## 11. Discussion and Approval of 2015-16 Priorities

Dave McCorquodale led a discussion of the circulated draft priorities for 2015-16 (included in the April 2015 Council package).

**Moved** (van den Hoogen/Smith) that the priorities for 2015-16 be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

## 12. Announcements from the Membership

- i. Conference funding requests: Jeff Ollerhead asked that Committee Chairs inform conference organizers to approach the Dean only when seeking funding, rather than going to other offices of the host institution. The Dean can then advise on suitable requests.

**Action:** This will be added to CIAB's planning guide

## 13. Report of the Governance Committee

Rob Raeside provided a summary of the consultations and activities over the last year and reviewed the motions to be made on Saturday.

## 14. Report from the Nominating Committee

Chris Moore reported on the slate proposed for the interim Board of Directors; a number of individuals have indicated a willingness to sit.

**Action:** An election will be held Saturday to elect the interim Board of Directors, pending the results of the motions to approve the articles of incorporation and bylaws

**Action:** Nominations from the floor will be solicited on Saturday prior to the election





## 15. Presentation: Low Hanging Fruit: Research Opportunities in Nova Scotia Wine Country

Gillian Mainguy, Acting Director for the Atlantic Wine Institute at Acadia University, provided an overview of wine research in Nova Scotia.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. and reconvened Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.*

## 16. Committee Business

### i. Report from the Committee Chairs' Meeting

In addition to a round table regarding conferences and other committee business, the following items were discussed at the breakfast meeting:

- a. Conference-in-a-Box: Some issues have arisen with registrants following instructions for registration, abstract submission, and payment. As well, other issues regarding reports and bugs were discussed.

**Action:** Lois and the staff will continue to address issues

- b. Impact of Governance Changes on Committee of Committee Chairs: The Chairs discussed how this new group will meet and communicate with the Board.

**Action:** The Committee Chairs will continue to meet in person during the fall meeting; other communications and meetings throughout the year will occur virtually

**Action:** All Committee Chairs will submit annual reports on committee activities to the Board

Two Committee Chairs volunteered to sit on the interim Board: Ken Kent (Computer Science) and Gordon MacDonald (Math & Stats).

**Action:** Ken and Gordon will work with the new Board to develop and implement the changes in procedure

- c. Participation in Science Atlantic Conferences, Meetings, etc.: Chairs asked that Deans continue to encourage participation by explaining to colleagues and department heads the value of Science Atlantic conferences and activities. The goal is to encourage faculty to participate in promoting the conferences to students, as well as attending themselves.

### ii. Questions Arising from the Circulated Reports:

- a. Conference Attendance Data: Attendance data was requested for the conferences. Lois stated that it is often difficult to obtain the final report which includes a spreadsheet for attendance details. It was suggested that the faculty Science Atlantic representative at the host institution be responsible for ensuring the final report is submitted in a timely manner.

**Action:** If a report is not received after a reasonable period of time, staff will follow up with the host dean



- b. Conference evaluation: It was asked if feedback is received from attendees. At present, there is no consistent collection of feedback.

**Action:** Staff will create an online survey for attendees to complete, and provide information in CIAB

## 17. Approval of Proposed Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws

Rob Raeside provided an overview of the activities undertaken to prepare for incorporation. It was agreed that the implications had been thoroughly reviewed and communicated to the membership.

**Moved** (Raeside/Smith) that the Articles of Incorporation be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

**Moved** (Raeside/van den Hoogen) that the bylaws drafted in accordance with the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (2009) be approved and filed with Corporations Canada. **Carried.**

**Moved** (Raeside/MaGee) that the Constitution of Science Atlantic, approved April 24-25, 1981, and most recently amended April 29, 2011, be rescinded, and that the bylaws approved in the previous motion be the governing charter for the organization. **Carried.**

**Moved** (Raeside/Lada) that an interim Board of Directors be elected and empowered to manage the business of the organization until election of the Board of Directors at the November 2015 Members' meeting. **Carried.**

## 18. Election of Interim Board of Directors

Chris Moore presented the following slate of officers:

- Chair: Dave McCorquodale, Dean of Science and Technology, Cape Breton University
- Past Chair: Rob Raeside, Professor of Earth and Environmental Science, Acadia University
- Treasurer: Steve Smith, Dean of Science, Saint Mary's University
- Directors (Institutional Representatives):
  - Dave MaGee, Dean of Science, UNB-Fredericton
  - Ruth Shaw, Dean of Science, Applied Science, and Engineering, UNB-Saint John
  - One position to be optionally filled as needed
- Directors (Committee Chairs):
  - Ken Kent (UNB-Fredericton), Chair of Computer Science
  - Gordon MacDonald (UPEI), Chair of Math & Stats
  - One position to be optionally filled as needed
- Directors (Other Members of the Community):
  - Tamara Franz-Odendaal (MSVU), NSERC Atlantic Chair of Women in Science and Engineering
  - Rick Mehta (Acadia), Associate Professor of Psychology

As no further nominations were received from the floor, the slate was accepted by acclamation.



**Moved** (Moore/Blundell) that the proposed slate of officers be approved as the interim Board of Directors for Science Atlantic. **Carried.**

**Action:** The interim Board will come into effect following the filing of documentation

## 19. Other Business

- i. Industrial USRA: Gordon Deveau reported IUSRA placements are underrepresented in Atlantic Canada and asked members to assist with improving the region's use of the program. The program provides \$4,500 per student placement to businesses engaging in R&D, which can be topped up another \$2,000 from IRAP.

**Action:** Gordon will send information to Lois to distribute to the members

- ii. Appreciation: Dave McCorquodale thanked Acadia for hosting the meetings, as well as Rob Raeside for his guidance during Dave's first months as Council Chair.

## 20. Date and Location of Next Meetings

The fall 2015 Annual General Meeting will be hosted by Cape Breton University. The tentative dates for the meetings are November 20-21, 2015.

The first meeting of the interim Board of Directors will be announced.

## 21. Presentation: Developing the Leadership of Tomorrow for Science and Society

Lara Gibson, Anne Marie Ryan, and Allison Schmidt presented Dalhousie's new certificate in Science Leadership and Communication.

*There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.*



# Science Atlantic 2015-16 Priorities

(Approved April 2015)

Success is dependent on member commitment and outside resources (e.g., IT development, summer student, ACOA funding, online service) as well as staff implementation.

## Area 1: Improve Involvement With and Support of Organization

1. Implement new governance model and bylaws
2. Improve member orientation and communications, including updating Virtual Commons
3. Continue to recognize member contributions
4. Proactively support organization to Member institution senior administrators and to non-members

### Actions: Membership, Board, Committee Chairs, Faculty

- i) Support new Board of Directors
- ii) Develop and implement support policy for Committee Chairs
- iii) Nominate members to Hall of Fame
- iv) Become familiar with new Virtual Commons (once established)
- v) Host/participate in annual campus reps meetings (Deans)

### Actions: Staff

- i) Launch new website
- ii) Determine and implement new software for Virtual Commons
- iii) Create and distribute Annual Report, Yearbook, newsletter
- iv) Develop direct student communications (Twitter, Facebook, special notices)

## Area 2: Develop Programs and Services

1. Conferences
  - Improve conference delivery
  - Assess student involvement and conference capacity

### Actions: Committee Chairs, Deans, Conference Organizers, Faculty

- i) Committee Chairs/faculty advisors provide advice and support regularly to conference organizers
- ii) Provide recommendations to staff to improve Conference-in-a-Box
- iii) Support and encourage students to attend conferences





Actions: Staff

- i) Continue to revise and improve CIAB and OCS based on user feedback
- ii) Continue to assess and improve use of PayPal for conference fee payment
- iii) Promote conferences via poster, website, newsletter; circulate conference information to student societies as possible
- iv) Coordinate communication with award winners and sponsors; develop Awards Yearbook

2. AFRED

Actions: Membership, Board, Committee Chairs

- i) Encourage colleagues to make use of the database
- ii) Provide connections to staff

Actions: Staff

- i) Fulfill project deliverables

3. Animal Care Peer Reviewer Database

**Area 3: Use Resources Effectively**

1. Assess value provided by organization
2. Demonstrate transparency and efficiency

Actions: Membership, Committee Chairs, Conference Organizers

- i) Review/monitor member fee structure
- ii) Identify fundraising opportunities
- iii) Follow sustainability model for conference funding (cost-based registration fees; solicitation of sponsors; surplus for Holding Account and student travel subsidies)

Actions: Staff

- i) Implement budget as approved by Membership
- ii) Research funding models for AFRED sustainability
- iii) Identify fundraising and grant options



# Executive Director's Highlights

**Staffing:** We are growing! Science Atlantic hired its first permanent, full-time staff person on June 1. Jasmine Golf, a recent Dal Commerce graduate and former Science Atlantic co-op student, is our new Marketing Coordinator. Then, on August 1, 2015, Patty King joined us as the AFRED Program Manager, an 18-month, full-time position dedicated to building a strong network for AFRED. On September 1, Prasad Rajandran returned half-time as the programmer for AFRED while he finishes his degree.

We also employed three students full-time this summer and will employ one student for the 2016 Winter term. Three additional student employees work part-time during the school year providing conference and communications support.

**Fundraising:** In July, ACOA approved \$169,500 over three years for Phase 2 of AFRED. We also won three student employment grants (approximately \$11,000) over the last seven months, and one subsidy for a new graduate (\$7,500).

**Student Engagement:** Megan Ferris, a Dalhousie Commerce co-op student, developed a student engagement strategy this summer to guide us in communicating directly with students. As part of the strategy, a monthly student newsletter was launched with Alumni Hall of Fame biographies, information about job funding, opportunities for research, notices about conferences and other events, and other relevant topics. As well, we have increased our use of Twitter and Facebook.

**Redesigned Website and New Virtual Commons:** Jasmine launched our updated website in August, and we finished the transition in October from Wiggio to Google Groups as our provider for committee communication, online meetings, and file sharing. As time permits, we are digitizing printed reports and minutes prior to 2000 to add to each committee's folder, as well as archiving discussions from Wiggio.

**Conference-in-a-Box (CIAB):** This summer, we added custom pages to the planning guide for each conference and host institution, abstract submission guidelines, and more award descriptions, to the existing features of CIAB:

- Month-by-month planning guide broken down by volunteer position
- Templates for budgeting, fundraising, venue planning, etc.
- Website template, including online registration and abstract submission, and website hosting
- Online certificate generator to create personalized awards (integrated with registration data)
- FAQ and event hosting tips, such as how to take great photos, negotiate catering, etc.
- The option to collect registration fees online through Science Atlantic's PayPal account

We next plan to host online sessions to orient organizers to the tools and to encourage timely planning.

**Office Space:** I'd like to reiterate my appreciation to Dalhousie for providing Science Atlantic with space. The location we've had since May 2013 has made it possible to hire several students and staff, who in turn make possible the progress we've made on projects and member support.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Whitehead, Executive Director



# Atlantic Facilities and Research Equipment Database (AFRED) Progress Report

## Outreach/Networking

- Information sessions and one-on-one meetings held at UdeM (main campus), UNB (Fredericton), UNB (Saint John), Mt.A, MSVU, SMU, CBU, and St. FX
- Presented to meetings of Science Atlantic Math & Stats, Computer Science, and Biology Reps
- Met with a number of industry members at the Engage NB Forum and Expo and at a networking session of the Consortium for Aerospace Research and Innovation in Canada (CARIC); attended and presented on a panel at Engage 2015 Halifax
- Attended BioPort Atlantic
- Presented at the Coastal and Ocean Information Network (COINAtlantic/ACZISC) meeting, and held one-on-one meetings with BioNB, Springboard Atlantic, Canadian Fisheries Research Network, the Canadian Intellectual Property office, and NRC Concierge (NB and NL)
- Presented to the ILOs at the November Springboard Atlantic meeting
- Attended Canadian Fisheries Research Network meeting; had trade show booth
- Health research facilities in NB have expressed interest in AFRED; contacts have been identified and follow up will be done
- Attended CFI consultation; made contact regarding their equipment database and how we can collaborate, with additional follow up meetings planned for late November in Ottawa
- Department of Defense contact has been made; they are reviewing the project for fit
- Private sector has facilities and equipment it would be interested in listing in AFRED

## Database Development

- Review of functional specifications with programmer completed and needed changes identified
- Key takeaways from consultations:
  - Important for the database to be scalable for future potential content/uses
  - Search function critical; possible ways to improve/refine search are being investigated

## Funding

- First ACOA claim being prepared for submission
- \$20K NSERC funding will be provided over three years instead of two; Y1 - \$9K, Y2 - \$9K, Y3 - \$2K
- Start-up support from identified Science Atlantic member institutions has been received

## Next Steps

- Working on scheduling meetings and information sessions in PEI and Newfoundland for January
- Planning underway for Lunch and Learn sessions at Acadia, Dalhousie Truro campus, NSCC, BioNova, and PEI BioAlliance
- Meetings with Directors of Industry Canada and NSERC, and Senior Advisor of CFI while in Ottawa attending CSPC
- Attending Canadian Science Policy Conference in Ottawa
- Presenting at *Create, Collaborate, Commercialize* event, November 30<sup>th</sup>, Springboard Atlantic

Respectfully submitted,  
Patty King, AFRED Program Manager



# Committee Reports

## Animal Care

No update.

## Aquaculture & Fisheries

### Conference

The primary focus of the Aquaculture and Fisheries Committee of Science Atlantic is to organize an annual student conference in March. As usual, A&F partnered with Biology this year. With the help of A&F members, but mostly a big shout out to Alyre Chiasson (Biology), the conference was held at Université de Moncton March 6-8 and was a great success! Two concurrent sessions were attended by many students, although, in general, it was recognized that attendance at conferences has declined in recent years, perhaps due to a decline in available funding to send non-presenting students. As a committee, we are working diligently to increase student participation even if not presenting.

The 25th Aquaculture & Fisheries student conference held at Université de Moncton was open to both undergraduate and post-graduate students. This year, 28 students presented with a further four participating in the poster session held in the Biology conference. The number of presenters has increased the last two years (21 in 2013, 24 in 2014) which appears, in part, due to an increase in participating institutions. Noticeably absent were student participants from UPEI and Saint Mary's University. The A&F Committee has continued its efforts to inform institutions about this conference and with the leadership of Lois Whitehead and the multitude of tools (Google Groups, etc.) being used to accomplish networking in an easy and efficient manner, these efforts are returning dividends.

Table 1: Participant institutions and number of students.

<b>University</b>	<b># Students</b>	<b># Presenting</b>	<b># Posters (held in Biology Session)</b>
Acadia University	6	4	2
Cape Breton University	1		1
Dalhousie University – Agriculture	6	6	
Dalhousie University – Science	4	4	
Memorial University	2	2	
Mount Allison University	2	2	
Mount St. Vincent University	0		
Saint Francis Xavier University	5*	4	
Saint Mary's University	0		
Université de Moncton	1	1	
University of New Brunswick	5	5	





Fredericton			
University of New Brunswick Saint John	1		1
University of Prince Edward Island	0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>

\*1 student attended for interest

With our dual focus of aquaculture and fisheries, the breadth and depth of presentations spanning fisheries modeling to feed responses in cultured species was superb! Judging such quality presentations is a difficult task, but one that the judges take with pride and hope that with further guidance, these students will become stars. Students were roughly a 50:50 split between undergraduate and post-graduate presenters, but this year, as in 2014, few students made the trip to support their fellow classmates or to experience the conference as a spectator.

The committee thanks our fundraising organizer, Dr. Tillmann Benfey (UNB) for, once again, encouraging all representatives to seek funding support. Our sponsors responded with \$2,900 in support with returning sponsors from the aquaculture and fisheries sectors (Table 2). We also thank Science Atlantic for their financial contribution to the conference awards.

Table 2: 2015 Sponsor affiliations.

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Aquaculture</b>	<b>Fisheries</b>
Atlantic Elver Fishery, Inc.		X
Canadian Centre for Fisheries Innovation		X
Aquaculture Association of Canada	X	
Clearwater	X	
Cooke Aquaculture	X	
Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association	X	
Elanco	X	
Skretting	X	
Valox Ltd.	X	

Plus Canadian Science Publishing and Science Atlantic provided further funds for awards.

### Award Winners

Award winners are now posted on the ever-improving Science Atlantic website and can be found there.

Travel awards were awarded to Bruno Gianisi and Kiley Best, both attending from Memorial University.

### Committee Meeting

Key discussion points at Aquaculture & Fisheries Committee meeting #44, 6 March 2015:

#### 1. Distribution of Awards and Travel

There are year-to-year variations in conference attendance, sponsors (and funds), and requests for travel as well as variations in amounts of travel funds requested/required by students. It was decided to keep the current practice of attempting to help as many students as possible with travel, and to



distribute awards (and travel fund sponsorship to CCFR and AAC) on a committee-based decision basis to maintain flexibility. We also decided to increase the available funds for travel from Memorial as travel costs are generally higher.

## 2. Awards

A breakdown of sponsorship funds into categories for awards was as prescribed in years past – at the hands of Tillmann and relayed at the meeting.

## 3. Attendance, Registration

Considerable discussion ensued on attendance. Apart from having few non-presenting students, it was discussed how to handle an increase in presenters. The decision was that until there is an actionable problem, we continue with accommodating as many presenters as possible even if that means scheduling outside of the Biology/A&F model of concurrent sessions.

### Committee Membership

Representative	Institution	Attendance (A&F)
Trevor Avery	Acadia (Chair)	X
Tim Frasier	St. Mary's (Secretary)	X
Jim Duston	Dal – Faculty of Agriculture	
Tillmann Benfey	UNB – Fredericton	
TBD	Cape Breton University	
Thierry Chopin	UNB – St. John	
Cyr Couturier	Marine Institute, Memorial University	X
Mark Fast	UPEI	
Caroline Graham	New Brunswick Community College	
Christophe Herbinger	Dalhousie – Faculty of Science	
Matt Litvak	Mount Allison University	
Kurt Gamperl (for Matt Rise)	Memorial University	
Simon Lamarre	Université de Moncton	X
Benedikte Vercaemer	DFO-BIO	
Jim Williams	St. Francis Xavier University	X

Respectfully submitted,  
Trevor Avery, Chair



## Biology

### Committee Meeting

The Biology Committee has met once since the spring meeting of Council, for its regular business meeting and workshop which were held November 6 and 7th, 2015, at Saint Mary's University. There were several new and substitute representatives at the meeting; thus, all member institutions were represented. Among new members were Katherine Jones (UCB), Bob Scott (Grenfell Campus of Memorial University), Susan Dufour (Memorial University), and Marva Sweeney-Nixon (University of PEI). Lois Whitehead presented members with an overview of Science Atlantic, which was appropriate given the changes to the website and the new governance structure. International Lab Day was briefly presented and discussed at the business meeting but was the subject for greater discussion at the workshop on the following day.

PromoScience, as a possible source for funding for the International Lab Day concept provides only one third of project funding and no alternative sources were identified prior to this year's application deadline. The committee therefore decided to: a) conduct a survey on the cuts or abolitions of labs at each institution, b) seek to identify alternative sources of funding (one of the survey items), and c) pursue the idea of conducting a student and alumni survey regarding their evaluation of labs while at university or once graduated. There was general consensus around the table that labs were perceived by students as a lot of work per credit compared to theoretical courses and hence the importance of labs and the career experience they bring must be explained in a different context than courses.

There was a discussion on the degree to which students following the International Baccalaureate were adequately prepared for labs at the university level. There was some indication that the way labs were given at the IB level followed a different format, less along the line of a scientific article, thus resulting in some degree of confusion once at university.

Patty King gave a presentation on AFRED. There was lots of interest and support from the members and a numbers of suggestions for features or means of generating revenue.

The idea of revisiting the concept of a Field Course Consortium was raised during the workshop. This would be similar to the one currently running in Ontario. The chair offered to look at his records from when this idea was first discussed to see what were the obstacles seen in implementing the program eight years ago.

The next Science Atlantic Aquaculture & Fisheries and Biology Conference will be held March 11-13, 2016, at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

### Members in attendance or by video link:

Acadia University	Allison Walker
Cape Breton University	Katherine Jones
Crandall University	Zhan Yang
Dalhousie University	Allison Schmidt
Dal Agricultural Campus	Raj Lada
Dal Microbiology and Immunology	Lois Murray



Grenfell Campus (Memorial)	Bob Scott
Memorial University	Suzanne Dufour
Mount Allison University	Karen Crosby
Mount Saint Vincent University	Kevin Shaughnessy
Saint Mary's University	Colleen Barber
St. Francis Xavier University	Cory Bishop
Université de Moncton	Alyre Chiasson
University of New Brunswick, Fredericton	Cheryl Patten
University of New Brunswick, Saint John	Karen Kidd
University of Prince Edward Island	Marva Sweeney-Nixon

Respectfully submitted,  
Alyre Chiasson, Chair

## Chemistry

### Conference

Summary of 40th ChemCon, 21-23, May, 2015 held at UNB, Fredericton:

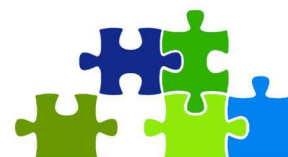
- The conference was quite successful with 138 registered attendants
- 27 undergraduate oral, 17 undergraduate poster presentations, 13 graduate student oral, and 11 graduate student posters
- 28 faculty attended and a number of industry representatives
- A notable absence is Dalhousie. This is the second or third year in a row that no one from Dalhousie has attended.
- Prize winners are listed at [scienceatlantic.ca/committees/chemistry/chemconwinners2015](http://scienceatlantic.ca/committees/chemistry/chemconwinners2015)
- Even though the conference was scheduled so that it did not coincide with graduation events, a number of universities did not attend
- The conference had a surplus of about \$4 800, affording \$16 871 to carry forward to MSVU

### Next Conference

The 41st ChemCon will take place on June 2-4, 2016, at MSVU with David Garrison as the organizing chair. The 42nd ChemCon in 2017 will be at MUN; dates and chair TBD. This is the first year that ChemCon has begun bidding two years in advance. This is intended to afford the organizing committees, deans and universities adequate time to prepare for the conference. Travel awards will be awarded to second year students to attend the current year's ChemCon as they will be the students who will be organizing the conference in two years' time.

### Committee Business

- We are currently seeking a new Chemistry Tour Coordinator. This tour is coordinated with CIC Atlantic.



- b. The Chemistry Committee supported the College Chemistry Canada Conference, June 4 to 6, 2015, at Mount Saint Vincent University. Some monies were returned as the visiting speaker did not require the total amount.
- c. The Chemistry Holding Account stands at about \$2 700.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray Syvitski, Chair

## Computer Science

### Conference and Award Winners

1. Held on October 23-25, 2015 at Acadia University
2. Attendance was good with 176 total overall participants between CS, Math and Stats (55 faculty, 121 students)
3. 18 teams participated in the programming competition (up one from the past year). There were seven undergrad CS talks and six CS contributed talks.
4. Prize winners were:
  - a. Computer Science Programming competition:
    - i. Will Fiset, Micah Stairs, Finn Lidbetter (Mount Allison)
    - ii. James Harris, Raphael Beaulieu, Vlad Marica (UNB – Fredericton)
    - iii. David Zorychta, Matthew Farrell, Salman Mohammed (Dalhousie)
  - b. Computer Science Research Award:
    - i. Yong Hong Chen (Acadia University)
    - ii. Jason Wurtz & Nikita Volodin (University of Prince Edward Island)
    - iii. Frederico Mora (Mount Allison)
5. Speakers included:
  - a. David Nacin (William Patterson University) - the Blundon Lecture
  - b. Edward Susko (Dalhousie University) - the Field Lecture
  - c. Holger Hoos (UBC) - the Sedgwick Lecture

### Next Conference

The next conference will be held October 14-16, 2016, at Cape Breton University. The date is tentative, as it needs to be checked with other local activities.

### Committee Meeting

There was significant discussion at the CS Committee meeting concerning sustaining and increasing the participation in the conference. There are more activities and opportunities for people's time and thus we need to be active. Items of discussion for included:

1. Using kattis as a replacement for pc<sup>2</sup> for the programming competition software
2. Strategies to increase faculty participation through talks and workshops

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Kent, Chair



## Earth Science

### Conference and Award Winners

This year, the D. Hope-Simpson Geology Society hosted the 65th annual Atlantic Universities Geological Conference (AUGC) at Saint Mary's University. The conference is the largest and oldest-running gathering of undergraduate geology students in Canada, encouraging students to present the results of their research at their host university or with companies for whom they have been employed. The student research presented at this conference is representative of all geoscience fields focusing within Atlantic Canada. The conference was held over the second last weekend in October (22nd-24th) attracted around 120 students and faculty from UNB, Dalhousie, Saint Mary's, Acadia, Memorial, and St. FX. In addition to conference proceedings, the AUGC schedule included field trips to local geology sites of interest: UNESCO World Heritage Joggins Fossil Cliffs, Popes Harbour Dyke, and the beautiful coastal cliffs of Blue Beach, along with a Forensic Geology workshop. The AUGC is a great chance for undergraduates to present and network with other students, professors, and industry representatives.

The AUGC is a completely student organized conference existing for over 60 years, with the hosting University rotating year to year. The AUGC provides geoscience students the opportunity to present their current work, learn about the local Maritime geology and meet many of their peers from around the Atlantic Provinces.

The presentations at the 2015 AUGC were of a very high level for undergraduate work, and the program was very full.

#### AUGC Organizing Committee 2015

- Glen Hodge
- Haley LeBlanc
- Zachary Matheson
- Jeremy Bentley
- Amara Ells
- Mehran Durrani
- Wahab Israr
- Anthony Vieira

#### Invited Speakers

- Mike MacDonald
- Fred Bonner

#### Workshops

- Microanalysis in Forensic Geology - Dr. Jacob Hanley





## Field Trips

- UNESCO World Heritage Site Joggins Fossil Cliffs - Dr. John Calder and Matt Stimson
- Pope's Harbour dyke - Dr. J.V. Owen
- Blue Beach, Hantsport - Andrew MacRae

## Sponsors

- Platinum
  - Imperial Oil
- Gold Sponsors
  - St. Mary's Student Association
- Silver Sponsors
  - ExxonMobil
  - Atlantic Geoscience Society (AGS)
  - Canadian Society of Petroleum Geoscientists (CSPG)
  - Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG)
- Bronze Sponsors
  - Science Atlantic
  - D. Hope Geological Society-SMU
  - Joggins Fossil Centre
  - Mineralogical Society of Canada
  - Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources- Minerals Branch
  - Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick
  - Association of Professional Geoscientists of Nova Scotia

## Key Issues/Highlights

Jacob Hanley of Saint Mary's reported on the conference. He was on leave in the fall and indicated that there has been only minimal faculty input to the organization of the conference. Almost the entire burden of work has fallen to the student organizer, Haley Leblanc. He had not been able to obtain any information about the amount of funding raised, and the budget status is uncertain at the moment – the dean's office, through which funding is handled, is not able to obtain financial information in a timely manner from the Saint Mary's central business office. He recommends that funds be handled through a department head's office – a budget line can be set up easily and the department heads usually are aware of cheques arriving for an event like the AUGC.

It was agreed to prepare a certification of appreciation for Haley Leblanc.

## **Next Conference**

Acadia University, October 2016. Efforts will be made to integrate the Conference-in-a-Box software (see below) into the 2016 AUGC organization.



## Speaker Tour

Alison Malcolm (Memorial University) will visit St. Mary's, Acadia and UNB-F on 17–19 November, speaking on *What do we really know? Uncertainty in reservoir monitoring*.

A second tour will be undertaken by Erin Adlakha (Saint Mary's) in January, who will visit Dalhousie, MUN and St. FX to talk about alteration of uranium deposits in Atlantic Canada. The speaker tours are funded by Science Atlantic (\$800, firm) and the Atlantic Geoscience Society.

## Other Activities

A new award was initiated for AUGC sponsored by the Atlantic Geoscience Society (Rob Raeside and Grant Wach coordinating) to recognise achievement in research in poster or oral presentation in the field of Environmental Geoscience.

## Committee Business

There is no activity regarding the Holding Account funds. The current committee executive membership consists of Grant Wach (Chair), Rob Raeside, Cliff Shaw, Deanne van Rooyen, Jacob Hanley, Alison Leitch, Brendan Murphy, and Lucy Wilson.

### Annual/semi-annual meeting highlights

The AUGC Awards and website updates have been finalized with considerable input from Lois Whitehead and the committee.

The committee acknowledged the exemplary past service that Milton Graves has provided to Science Atlantic, particularly as Chair and omnipresent judge. The committee recommend that he be inducted into the Science Atlantic Hall of Fame. In addition, the Atlantic Geoscience Society would like to recognise Milton for his service to Science Atlantic and AGS and will seek to have him nominated for the AGS Laing Ferguson Award. Grant Wach will arrange nominators.

This year's Executive Meeting took place at the Westin Hotel in Halifax on Saturday 24th October, 2015. The next Executive Meeting will be Friday February 5, 2016 at the Atlantic Geoscience Society Colloquium in Truro, Holiday Inn.

## Issues/Business for Discussion

### Science Atlantic's Conference-in-a-Box

The organizing committee for the AUGC at Saint Mary's University did not use CIAB and had a lot of problems with the organization of the conference. While using CIAB will not prevent problems, it will alert students in a timely manner about what needs to be done. Science Atlantic reps were asked to strongly encourage students to use this resource.

Respectfully submitted,  
Grant Wach, Chair



## Environment

### Next Conference

The next student Environment Conference will be held March 18-19, 2016, at the Université de Moncton, NB. Alain Patoine, who is based at the Shippagan campus, is taking the lead and is working with a dedicated group of professors from the Moncton campus. The conference will be held in Moncton.

### Committee Business

With the new academic year, there have also been some membership changes for the committee. We welcome Michelle Gray to the committee as the new representative from UNB-Fredericton. She replaces Van Lantz who had spent many years on the committee. Christine Campbell has returned from sabbatical and is again the representative for MUN-Grenfell. Norm Catto has stepped down from the committee and Joe Wroblewski has taken his place as the representative for MUN-St.John's. Dave Risk has returned from sabbatical and once again is representing St. FX. Dr. Carolyn Peach Brown remains as the Chair of the Committee. The Committee lacks a Vice-Chair. The Committee will meet virtually in early November.

### Committee Membership

Nelson O'Driscoll	Acadia University	Christine Campbell	MUN-Grenfell
Daniel Rainham	DAL-HRM	Joe Wroblewski	MUN
Raj Lada	DAL-Truro	Ben Phillips	MTA
Martin Mkandawire	CBU	Heather Major	UNB-SJ
Dave Risk	St.FX	Michelle Gray	UNB-F
Linda Campbell	SMU	Alain Patoine	UdeM
Carolyn Peach Brown (Chair)	UPEI		

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Peach Brown, Chair

## Mathematics & Statistics

### Conference

The Atlantic Universities Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science conference was held at Acadia University in Wolfville from October 23 to October 25, 2015. Approximately 170 people attended the conference, including over 100 undergraduate students. As usual, the first major events were the Mathematics Problem Solving Competition and the Computer Science Programming Competition on Friday afternoon. There were 18 teams competing in the Mathematics competition. On Friday evening, the Blundon Lecture was presented by David Nacin of William Patterson University. David spoke on *James Joseph Sylvester on the 150th anniversary of his Four Point Problem*. This was followed by a welcoming reception. Saturday was the main day for the conference. There were 37 talks in mathematics, statistics or computer science, most given by undergraduate students. In the morning, Holger Hoos of University of British Columbia presented the Sedgwick Lecture on *From Programs to Program Spaces: Leveraging Machine Learning and Optimization for Automated Algorithm Design*. In



the afternoon, Edward Susko of Dalhousie University presented the Field Lecture on *Phylogenic Estimation and Inference*.

Major sponsors: Science Atlantic, AARMS (Atlantic Association for Research in the Mathematical Sciences) and Acadia University.

Other sponsors: ACEnet, Maplesoft, Statistical Society of Canada, Canadian Mathematical Society, IBM and Nelson Education.

### **Next Conference**

The 2016 conference will be held at Cape Breton University in late October.

### **Committee Business**

An MOU has been prepared to formalize AARMS sponsorship of the conference. It is currently being reviewed by Science Atlantic lawyers.

All members of the current executive have terms expiring in April, and since we only meet as a group once per year, we had elections to elect a new executive (terms to begin in April 2016):

- Chair-elect: Stephen Finbow (St.FX)
- Vice Chair-elect (and AARMS Liaison): Margaret-Ellen Messinger (MtA)
- Secretary (continuing): Robert Dawson (SMU)

Respectfully submitted,  
Gordon MacDonald, Chair

## **Physics & Astronomy**

### **Conference**

The last Atlantic Universities Physics and Astronomy Conference (AUPAC) was held at Mount Allison University on February 6-8, 2015. The attendance was approximately 130 people, including students and faculty. The speakers were Dr. Jaymee Matthews, Dr. Adam Sarty, Dr. Catherine Lovekin, and Dr. Kyle Hill. The sponsors were MTA, T4G, and the Campbell-Verduyn Fund (a grant program at Mount Allison for student life activities).

### **Next Conference**

Next year's conference will be held February 5-7, 2016, at Memorial University.

### **Speaker Tour**

2015 Canadian Association of Physicists-Science Atlantic Speaker Tour lectures were given at Acadia, Dal, MUN, MtA, StFX, SMU, UNB-F, UPEI, and UdeM. There were three speakers: Kris Poduska (MUN), Carlos Silva (Université de Montreal), and Pablo Bianucci (Concordia).



The dates for the 2016 lecture tour will be finalized on December 18, 2015.

### **Holding Account Activity**

The Committee provided a \$1,000 sponsorship for the upcoming Canadian Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CCUWiP), to be held at Dalhousie in January 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Hornidge, Chair

## **Psychology**

### **Conference**

The Science Atlantic 2015 Psychology Conference took place at Memorial University, St. John's, NL, on May 18-19.

*Attendance:* 68 registered, though attendance was affected by weather (see below)

*Speaker:* Nathan DeWall, University of Kentucky, *Taming the Impulsive Beast: Self-Control as Our Greatest Human Strength*

*Sponsors:* MacMillan Education, Canadian Psychological Association, Association of Psychologists of Nova Scotia, and Memorial University Faculty of Science

*Key Issues:* The biggest issue for the 2015 meeting was the weather. Due to heavy fog on the morning of the 18th, quite a few student presenters and faculty were not able to make it. Many flights were cancelled, and some were temporarily redirected to Gander but could not land in later attempts in St. John's. The organizing committee had graciously arranged for airport pick-ups, but this did not work out so well in practice, and they recommended against doing this again in the future.

*Highlights:* The plenary lecture was held after the opening remarks on the first day, rather than at the end of the conference, and most agreed this was a much better time slot. The speaker was excellent; he talked about his research on self-control in a way that was easily accessible to everyone in the audience. He covered a wide range of sub-disciplines in describing his research – social psychology, cognitive psychology, neuroscience, and animal behaviour - so there was broad appeal. His trip was sponsored by MacMillan, with whom he published an Introductory Psychology textbook, and they also made a generous donation to the conference. The idea of approaching publishers for sponsorship was brought up at the 2104 meeting in Fredericton, and it appears this strategy might also work in the future. This might be a way to boost funding in addition to the traditional sponsors. Of course, another highlight of the conference were the students' research presentations; the award winners in particular were very impressive (<https://scienceatlantic.ca/committees/psychology/psychwinners2015>).



## **Next Conference**

The Science Atlantic 2016 Psychology Conference will be held at Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB, on May 12-13.

Due to various conflicting convocation dates, students from some institutions (e.g. Memorial, Grenfell Campus) will be unable to attend. Planning is continuing.

## **Other Activities**

The activities of the Psychology Committee have historically been centred solely on the annual undergraduate conference. Given the widespread support for undergraduate student research, the new Chair, Jennifer Stamp, has started an initiative to build a collection of easy-to-understand, primary research articles suitable for undergraduate teaching. To date, two members have submitted articles that have been used for teaching introductory level Psychology courses. The aim is to provide a reference list or collection of .pdfs organized by topic (e.g. Memory, Clinical, Social, etc.).

## **Committee Business**

A new Chair, Jennifer Stamp from Dalhousie, was elected after the annual meeting in May. She is meeting/contacting Science Atlantic representatives and committee members in preparation for the two-year Chair's term.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Stamp, Chair

