

Canadian Psychological Association Section for Students 2002 Annual Report

With over 1,000 members, the Section for Students is CPA's largest section. The Section had a very busy year with a number of exciting activities:

First-ever Section for Students Mid-Winter Meeting

The CPA's Section for Students held its first ever mid-winter meeting on February 22nd and 23rd, in Hull, Quebec. In attendance were: Christine Chambers (Acting Chair), Rejeanne Dupuis (Chair-Elect), Sunjeev Prakash (Secretary/Treasurer/Web Site Manager), Hazlon Schepmyer (Convention Committee/Steering Committee Rep), Mike Coons (Campus Rep Co-ordinator), Joe Camilleri (Undergraduate Affairs Co-ordinator). Andrea D'Addario (our other Undergraduate Affairs Co-ordinator) was unable to attend.

The meeting was held at the same time and location as the CPA Board of Directors meeting, which permitted students and board members to meet and discuss student-related issues. Many section projects and initiatives were discussed in this 2-day meeting. We hope that this mid-winter meeting will occur on an annual basis.

Increased Student Representation (both graduate and undergraduate)

The present Representative Coordinator (Mike Coons) worked together with Ivan Parisien to continue to recruit student representatives at Canadian institutions. Our goal is to recruit an undergraduate and graduate CPA student representative at every campus across the country.

Increased Student Involvement in CPA

Student affiliates and representatives have actively written articles for publication in Psynopsis and contributed to the planning of the Annual Convention. There are a number of student-initiated and oriented workshops and conversation sessions at this year's meeting. The Section also sponsored a student representative's participation in the Winnipeg Conference (Haze Schepmyer). In the next year, the Section is planning to conduct a survey of Canadian Psychology Student to explore what students want from CPA and what CPA could be doing to better represent student needs and concerns.

Increased Awareness about the CPA Section for Students

The section has actively worked to raise the profile of the section both within CPA and to students on campuses across the country. This year, the Section has developed a Student Survival Kit, which will be given to all student registrants at the Annual Convention as part of their registration package.

Changes to Section for Students Executive Committee

We made a number of changes to the current requirements for Section Executive Committee membership, including decreasing the term of service from 2 years to 1 year (with the option to renew) and adding a "Past Chair" position. We hope that these changes will allow for more student involvement in the Section Executive but also provide some consistency from year to year. The new Chair for the Section is Rejeanne Dupuis (York University) and the Chair-Elect is Mike Coons (University of Regina).

Web Site Maintenance and Upgrades

Our Secretary/Treasurer (Sunjeev Prakash) worked together with Ivan Parisien to ensure that our Section for Students web site remained current and up to date (<http://www.cpa.ca/Students.htm>)

Christine Chambers, Acting Chair