

L'Association
canadienne des études
sur l'alimentation



Canadian
Association for
Food Studies

Minutes from the 2024 AGM

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Agenda

CAFS / ACÉA AGM

Thursday June 27, 2024, 2:00Pm – 3:30PM

Online via Zoom

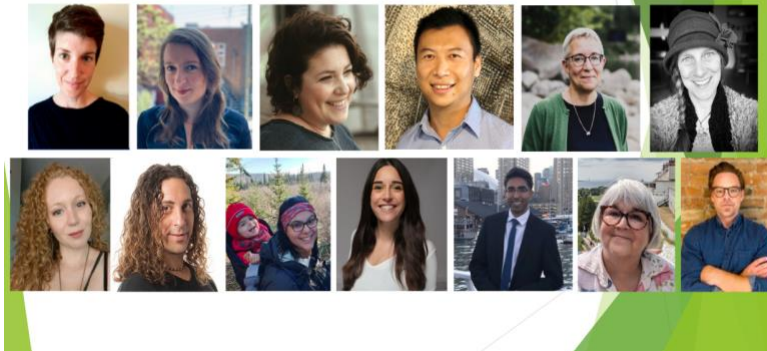
1. Land Acknowledgment
2. Welcome and overview
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Approval of 2023 minutes
5. Reports
 - a) Board's Report
 - b) Treasurer's report
 - c) Conference coordinator's report
 - d) Canadian Food Studies Editorial Collective Report
 - e) Communications Report
 - f) School Food Working Group report
 - g) Ad Hoc committee on Palestine and the Right to Food
6. Strategic Planning Working Group
7. Ratification of bank account signing authority
8. Ratification of the new CAFS Board
9. Discussion – Conference Planning with Care
10. Adjournment of the AGM

Formal Presentation

CAFS AGM 2024

Thursday June 27, 2:00 – 3:30pm

Welcome



Agenda

2:00 - 2:10 Welcome and Land Acknowledgment (Michael Classens)

In attendance: Michael Classens, Erki Chevier, Zsofia Medly-Zambo, Julie Robertson, Stephanie Chartrand, Jodi Koberinski, [Jenelle Regnier-Davies](#), Tracy Everitt, Irena Knezevic, Diana Chu, Michelle Ryan, Zhenhong Si, Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa, Sarah Rotz, Andrea Moraes, Rechel Engler-Stringer, Caitlin Scott, Diana Nadar, Amanda Shankland, Kristen Lowitt, Mustafa Koc, Lori Stahlbrand, Charles Levkoe, Emma Somerville, Jenifer Mitsche, Danya Nadar, Becky Ellis

2:10 - 2:15 Overview and approval of agenda (Michael Classens)

2:15 - 2:20 Approval of 2023 minutes (Michael Classens)

Reports

2:20-2:25 Board's report (Zsofia Mendly-Zambo)

2:25-2:30 Treasurer's report (Zhenzhong Si)

2:30-2:35 Conference coordinator's report (Jodi Koberinski)

2:35-2:45 Canadian Food Studies Editorial Collective report (Charles Levkoe)

2:45-2:50 Communications report (Michelle Ryan)

2:50-2:55 School Food Working Group report (Rachel Engler-Stringer)

2:55-3:00 Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine and the Right to Food (Sarah Rotz)

3:00-3:05 Strategic Planning Working Group (Erik Chevier)

3:05-3:10 Ratification of bank account signing authority (Michael Classens)

3:10-3:15	Ratification of the new CAFS Board (Jenelle Regnier-Davies)
3:15-3:30	Discussion - Conference Planning With Care (Jenelle Regnier-Davies, Julie Robertson, Jodi Koberinski)
3:00	Adjournment of the AGM (Michael Classens)

Agenda for the 2024 AGM approved without objection

Minutes for 2023 AGM approved without objection

Board Report Zsafia Mendly-Zambo:

- The Board has faced Interpersonal and communication challenges in the beginning of the 2023 / 2024 year.
- Board formed an ad hoc committee on Palestine and the Right to Food.
- Successfully delivered a student-focused Food Forum in Montreal despite planning challenges
- Expanded the board with new members, bringing additional energy and insight.
- The board will operate under a new non-hierarchical structure sharing the workload and responsibility
- The board was confronted with the aftermath of October 7th which led to the forming of the ad hoc committee Palestine working group now the weaponization of food in war.
- January 2024 the board was expanded with 12 new members.
- The ability to plan a full-scale conference with Congress was not attainable with a new board made up of primarily new people and the vast majority are graduate students and sessional lecturers. The decision to move to a student focused small symposium was supported by all board members.

Treasurer's Report Zhenhong Si

CAFS Treasurer's Report - May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024

Opening balance May 1, 2023		Expenditures	
	32879.03		
Revenue		Conference stipend	17360.08
		Federation membership	1989.06
		Government filing fee	0
Membership fees	3844.34	Admin stipend	4625
Conference (2023)	1427.98	Newsletter stipend	200
Pre-conference (2023)	190.16	Social media manager	2875
Donation	0	Insurance	558.22
Remittance from Federation	18378.69	Bank fees	100.25
Other	1.5	Others	3244.54
Total Revenue	23842.67	Total Expenditures	30952.15
		Net expenditures over revenue	7109.48
		Closing balance April 30, 2024	25769.55

Zhenhong became treasurer in January 2024. Last treasurer Danny kept records current until August 2023. An error in the spreadsheet was correct and the spreadsheet has been reconciled with the bank records.

Revenue as of May 1 2023 opening balance was \$32,879. with total revenue in the amount of \$23,842. A large proportion of the revenue is from the Federation , membership fees and revenue from the 2023 conference.

Expenditures for the same period are \$30,000 which highlights a deficit of \$7,000. Closing balance is \$25,769.

The Journal received fees from publishing and a total expenditure of \$2,9555 including administration, translation, copy editing and the cost to join Learned Journals.

Net expenditures over revenue resulted in a deficit of \$2,374.

There is approximately \$7,000 in the PaPal account to be transferred to the main bank account.

Jodi Koberinski noted that there may be outstanding invoices from the June 2024 conference in the amount of approximately \$2,000. or less.

[Michael Classens](#) to review accounts with the bank as there are charges for each E-transfer which should be waived due to the type of account the association has.

Rebecca Schiff had signing authority at the bank although she believes she resolved herself of that years ago as she has not been an active member for more than a decade. Rebecca has been to the branch in her community and removed herself from the account.

[Michael Classens](#) is to become the signing officer on the account by a unanimous vote of all members on the Zoom remote meeting call Thursday June 27, 2024.

Conference Report Jodi Koberinski



2023 CONFERENCE REPORT

best-attended CAFS conference to date — more than 200 registrants
46 sessions (7 hybrid) — 3 plenaries — 3 garden tours
110 presentations/workshops/roundtables
140 presenters — 60 non-presenting attendees
16+ people directly involved in planning
Pre-Conference: 45 attendees
Exploration Gallery: 25 installations



2024 CONFERENCE REPORT

First Ever Student Symposium

- In partnership with Concordia Food Coalition's DevOur Conference
- Early career scholars' development
- PIVOT!
- Presentations on food communications
- Support for Palestinian Boycott: Food and Power discussion

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 20+ attendees
- 7 Mentors

The Association did not have the capacity to host a full conference for 2024 in light of the changes of members on the board. The Congress Conference was held at McGill in

June 2024 the Conference planning committee took steps to hold a conference that was a smaller student focused event.

Jodi, Sophia, Ronaldo, Julie & Stephanie worked with the DevOur Conference coordinators at Concordia to pivot in support of the Palestinian Boycott: Food and Power Discussion.

The symposium was attended by 22 students from as far away as Victoria. and 7 mentors

Next Steps



2024 CONFERENCE REPORT

NEXT STEPS:

- Review the 2023 feedback!
- Form the 2025 Conference Committee (and have some fun!)

OPTIONS FOR 2025 discussion

OPTION 1: Full Conference at Congress

OPTION 2: Full Conference Elsewhere

OPTION 3: The Student Symposium we Planned but Didn't Do

OPTION 4: Regional Conferences



The journal is Open Access which the organization runs and publishes

The journal is open to suggestions about special issues or topics that the members would like to have published.

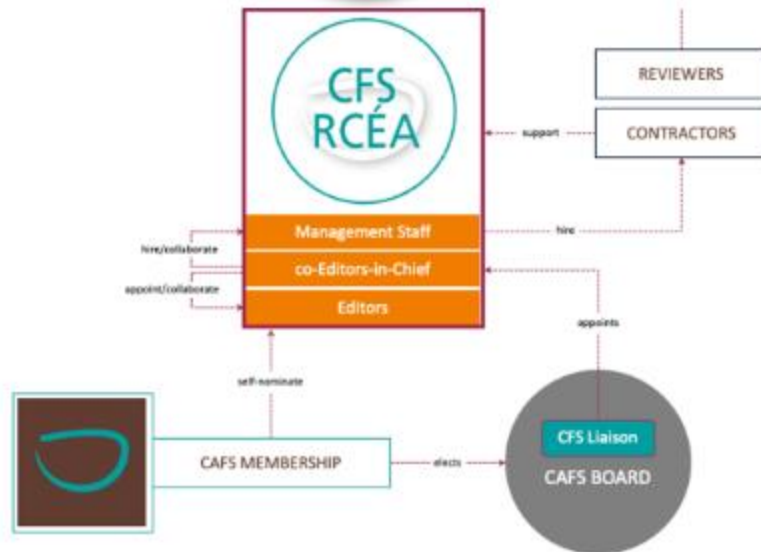
This the 10th anniversary with the first journal published in 2014.

There are three editor in chiefs and a core managing staff that are preparing the commentary for the next issue. There will be an overview - retrospective of where we have been, what we are doing and where we are going.

There have been 3 issues published each year. The current issue is Introducing Meat Studies. The organization of the journal, how it operates and functions are noted in the graphic below.

David Santos was editor, co-editor in chief from June 2022 - March 2024 and has stepped down and Joanna Wilkes was the CAFS liaison and this role has been filled by Eric Chevrier.

New members at the journal are: Eric Chevrier, Alexia, Lawrence Godden, Sasha Gora, Rachel



CAFS now manages the budget for the journal which was previously held at Lakehead with a SSHRC grant which was extended to 2024 due to COVID.

SSHRC has suspended its aid to scholarly publication to revise open access policies. this will benefit CAFS as we are an open access journal.

The Canadian Association of Food Studies is committed to supporting the Journal with surplus funds when available.

Communications Report: Michelle Ryan

June 21, 2024 Statistics:

- Mastodon: 244 followers up from 241 in May 2024
- IG 731 accounts reached in the past 90 days , 281 accounts reached May 22nd
- LinkedIn 831 post views in the last 30 days . Post view 754 May 22nd
- Facebook , CFS posts reach 79 in the past month , 95 May 22nd
- Facebook, CAFS post reach was 278 in the past month , 214 May 22nd

Number of views increases after an issue of the journal is launched.

In June 2023 we switched from Google Analytics to G4 analytic software. We do not have 6 months of data due to the switch. An additional 5 weeks of data was missing and an average was used to calculate the number of readers per week.

The newsletter is no longer an attachment which makes it easier to send via listservs and easier to track readership.

Over the past years CAFS has been involved in activism: Ad hoc Committee on Palestine and the Right to Food and the support of the boycott deeply resonated on social media. This provides an opportunity to introduce food activism to people who might not necessarily be active themselves or might not see that as a venue for activism.

We track metrics specific to each article. Authors are asked to include their social media handles and those of their institutions to enable better tracking. Articles where the author included social media handles had 3 that made the top 50 pages for the month they were published

School Food Working Group Report. :Rachel Engler-Stringer

- The group is co-led by Amberly Ruetz and Racell Engler-Stringer
- There are 100+ members who are faculty , students and partner organizations.
- use Listserv for communication
- Contributed to Global School Meals Coalition report on Canada with Amberley Ruetz as lead
- National School food Program announced by the federal government in April.
- Policy released mid June, members will be asked to be involved in an associated research plan.
- There is a hope that the rollout is evidence based. The group is trying to put together a research framework around the rollout.
- There ia great deal of work needed for the program. If there are interested parties they should contact Rachel Engler-Stringer

Ad hoc Committee on Palestine and the Right to Food Sarah Rotz

- The Canadian Association for Food Studies Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine and the Right to Food was established January 2024 with approximately 12 active members.
- Host two sessions to date
 - Panel on Food, Empire and Colonialism: From Palestine to Turtle Island
 - Film screening and discussion of the file “ Aisha’s Story”
- Currently developing an article out of the forest panel discussion for publication in the CAFS Journal.

Strategic Planning: Erik Chevier, Abra, [Julie Robertson](#)

Actively soliciting members to join the planning committee

- Goal to develop a strategic plan by July 2025
- The plans should have 1 year, 3 year, 5 year and 10 year plan

Strategic planning committee

- Develop a transparent process of strategic planning
- Implement strategic planning process

- Review results of strategic plan
- Share with CAFS embers (draft via email)
- Share final plan with CAFS members at AGM June 2025
- Members interested in contributing email professor@erikchevrier.ca

Ratification of Bank Account Signing Authority

1. Be it resolved that Rebecca Schiif will be removed as the signing authority on the CAFS bank account.
2. Be it further resolved that Michael classens will be instated as the signing authority on the CAFS bank account
 - There has a been a great deal of time since Rebacca was associated with CAFS
 - She has attended the branch in her location and removed herself as signing officer of the account.

Michael Classens is nominated as the signing officer for the CAFS bank account.

No objections to the removal of Rebbeca Schiff .

No objections to Michael Classens moving forward as the signing authority on the CAFS bank account

Discussion : Conference planning with Care: Janelle Regneir - Davies, Julie Robertson, Jodi Koberinski

- Planning the 2024 conference was challenging and many of the people on the committee were new board members in January 2024.
- There was tension between the Federation and the conference Planning committee.
- There is a call for members to join the Planning committee for the 2025 conference.
- Congress is at George Brown in 2025. They have a new program and it is exciting to have them host. However, planning is strenuous with previous committee members spending more than 1,000 hours. This may not be attainable going forward.
- Options are to plan a conference at the same time as Congress but not aligned with Federation which could be less expensive but labour intensive
- CAFS could also host regional meetings across the country much like the Association of Geographer regional conferences with a full gathering every two or three years.
- These are conversations and decisions we need to make before the end of August to prepare for the following year.
- CAFS conferences are usually 2 to 3 days with panel discussion, and different sessions. There are times when we have been able to add tours of interest.

Ratification of New Board Proposed CAFS Board 2024 - 2025

Ratification of New Board Proposed CAFS Board 2024-2025

Administrator: Michelle Ryan
Zsofia Mendly-Zambo
Jenelle Regnier-Davies
Zhenzhong Si
Abra Brynne
Jodi Koberinski
Stephanie Chartrand
Erik Chevrier
Sara Deris Crouthers
Jade Crimson Rose Da Costa
Aqeel Ihsan
Julie Robertson

New members:
Alexa Ferdinands
Tiloux Soundja
Alissa Overend
Danya Nadar
Emma Somerville
Diana Chu
Rebecca Ellis

Returning members:
Mustafa Koc
Vanessa Daether
Jennifer Sumner



No objections to the board and the new board members

Motion to adjourn was supported by all.