

**President's Report (AGM 2018) –
CAPP/ACPAP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Johnson Shoyama, University of Regina/Saskatchewan
June 1, 2018**

**Dr. Robert Shepherd
President
CAPP/ACPAP**

INTRODUCTION

This meeting marks the end of my term as President of CAPP/ACPAP. It has been an eventful two years, and I think the association overall is strong and is gaining in momentum, thanks to the good work of previous presidents and executive committees. The association is also fortunate to have committed board members, who are always willing to step up to responsibilities when asked. In my view, this is what makes for a healthy organization.

I have been well-supported by a very committed and collegial executive committee, who have worked hard making sure that CAPP activities are carried out professionally. This is a volunteer board, and I could not have asked for better colleagues in Luc Juillet, Isabelle Fortier, Jonathan Craft and Kathy Brock. I also wish to extend thanks to each of you on behalf of your executive committee and board for your continued support of the association's activities, including this conference. Let me extend a very special thank you to Kathy McNutt and Karen Jaster-LaForge, who have done a superb job of organizing this year's conference. We could not have been better served!

2017-2018 ACTIVITIES

Membership

Isabelle Fortier gave the report on membership for this year in CAPP. For the first time in a long time, all members paid their CAPP fees. In total, there are 26 institutional memberships. New members this year were: Concordia University, University of Alberta, University of Western Ontario, and St. Francis Xavier University.

Accreditation

CAPP made great strides this year in implementing our new accreditation process under the capable leadership of Prof. Michael Atkinson. Two schools underwent the new accreditation process: Dalhousie and Concordia. Dalhousie's report and accreditation were approved by the Accreditation Board and the CAPP board in May 2018. Concordia's accreditation was completed in May 2018. Dalhousie's report has been posted to the CAPP website. The Accreditation Board also submitted a series of recommendations to improve the process.

On behalf of the CAPP Board, we wish to offer our most sincere thanks to the CAPP Accreditation Committee for all of its fine work this year: Michael Atkinson (Chair); Ken Rasmussen, Ian Clark, Les Pal and Nancy Oleweiler. There will be a change in constitution of the Accreditation Board this year, including its chairmanship.

The work of this committee is vitally important work, and its efforts serve to benefit all schools and departments. I would encourage each of you representing your respective schools to consider having your programs accredited by CAPP. Our process is meant to complement your existing internal processes of review, and your provincial processes of external review.

Website

Our website was expanded this year under its redesign, thanks to Jonathan Craft and Ian Bron, who have both worked tirelessly these past number of months migrating material and writing new content for the site. However, there is still much to do on the site, including bringing up to date our French language content. Work will be continuing on various parts of the site, but our site is regularly updated and is quite active.

Communications Committee

Our communications committee was chaired by Naomi Couto (York) this year. Communications worked hard to ensure that our critical events were publicized on various social media platforms. If you are interested in joining this committee, please let Naomi, or any member of the executive know. We are always looking for volunteers who are media savvy and can bring our activities into the spotlight.

Case Competition

The Case Competition was successful again this year. As you know, CAPP has assumed the principal responsibility for organizing and managing the competition. Many thanks to Nancy Olewiler and Eva Lewis for orchestrating this year's competition at Simon Fraser University most expertly on February 18-19. There were 13 teams in the competition. Kathy Brock (Past-President) managed the competition on behalf of the Executive and Board, and did a terrific job bringing process rigour to it. Most importantly, Kathy secured travel and accommodation funding with ManuLife Financial. We would all agree that this funding helped significantly to reduce the costs for those schools who would otherwise not be able to participate. Our thanks also to those schools, who opted out of using those funds thereby allowing other schools to take a greater portion. Our thanks also go to our other valued sponsors including IPAC, E&Y, IRPP, Deloitte, Canada School of Public Service, and SFU. Many thanks to those of you who have taken the time and invested the effort to be coaches. There would be no competition without your support. This year's winning schools were: Gold: SFU; Silver: Carleton; and, Bronze: Johnson-Shoyama.

The next competition will take place at Carleton University on February 22-23, 2019.

Annual Conference

Many thanks to Kathy McNutt, Karen Jaster-LaForge and the entire team at Johnson-Shoyama for hosting this year's CAPP Research Conference. I think that it has been a success, despite the scheduling and other challenges holding the conference at Congress this year. The executive and board opted for Regina, and to be included in Congress, because we listened to several individual faculty members who told us that they would like to attend both CAPP and Congress. So, we decided to try this on a trial basis for one year, and then the executive will decide as to whether this is something we wish to try again in the future.

Next year's conference will be held at Concordia University in Montreal from May 23-24, 2019.

As always, we adjudicate the following awards at the conference: Recognition of Innovative Paper Presentation; and three papers, for Methodological contribution, theoretical contribution, compelling normative contribution. The winners of these recognition awards are presented at the end of the conference proceedings.

National Student Thought Leadership Awards

This jointly sponsored IPAC and CAPP award was developed to recognize the best of graduate student writing at our member institutions. Each year students who have been nominated by their professors for excellence and selected by a national jury are presented an award at the IPAC national conference. There is still time to nominate your students. The call was sent out last month, and I encourage each of you to submit your nominations.

National Student Paper Competition

The paper competition is organized by the Canada School of Public Service, in association with CAPP and the Canadian Association of Business School Deans. This year, CAPP participated again on the organizing committee, represented by Isabelle Fortier (ENAP). There were a record 40 papers submitted to the competition for 2017-18.

The winner of both the Grand Prize and the Public Choice Award for the fifth annual National Student Paper Competition is Justine Mallou from Simon Fraser University (Political Science), for her [paper](#) "Redefining the Road to Reconciliation: Considerations for Renewing Indigenous-Crown Relationship through the Post-Secondary Student Support Program."

Again this year, the top winner is entitled to a term placement in the federal public service. I encourage each of you to participate in this contest, as its benefits are tangible for your students. The CSPS President is deeply committed to supporting the evolution of this contest, and engaging CAPP in its continued success. The call for this year's competition will be going out in June.

Relationships

IPAC – CAPPa and IPAC are independent organizations but our efforts to work together grew even stronger this year. In terms of governance, the President sits on the IPAC Board, and Andrea Migone Research Director for IPAC sits on our Board. IPAC's Research Committee was led by Guy Levasseur from the University of Ottawa, and we look forward to continued good work with him. The committee met three times this year, and among its efforts is to build a site that will feature research across the CAPPa and IPAC networks.

In addition, IPAC supported the student case competition, helping us to raise funds to support student travel to the event in Vancouver. We owe IPAC much for their continued support of our events.

This year's IPAC conference will be held in Quebec City, Quebec, in which CAPPa will continue to play a role. We are planning a few events for the conference, including playing host to three paper panels, and leading a discussion on Indigenous issues. Luc Juillet (UOttawa) is our representative on the planning committee, and we owe him a great deal of thanks for all of his work. I encourage each of you to consider joining the conference this year.

In addition, CAPPa and IPAC support the DeCelles Award each year, and we contribute \$2,000 toward it annually. This year's deadline for submissions is June 1st. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for our members to continue to support this award. This year, CAPPa has taken principal responsibility for managing this award with IPAC. The nomination process was significantly streamlined. We would like to announce the winner of this year's award at the IPAC conference in Quebec City, and have the award winner present at next year's CAPPa conference.

Case Program - CAPPa with IPAC initiated this program and jointly appointed Andy Graham as Director of the program. Andy continues in this role this year. Again, I encourage each of you to support this program, and submit new ideas for consideration.

IPAC-CBIE – African Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships in honour of Nelson Mandela to sponsor public servants in Africa to attend Canadian public administration and management/policy schools. The CAPPa President sits on the steering committee for this important program, and assists the adjudication committee. The program experienced a major increase in applications this year, and many of our member schools of benefitted from this program. There were 65 funded positions allocated in the 2017-18 academic year, and there will be 32 funded positions for 2018-19. This will be the final year of the program, supported by funding from Global Affairs Canada. Many thanks to David Brown (UOttawa) and Jean-Francois Savard (ENAP) for their work adjudicating applications this year.

CPSA – CAPPa signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CPSA agreeing to assist CPSA with its Public Administration section at its 2017 annual conference. This year's conference is

being held jointly with our own at Johnson-Shoyama, led by Luc Juillet. A series of panels has been organized this year.

IASIA - International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration.

CES – Canadian Evaluation Society: This year, I met twice again with the President of the Canadian Evaluation Society, Dr. Harry Cummings (Guelph) to explore ways in which our associations might collaborate on this sub-field of public administration. We are continuing our discussions on ways to maximize participation in our respective case competitions, and to support each other's annual conferences. Although the CES conference is significantly larger than ours, there is a deep commitment to student learning and events, which I think we can capitalize on.

Conclusion

Thank you for your continued support of the association and its work. This year marks another busy year, under a new President, Andrea Rounce (UManitoba), and the executive team comprising Luc Juillet (Exec. VP), Isabelle Fortier (Treasurer), and Naomi Couto (Secretary). We will continue to build upon our several relationships with IPAC, CSPA, IASIA, IRSPM, CPSA and CES. I will continue to serve in my role as Past-President at the pleasure of the President.

I would encourage anyone who wishes to join the Board to let anyone on the Executive know, or if you wish to join the Communications Committee, there is plenty to keep everyone busy. Likewise, CAPP is always looking for volunteers to support the case competition, next year's conference, and the student essay contest.

My thanks to everyone for their support of my presidency for the past two years. It has been an honour to serve.

Robert P. Shepherd
Carleton University