

Guidelines for Canadian Association for Food Studies (CAFS) Working Groups Adopted November 26, 2019

CAFS is a network of scholars and practitioners committed to critical scholarship in the broad area of food and society, including food systems and food cultures, across many academic disciplines. As part of its mission, CAFS seeks to increase collaboration and communication among scholars working in a wide range of food systems and cultures, and related subfields. In order to support this collaboration, CAFS invites its members to propose Working Groups focused on a particular topic within the broad breadth of food studies scholarship. These guidelines define the parameters for establishing Working Groups.

Purpose

The purpose of a Working Group is to facilitate increased collaboration and communication among scholars and practitioners in a specific field of study or field of practice that falls under the CAFS umbrella (food studies, broadly construed). CAFS is particularly supportive of Working Groups that are interdisciplinary, that focus on emerging or neglected areas of study, and that encourage interactions among academics, practitioners, and communities. The activities of Working Groups can include, but are not limited to: maintaining a listserv to share information among members; organizing sessions or panels at the annual CAFS assembly; coordinating special editions of Canadian Food Studies or another scholarly journal; organizing webinars or other opportunities for sharing research.

Organization

Working Groups will typically be organized as informal networks of scholars and practitioners, and will be self-directed. Each Working Group should have at least one person identified as a lead organizer, who must be a CAFS member. Other Working Group participants are encouraged to become CAFS members. Once per year, the Working Group organizer shall provide the CAFS Board of Directors with a brief report of the Working Group's activities over the previous twelve months.

Establishing a Working Group

CAFS members who wish to organize a Working Group shall present a written proposal to the CAFS board of directors. The proposal should define the Working Group's general field of interest, how a Working Group will enhance activity in the area, identify one or more Working Group organizers, and describe the Working Group's anticipated activities and initiatives. The proposal should be no longer than two pages.

CAFS support

CAFS may provide in-kind support to Working Groups such as: space in the CAFS newsletter, access to the CAFS membership list (upon written request with detailed rationale and subject to Board approval), or letters of support for research grants, upon written request. CAFS is unable to provide financial support to Working Groups.