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71st CSM – SCM Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 17, 2021

Time: 3:00 –4:00 PM ET

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/92978675060?pwd=Wfk3VkdSf3lHcFpGbUZsMjIHZlRjQ09>

Meeting ID: 929 7867 5060

Passcode: 244359

Agenda

1. Welcome – Ayush Kumar
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes from 70th Annual General Meeting, June 25, 2020 via Zoom
4. Matters arising from 70th Annual General Meeting minutes
5. President's Report – Ayush Kumar
 - a) EDI Report
6. 1st Vice President Report – Alex Ensminger
7. 2nd Vice President Report – Pascale Beauregard
8. Past President Report – Janet Hill
9. Secretary Treasurer's report – Mazen Saleh
 - a) 2020 - 2021 Budget
Motion to approved 2020 – 2021 presented budget
 - b) 2020 Audited Financial Statement
Motion to accept the 2020 Audited Financial Statement prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole
 - c) Approval of current and future signing officers
Motion to approve current and future signing officers
 - d) Membership Report
 - e) CSM Website Report

10. Meetings' Secretary's Report – Chris Yost
11. Meetings Conferences and Workshops
 - a) Report on 2021 conference – Chris Yost
 - b) Report on 2022 conference – Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield
 - c) Future Conferences & Workshops – Tanaka Takuji
12. Post Doctoral representative's report – Vacant
13. Student representative's report – Olivia Ihedioha
14. New Members of the Executive & Council – Ayush Kumar
15. Reports from the sections
 - a) *Applied Environmental Microbiology* – Laura Hug & Eric Bottos
 - b) *Infections and Immunity* – Georgina Cox & Joel Weadge
 - c) *Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology* – Alex Hynes & Jenny Lee Thomassin
16. Reports from committees
 - a) Education and Careers Committee – Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez
 - b) FOME – Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin
 - c) Awards Report
 - i. *CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement* – Silvia Cardona
 - ii. *Fisher Scientific Award* – Janet Hill
 - iii. *Armand Frappier Award* – Kari Dunfield
17. Reports from representatives to outside organizations
 - a) *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* – Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield
 - b) *International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses* – Andrew Lang
 - c) *Biological & Chemical Defence Review* – Jon van Hamme
 - d) *ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada* - Christine Szymanski
 - i. *ASM Young Ambassador to Canada* – Vacant
 - f) *Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE* – Thienny Mah



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CSM – SCM 70th Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday, June 25th, 2020

Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98898264399?pwd=ZnZyVXI0UktRRnF3eW50Q1dnZmJXdz09>

Google Drive Participants Sign List:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fIQ7n1SfE9_6jDAKd2HhvixfzLMVicf0/view?usp=sharing

Time: 3:00 PM –4:30 PM ET

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions & Welcome – Janet Hill
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of minutes from Université de Sherbrooke 69th Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, June 12th, 2019
4. Matters arising from 69th Annual General Meeting minutes
5. President's Report – Janet Hill
 - a. Bylaws Amendments
6. 1st Vice President Report – Ayush Kumar
7. 2nd Vice President Report – Alex Ensminger
 - a. CSM Website – upgrade
8. Past President Report – Marie Elliot
9. Secretary Treasurer's report – Mohan Babu
 - a) 2019 - 2020 Budget
Motion to approve the 2019 – 2020 presented budget
 - b) 2019 Audited Financial Statement
Motion to accept the Audited Financial statement prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole.
 - c) Approval of current and future signing officers
Motion to approve current and future signing officers

- d) Membership Report
 - e) CSM Website Report
10. Meetings' Secretary's Report – Chris Yost
 11. Meetings Conferences and Workshops
 - a) Report on 2019 conference – Vincent Burrus and Louis-Charles Fortier
 - b) Report on 2020 / 2021 conference – Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield
 - c) Future Conferences & Workshops – Tanaka Takuji
 12. Post Doctoral representative's report – Stephanie Jones
 13. Student representative's report – Olivia Ihedioha
 14. New Members of the Executive & Council – Janet Hill
 15. Reports from the sections
 - a) *Applied Environmental Microbiology* – Steven Short & Laura Hug
 - b) *Infections and Immunity* – Sebastien Faucher and Georgina Cox
 - c) *Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology* – Tracy Raivio & Alex Hynes
 16. Reports from committees
 - a) Education and Careers Committee –Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez
 - b) FOME – Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin
 - c) Awards Report
 - i. *CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement* – Sylvain Moineau
 - ii. *Fisher Scientific Award* – Marie Elliott
 - iii. *Armand Frappier Award* – Kapil Tahlan
 17. Reports from representatives to outside organizations
 - a) *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* – Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield
 - b) *International Union of Microbiological Societies* – Virology – Rodney Russell
 - c) *International Union of Microbiological Societies* – Mycology - Jennifer Geddes-McAlister
 - d) *International Union of Microbiological Societies* – Bacteriology – Charles Dozois
 - e) *International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses* – Andrew Lang
 - f) *Biological & Chemical Defence Review* – Jon van Hamme
 - g) *ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada* - Christine Szymanski
 - h) *ASM Young Ambassador to Canada* – Thomas Finn
 - i) *Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE* – Thienny Mah

Minutes

Participants:

Ausama Yousif , Alexander Hynes , Ayush Kumar , Kartik Sachar, Chris Yost, Susan Koval , Mazen Saleh, J. Daniel Dubreuil, Andrew Lang, Yannick Tremblay, Jenny-Lee Thomass, Meghan Pepler, Joe Rubin , Edel Lopez Pérez, Moïra Dion, Kapil Tahlan , Charles Dozois , Dawn Bignell , France Daigle, Lisa Johnson, Trevor Charles, Jean-Philippe Côté, Matthew Bakker , Janice Strap , Maria Davis, Laura Hug, Marie Elliot, Wade Abbott, Lori Burrows, Georgina Cox, George diCenzo, Nikhil George, Steven Short, Emilie Spasov, Cezar Khursigara, Louise Nelson, Sylvain Moineau, Michael Hynes, Alex Ensminger, Trevor Charles, Hany Anany, Jackson Tsuji, Pascale B Beauregard, Wafaa Antonious, Mohan Babu, Janet Hill (67 attended.)

1. Introductions & Welcome – Janet Hill

Janet Hill, CSM President welcomed the attendees of the CSM 70th AGM and introduced members of the CSM Executive Committee. She then stated some of the house keeping rules for the virtual Zoom meeting that will be followed.

2. Approval of Agenda

JH suggested an amendment to the agenda, after item #4 the Undergrad & Ambassador awards winners will be presented to the membership, and adding “Other Business” at the end of the meeting for the hat ceremony.

Motion: Ayush made a motion to approve the 70th AGM agenda, Charles Dozois seconded the motion, a poll was launched for voting, results were shared, all in favour, agenda approved.

3. Approval of minutes from Université de Sherbrooke 69th Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, June 12th, 2019

Motion: Marie Elliot made a motion to approve the Université de Sherbrooke 69th Annual General Meeting minutes, Wednesday, June 12th, 2019, Andrew Lang seconded the motion, a poll was launched for voting, results were shared, all in favour, minutes approved.

4. Matters arising from 69th Annual General Meeting minutes

Janet stated that there were no matters arising from the 69th AGM minutes.

5. President’s Report – Janet Hill

Janet: the awards are an important part of CSM activities, we had the Murray Award lecture today. I would like to ask the Education Committee Co-Chairs to announce the Ambassador and Undergrad awards recipients. Dawn gave summarized information about the Ambassador award then congratulated Moira Dion, Laval University and Nikhil George, University of Waterloo as CSM 2020 Ambassador Award recipients.

Denice provided information about the Undergrad Award and then congratulated the five undergraduate award winners.

Janet: I have submitted a written report and encourage you to read it.

a. IUMS Membership

Janet reported that CSM Executive made a decision not to pay the 2020 IUMS membership. That decision was taken due to the fact that several attempts were made from CSM asking IUMS to identify the benefits of being a member and no responses were received, but they managed to send us the invoice for the membership and reminders to pay it.

b. Bylaws Amendments

Janet: the bylaws are supposed to reflect current practices. The CSM executive reviewed the bylaws this year and have several amendments to recommend. Janet stated that the full CSM bylaws are included in the package but only the highlighted text reflected the amendments recommended by CSM Executive Committee and members of the council who approved the amendments on Monday, June 22, 2020. She explained that only certain sections that had inconsistency or do not reflect current practices were being amended. She then went through the proposed amendments to the bylaws. She stated that most of the changes were applied in section 4. There was inconsistency in the bylaws regarding the duration of the term of the Post Doctoral and Student representatives, it was stated in some sections that it was two years and other sections that it was a three year term, so we made the change to make the term open for nominations every two years for both positions. Then she pointed to section 5.2, the confusion she noticed when going through the bylaws was about elected and non-elected committees, under non-elected Statutory Committee, The Award Committee name has been updated to

the Murray Award committee which we have been using for some years now, the members of the committee lately have been appointed members rather than elected. 5.2.1.2 that is related to the FOME Committee, it has been moved to under non-elected committees, it has been a committee that new members were invited to join and not elected, that had been the case since it was created in 2015. 5.2.1.3, the statement about ad hoc committees is the same, it was just moved from one section to another. 5.3.1.1 there is a correction to the name of the Education Committee, 5.3.1.2 is mainly a numbering change for the Committee on Meetings, Conferences and Workshops. She then confirmed that there were no further changes beyond the above stated.

Motion: Charles Dozois made a motion to approve the recommended amendments to the bylaws, Lori Burrows seconded the motion, a poll was launched for voting, results were shared, 92% approval, motion carried.

Michael Hynes, asked why the decision was made regarding the Murray Award Committee changing it from an elected to a non-elected committee. He questioned if the members would be comfortable with the change of the committee status from being an elected to a non-elected committee. Chris Yost said this started when Ivan was President. Chris: I would prefer that we concentrate our energy to get the election for executive positions. Susan Koval: this is a good reason for examining the bylaws regularly. Janet Hill: we started to make sure we have an equitable representation on the committee and that is why we found appointment would ensure equity within the award committee.

6. 1st Vice President Report – Ayush Kumar

Ayush said that we needed to address issues about equity, he requested from the members to communicate with him via email about any EDI related concerns.

7. 2nd Vice President Report – Alex Ensminger

a. CSM Website – upgrade

Alex: you can read what I wrote. We would like to update the website and would like to get your feedback regarding what is going well with the website and what is not good or needs to be improved.

8. Past President Report – Marie Elliot

Marie thanked various members of the Executive committee, she offered her services whenever called upon in the future.

9. Secretary Treasurer's report – Mohan Babu

a) 2019 - 2020 Budget

Mohan: this is my last Secretary / Treasurer report. Mazen Saleh will be taking over. He stated that he would go through the estimated numbers for 2020 till end of year and comparing it with 2019 audited numbers. We have a healthy supporting membership, that is reflected in the membership revenue which is over \$34,000 in spite the cancellation of the conference mid March 2020. He then went through the various highlighted numbers. He also highlighted the Award expenses given in 2020. We are projecting \$53,000 in expenses for 2020 compared to \$229,237 in 2019 with the conference expenses. He then went through the various notes for the budget. He stated that the estimated deficit was \$11,053 for 2020. Janet asked if there were any questions. None were raised.

Motion: Mazen Saleh made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 presented budget, Marie Elliot seconded the motion, a poll was launched for voting, results were shared, 96% in favour, motion carried.

b) 2019 Audited Financial Statement

Mohan Babu presented the audited financial statement's various reports and highlighted numbers. Mohan: I wanted to make a note that CSM was able to move forward and is in a good healthy position, this is mainly because of the dedicated membership which is growing and is a very good sign of its support to the society. Janet asked if there were any questions, emphasized that CSM was doing well financially.

Motion: Lori Burrows made a motion to accept the 2019 Audited Financial statement prepared by Ms. Andrea Poole, Mazen Saleh seconded the motion, poll was launched for voting, results were shared, all in favour, motion approved.

c) Approval of current and future signing officers

Mohan explained that Mazen Saleh and Pascale will become signing officers, he then listed the current signing officers, Marie will move out of the list as her past president term ends. Mohan then requested a motion to approve new and current signing officers.

Motion: Steven Short made a motion to approve current and future signing officers, Mazen Saleh seconded the motion, a poll was launched for voting, results were shared, all in favour, motion approved.

Janet thanked Mohan for serving on the Executive Committee as the Secretary / Treasurer for six years. She welcomed Mazen Saleh whose term would start with the new board after the end of the AGM.

d) Membership Report

Mohan Babu then presented the highlighted numbers in the membership report. Janet asked if there were any questions. Michael Hynes asked about the 2 years plan. Janet said that she would send an email appealing to those who had not renewed their membership reminding them of the benefits of being a member and encouraging them to renew their membership. Alex Hynes asked if the abstract submission form would be revised to address EDI.

e) CSM Website Report

Mohan stated that the website reports were included in the AGM package to provide several statistics related to the website traffic, visits, devices used to access it and browsers. He encouraged them to look at the various website reports.

10. Meetings' Secretary's Report – Chris Yost

Chris Yost: the virtual award lectures went very well. Moving forward we should think about how to move toward hybrid conferences. This might cause extra expenses for the LOC but it will help CSM to increase its visibility. He thanked Ayush for helping him with setting up the YouTube channel. The YouTube link will be posted on the CSM website, an email will be sent to the membership when it is available and posted on social media.

11. Meetings Conferences and Workshops

a) Report on 2019 conference – Vincent Burrus and Louis-Charles Fortier

Janet asked Vincent and Pascale if they had anything to add to the report or highlight it, they said there was nothing to add to the report.

b) Report on 2020 / 2021 conference – Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield

Cezar said that everything was going well, U of Guelph LOC were looking forward to hosting the CSM Conference in 2021. Lori Burrows suggested sending save the date so that people can put it on their calendar. Michael Hynes said that the Canadian Neurology will be in Guelph and asked if we could coordinate with them. Cezar said time was tight, it would be hard to change the conference dates because of the facilities that are needed for the conference, he added that June was a popular month for conferences.

c) Future Conferences & Workshops – Tanaka Takuji

Janet listed future CSM conferences' locations and years as per the report submitted by Tanaka.

12. Post Doctoral representative's report – Stephanie Jones

Stephanie Jones encouraged the participants to send her content to post on Facebook.

13. Student representative's report – Olivia Ihedioha

Janet stated that Olivia was not attending, but she encouraged the participants to read her report.

14. New Members of the Executive & Council – Janet Hill

Janet introduced Pascale who was a Co-chair from CSM USherbrook 2019 Conference and will join the CSM Executive Committee as 2nd Vice President. She welcomed Mazen Saleh as the new Secretary/Treasurer. She welcomed the three Sections Vice Chairs, Joel Weadge (II), Jenny-Lee Thomassin (MGCM), Eric Botos (AEM) and Edel Lopez-Perez who will join the Education and Careers Committee as Co-Chair.

15. Reports from the sections

Janet asked the 3 Sections if they had anything to add to their report.

a) *Applied Environmental Microbiology* – Steven Short & Laura Hug

Steven stated that they did not receive any abstracts to review.

b) *Infections and Immunity* – Sebastien Faucher and Georgina Cox

Sebastien and Georgina did not have anything to add.

c) *Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology* – Tracy Raivio & Alex Hynes

Alex & Tracy did not have anything to add.

16. Reports from committees

a) Education and Careers Committee –Denice Bay & Dawn Bignell, Edel Lopez

Janet asked them if there was anything to highlight from the report or add. They stated that was nothing to add.

b) FOME (Change it) – Maria Davis & Joseph Rubin

The committee is growing, we did the first FOME physically distanced edition. It is one of several we are planning. Janet congratulated them on the virtual session, she heard some good feedback about it. And it is a proof that we can do things virtually.

c) Awards Report

Janet congratulated those who were chosen and those who were nominated but not selected.

Encouraged the participants to nominate their colleagues, as people don't win awards if they do not get nominated.

i. *CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement* – Sylvain Moineau

Sylvain: nothing to add and congratulated Lori on a great talk.

ii. *Fisher Scientific Award* – Marie Eliot

Marie stated that she did not have anything to add to the report.

iii. *Armand Frappier Award* – Kapil Tahlan

Nothing to add to the report.

17. Reports from representatives to outside organizations

Janet asked the various committee members if they had anything to highlight or add to their report. They all responded that they did not have anything to add to their report.

- a) *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* – Chris Yost & Kari Dunfield
- b) *International Union of Microbiological Societies – Virology* – Rodney Russell
- c) *International Union of Microbiological Societies – Mycology* - Jennifer Geddes-McAlister
- d) *International Union of Microbiological Societies – Bacteriology* – Charles Dozois
- e) *International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses* – Andrew Lang
- f) *Biological & Chemical Defence Review* – Jon van Hamme
- g) *ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada* - Christine Szymanski
- h) *ASM Young Ambassador to Canada* – Thomas Finn
- i) *Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE* – Thienny Mah

Meeting adjourned.

5. President's Report – Ayush Kumar

My tenure as the President of our Society has truly been unprecedented. Many of us have suffered personal losses and difficulties. In these challenging times, science has come through for humanity. A year ago, when I was receiving my CSM President's hat, I could not imagine that we would have vaccines against a new virus in less than a year. While such a rapid development of the vaccines is a testament to innovative and hard work of scientists around the world, the pandemic has also brought to light the health inequities around the world. As scientists, it is our responsibility that we recognize and speak against such inequities.

As we continue to fight against the global pandemic, we are once again unable to meet in person. However, the virtual conference organizing committee, led by Chris Yost, has put together an impressive program nonetheless. The focus of the virtual meeting is to showcase the achievement of early career researchers, post-doctoral fellows and students. This promises to be an exciting meeting. We do, however, hope that we will be able to meet in person for CSM2022 in Guelph and the LOC under the leadership of Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield is already working hard to organize an exciting meeting.

In September 2021, we put out an invitation for CSM members to participate in the CSM-Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion subcommittee. The goal of the EDI subcommittee is to prepare guidelines for the Society and the conference organizing committee to ensure that EDI principles are followed, not only in the general functioning of the CSM, but also in the organization of the society's annual conferences. We received an overwhelming response to the call. The subcommittee was constituted with the participation of Jo-Ann Dillon, Trevor Charles, Arinjay Banerjee, Supriya Bhatt, Yanna Altshuler, Ellen Sykes, and myself. The subcommittee has prepared an EDI statement emphasizing the CSM's commitment to EDI and has prepared a set of recommendations for the CSM and the LOCs. We are always happy to hear from our members regarding how the Society can help provide you support in your research.

CSM continues to support students and member-organized events. Even though there were not very many such events this past year, we were able to provide sponsorship to a symposium organized by the group Black in Microbiology.

Although we are not meeting in person this year, we are still able to recognize the excellence in microbiology through CSM's flagship awards. Many congratulations to Turlough Finan (CSM Murray Award winner), César de la Fuente (Thermo Fisher Scientific Award winner), Kali Iyer (Armand-Frappier Outstanding Student Award winner) and Melissa Phuong (CSM Burrows Award winner for Womxn in Microbiology).

This past year, we also worked towards enhancing our social media presence. We started a YouTube series called "Meet the Microbiologist" where we post short interviews of our members. Thank you, Edel Perez Lopez, for conducting the interviews. You can watch interviews of our award winners from this year on the CSM YouTube channel.

The global pandemic has resulted in considerable financial constraints on scientific societies around the world. However, I am happy to report that the CSM has stayed financially strong, primarily due to the support from you all. Please continue to support our Society.

I cannot finish this report without acknowledging the tremendous support I have received in the past year from the members of the Executives. Special thanks to Wafaa Antonious for her ever-continuing commitment to the Society. I am indebted to Janel Hill, who finishes her term on the Executive Committee this year, for her support and guidance. We welcome Kari Dunfield as the incoming 2nd Vice-President. I look forward to working under the leadership of Alex Ensminger this coming year.

With members such as you, I am confident that our CSM will continue to shine!

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the President of the CSM.

Ayush Kumar, PhD
Professor, University of Manitoba

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation.

a) Report by CSM-SCM Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) subcommittee

An ad-hoc CSM-SCM EDI subcommittee was constituted in 2021 to provide guidelines to the CSM executives to facilitate the principles of the EDI in the functioning of the Society.

Terms of References

Purpose

To provide recommendations to the CSM executives on process and actions required to identify and eliminate obstacles to inequities facing the members of the Society and to advance the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Mandate

- Develop a statement outlining the Society's commitment to EDI principles
- Develop guidelines for the Local Organizing Committee of the Annual General Meeting to include the principles of EDI in the conference program

Membership

Ianina Altshuler, McGill University
Arinjay Banerjee, VIDO, University of Saskatchewan
Supriya Bhat, University of Regina
Trevor Charles, University of Waterloo
Jo-Anne Dillon, University of Saskatchewan
Ayush Kumar, University of Manitoba
Ellen Sykes, University of Manitoba

Timeline

It is expected the sub-committee will meet monthly. Recommendations will be submitted in May 2021 to the CSM Executive Committee. Recommendations will be presented at the Annual General Meeting in June 2021.

The following EDI statement and the list of recommendations were prepared by the CSM-SCM EDI subcommittee.

CSM-SCM EDI Statement

“The Canadian Society of Microbiologists (CSM) recognizes and promotes Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) in all of its activities including but not limited to membership, leadership, annual conference representation, and mentoring. We acknowledge the historical and ongoing intersectional discrimination of marginalized peoples in Canadian society, and within science in particular. In all our activities we will strive to promote and maintain a sense of welcoming and belonging for Indigenous Peoples, women, persons with disabilities, racialized people, 2SLGBTQ+ members, and other under-represented and marginalized groups. Our goal is to take actionable steps to provide a supportive, respectful, and welcoming environment thereby enhancing our collective scientific curiosity, endeavour, and spirit.”

"La Société Canadienne des microbiologistes (SCM) reconnaît et fait la promotion de l'équité, de la diversité et de l'inclusion (EDI) dans toutes ses activités incluant, mais non limitées à, l'abonnement, le leadership, les conférences annuelles et le mentorat. Nous reconnaissons la discrimination intersectionnelle historique et continue des personnes marginalisées dans la société canadienne, et principalement dans le domaine scientifique. Dans toutes nos activités, nous nous efforcerons de promouvoir et maintenir un sentiment d'accueil et d'appartenance pour les peuples autochtones, les femmes, les personnes en situation d'handicap, les

personnes racisées, les membres de la communauté 2SLGBTQ+ et tous autres groupes sous-représentés et marginalisés. Notre objectif est de prendre des actions tangibles pour offrir un environnement favorable, respectueux et accueillant pour renforcer notre curiosité, notre effort et notre esprit scientifiques collectifs."

Recommendations:

For the CSM

- Establishment of a standing EDI sub-committee chaired by as member of the executive,
- Collect data on membership,
- Establishment of travel grants for Indigenous Peoples, women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, and members of 2SLGBTQ2+ communities, and other under-represented groups to attend the annual CSM meeting.

For the LOC

- Consider EDI principles in the composition of LOC,
- Liaison with the CSM-EDI subcommittee to promote EDI at the conference,
- Follow EDI principles while inviting keynote speakers as well as section talks
- Gather and share metadata on conference attendees, presenters, award winners, and keynote speakers,
- Work with the CSM-EDI subcommittee to organize EDI workshop(s) at the conference. This can be organized as a satellite meeting similar to FOME.

6. 1st Vice President Report – Alex Ensminger

In this report, I want to highlight a few things that I have been part of this past year. First, for over a year I have been tasked with starting a long-overdue process of modernizing and updating our website. Our goals in this have been to better highlight the benefits of membership, improve accessibility, streamline content, and to make it more cost-effective going forward to maintain and update. After extensive consultation with the executive and other members of the council, I am pleased to announce that we have selected a vendor (CryoDragon) and have begun the design stage of the project. I would be delighted to hear your thoughts on our current web presence - please reach out by email. We anticipate the new website will go live in the fall. Some features will be a redesigned membership directory that allows for some content to be restricted to members, streamlined postings for jobs, a reorganized awards page, and a design that better highlights the value of membership in the Society.

A second thing I wanted to highlight was the drafting of a “Formal Submission for Pre-Budget Consultations for the 2021-2022 Federal Budget.” Ayush, Pascale, and I worked on this document under a considerable time constraint in order for it to be submitted alongside our peer societies this spring. I am attaching it for your reference. In writing this document, we focused on one of the main pillars of our Society - supporting our trainees. From awards, to mentorship opportunities, to event support, to the annual conference - the emphasis we place on the next generation of Canadian microbiologists is clear. Often, budgetary discussions fail to recognize the importance that stable, predictable commitments to research funding can play in the recruitment and retention of young scientists and would-be scientists. In our submission, we chose to focus on how the pandemic and funding uncertainties impact this group. We emphasized that these selective pressures are not equally felt and stressed the importance of making sure that today’s struggles do not work against our shared goals of greater representation and diversity within our ranks.

Lastly, I want to begin by thanking Ayush for his steadfast leadership during the past year. Like many incoming presidents before me, I am so appreciative of the organizational structure that we have in place: where 2nd VPs become 1st VPs, then President, and then Past-President. I have enjoyed “coming up through the ranks” and learning from Marie, Janet, and Ayush, Pascale - and the rest of the Executive - these past three years. I look forward to working closely with Kari in her new role as 2nd VP and am thankful for the opportunity to draw upon Ayush’s experience during my term. In short, the team we have in place provides me with significant confidence going into the next year. If our Society can survive and adapt to the challenges of a once in a generation pandemic, surely it can survive a year of me at the helm.



**Formal Submission for the Pre-Budget Consultations for
2021-2022 Federal Budget**

By: The Canadian Society of Microbiologists



The Canadian Society of Microbiologists (CSM) has a membership of more than 700 scientists. While the majority of our members represent universities and research institutions, our members also come from government agencies, as well as the private sector.

The importance of research and innovation in microbiology is greater now than ever as we face the worst pandemic we have seen since early 1900s. Be it the development of vaccines, infection control strategies or development of therapeutics, Canadian microbiologists have made immense contributions to our fight against the pandemic.

One of the key mandates of the CSM is to promote young scientists including undergraduate students, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Showcasing the research accomplishments of young scientists is a hallmark of our Annual Meetings. It is critical that to re-establish Canada's position as the world-leader in scientific research and development, we invest in science and our future. Despite the current Federal Government's commitment to science and research, the proportion of the GDP that Canada spends on research and development has been steadily declining since 2016 ([Research and development \(R&D\) - Gross domestic spending on R&D - OECD Data](#)). As we go through the current pandemic, we do fear that emerging microorganisms such as antibiotic-resistant bacteria or new viral strains will cause similar worldwide problems in a near future. To be prepared for future pandemics, the Canadian Society of Microbiologists urges the Federal Government to implement the recommendations made in the Fundamental Science Review carried out in 2017. Specifically, we are requesting the Federal Government to implement the **following recommendations**:

- 1. Increasing the investment in science and discovery research by 25%**
- 2. Increasing the investment in training of the next generation of scientists at \$35M per year for the next four years.**

COVID-19 has served as a reminder that maintaining a broad, sustainable microbiology research community is critical for Canada's strategic interests. Microbiology research is at the forefront of tackling some of our world's biggest challenges including the current pandemic, antimicrobial resistance, the transition to carbon neutral economies, and responding to the effects of a changing climate. The Canadian Society of Microbiologists stands with our peer societies in calling for sustainable increases to Tri-Council budgets. Given the central role that supporting trainees holds for our Society, we would like to take a moment to describe why the next generation of scientists, advisors, and educators stand to benefit from such an investment given the current situation.

The ongoing pandemic has severely affected our ability to train the next generation of scientists in our laboratories. Under the current circumstances, the capacity of trainees to pursue their research projects is dramatically impaired by the many restrictions needed to limit COVID-19 propagation in research environments. These include reduced hours and limited access to the laboratory and field sites, difficulties in working outside of regular hours, unplanned long absence due to quarantine following accidental exposure to COVID-19, absence or unavailability of mentor due to teleworking. These constraints lead to less productivity and consequently significant delays in research, which put enormous pressure on graduate students who need to have their degree



completed by a certain date, often depending on stipends they receive from the research funds. This pressure, in addition to well-documented stress and anxiety caused by the pandemic on young adults, create an additional burden on the mental health of trainees. These effects are magnified for international students, for whom travel to see family is extremely difficult and stressful, and whose residency status in Canada is dependent on their student status and completion of degrees. Trainees who had planned professional development activities such as international internships or summer schools during their studies have to delay these plans, significantly increasing the length of their studies. All of these facts point toward a dire need for more, longer and more predictable trainee funding, which would give them the time needed to adequately complete their degrees in these chaotic times.

In the context of calls for greater investment in the Tri-Council, it is critical to remember that trainees represent far and away the single largest expenditure from our individual grants. When scientists experience stress about funding, one of the largest sources of our stress comes from empathy for those that we support. First and foremost, we advocate for trainees when we advocate for increased funding. Support for trainees can come in many forms (increased fellowships and awards, a limited number of high value prestigious awards, training grants provided to institutions, and increased funding to Tri-Council granting agencies). Each have their relative merits, but the simplest way to provide predictable and sustainable training opportunities is to support the research groups within which the bulk of this training occurs.

Increased investigator-initiated research funding translates into expanded training opportunities for the next generation and a brighter future for all of us. Investments in scientific funding reflect the value that our country places on research in general. Trainees inspired to serve the greater good are keenly aware of Canada's level of commitment compared to its G7 peers. When their mentors struggle to fund their research, many see that struggle and make life-altering decisions - decisions with the potential to change the Canadian scientific landscape. Not all groups can weather professional struggles and uncertainty to the same extent. When we put up too many hurdles, science becomes less diverse and less representative. On the other hand, when we inspire, we draw even more voices and ideas into shaping the future. The choice is clear. The CSM stands with our peer Societies by speaking on behalf of those who are watching what we choose to do next.

7. 2nd Vice President Report – Pascale Beauregard

The Canadian Society of Microbiologists aims at providing an inclusive and diverse representation of microbiologists across Canada. In this spirit, the Society has already established an ad hoc EDI committee who has provided important recommendations which will guide actions for the future of CSM and its annual conference. In the next years, actions will be taken to provide a supportive, respectful and welcoming environment for everybody, including the establishment of guidelines and gathering of metadata. We will reach out to our Francophones member of the CSM/SCM to provide more exposure. We want to stimulate nominations to our various awards from everywhere in Canada, and in particular from under-represented and marginalized groups. If you have any specific suggestions about actions which will favor more diversity in our awards' nominations, please contact me at: pascale.b.beauregard@usherbrooke.ca .

8. Past President Report – Janet Hill

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve on the CSM executive for the last four years. I am saddened by the losses we have all experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but I am also encouraged to see our society adapt and thrive. Of all the things we have learned over the last year and a half, realizing the power we have to make our society and our events more inclusive really stands out. I trust that we will continue to take advantage of technology and creativity to ensure that members get maximum benefit from their CSM membership. Although I am leaving the executive, I look forward to many more years of contributing to CSM.

9. Secretary – Treasurer’s Report – Mazen Saleh

a) 2020 - 2021 Budget

CSM Budget to be presented in June 2021 Via Zoom

	2021	2020	2020	2019	2018
	June	Audited	June	Audited	Audited
	Estimated	Budget	Estimated	Budget	Budget
	End to Year		End to		
			Year		
REVENUE SOURCES FOR OPERATIONS					
Investment & Misc Income	1,242.52	3,400.15	3,340.00	3,104.00	3,096.47
Membership Fees	33,418.50	33,669.75	34,375.50	40,197.75	38,958.50
Subscriptions to the CJM	598.00	500.00	668.00	668.00	1,110.00
Advertising & Sponsorship Income	1,525.00	675.00	550.00	1001.98	1,025.00
Awards Support 2018 *	5,150.00	3,574.21	3,500.00	5,550.00	5,550.00
Beveridge Poster Support	1,500.00		-	1,500.00	1,500.00
ISEME 8 Support	500.00		-	2,500.00	2,100.00
Knowles PD Award	500.00		-	500.00	500.00
Burrows Award	500.00				
Workshops Revenue			-		
Subtotal	44,934.02	41,819.11	42,433.50	55,021.73	53,839.97

REVENUE SOURCES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Awards Income			-		
Annual Conference Exhibits and Grants & Mtg Folder			-	45,512.39	61,115.50
Annual Conference Registration including Tickets	17,485.00		-	168,707.24	146,515.51
Subtotal	17,485.00		-	214,219.63	207,631.01

TOTAL OF ALL REVENUE SOURCES	62,419.02	41,819.11	42,433.50	269,241.36	261,470.98
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EXPENDITURES FOR OPERATIONS

Website Development – N1	14,500.00	165.00	165.00	336.00	7,790.00
Website Maintenance	879.50	1,611.50	1,061.50	1,147.50	2,041.50
Logo / graphic design banner				-	
Secretariat	28,000.00	26,485.50	26,000.00	29,369.00	26,106.00
Audit	3,900.00	3,900.00	3,900.00	3,850.00	3,850.00
Bank & Credit Card Charges	4,101.31	4,816.23	5,078.69	5,027.49	8026.75
Balloting & Bylaws	-	200.00	-		
CJM Subscriptions	648.00	600.00	618.00	618.00	615.56
Membership in Other Organizations	1,040.90	1,040.90	1,040.90	2,231.27	2,232.61
Liaising & Meetings (board Travel) (Zoom)	140.00	140.00	140.00	129.09	
Constant Contact (mass email app)	991.60	1,037.16	1,037.16	1,075.99	999.46
Translation			-	500.00	
Office Supplies	-	48.94	-	-	
Office Courier (Award frames)	500.00		-	-	
Office Copies			-	-	
Storage & Shredding	320.00	282.00	264.00	264.00	264.00
Office Postage	100.00		-	-	
Taxes & Miscellaneous	12.00	24.00	32.00	-	20.00
CSM Travel Awards – N2			-	5,000.00	5,000.00
Under Graduate, Ambassador & ISME 8 Travel Awards	-	1,670.25	5,500.00	4,700.00	5,928.87
Murray, Thermo Fisher & Armand Frappier (Travel Exp inc.) Awards – N3	3,500.00	3,578.39	4,500.00	4,988.88	4,228.19
Student symposium (Travel inc.)	2,000.00		-	4,000.00	4,224.99
Poster Awards	1,500.00		-	1,500.00	1,500.00
Knowles PD Prize	500.00		-	500.00	500.00
Burrows Award – N4	500.00	3,000.00			
Awards Supplies	700.00	182.47	250.00	680.89	686.97
Education & Careers Committee			-	-	325.75
FOME			-	-	
Student Day Support	500.00		1,000.00	2,280.00	1,250.00
Other Meetings Support – N5	1,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Disbursement to Genome Alberta 2018 N6					11,324.33
Subtotal	65,333.31	49,282.34	52,587.25	70,198.11	86,914.98

EXPENDITURES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Annual Conference Expenses Facility, AV, Food & Bev, signage, equipment rental			-	111,161.73	91,184.66
Executive & Council meeting food & Beverage (included above)			-		
Program Book & Poster Printing & Mail out			-	21.92	2,701.20
Meeting Planner Services			-	-	30,454.43
Speakers Expenses			-	13,974.30	14,832.06
Meeting Supplies (Bags) & Frames & Labour			-	19,382.80	15,734.05
Credit Card discount fees	1,532.00		-	10,748.42	4,069.94
Website & Alerts	5,698.00		-	2,159.25	2,002.50
Board Travel & Other			-	1,590.82	353.61
Subtotal	7,230.00		-	159,039.24	161,332.45

TOTAL OF ALL EXPENDITURES	72,563.31	49,282.34	52,587.25	229,237.35	248,247.43
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SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(10,144.29)	(7,463.23)	(10,153.75)	40,004.01	13,223.55
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Net conference Profit ***	10,255.00		-	55,180.39	46,298.56
Disbursement to LOC			-	17,590.16	10,649.28

Notes to Budget:

N1 CSM has signed a contract with CryoDragon to redesign the website to reflect and be accessible by current technology. That cost is based on the contract and an estimate for additional hours might be charged by the current webmaster to help with the transfer of the website to a new hosting server and webmaster

N2 CSM added in 2018 twenty travel awards \$250 each for a total of \$5,000. These awards are not provided in 2021 since it is a virtual conference

N3 Since CSM has increased the number of awards it provides, which could have its toll on the Conference budget, the 2018 Conference Chairs requested that the awards budget becomes part of CSM operating budget and not the conference. There is \$1,550 extra cost from the awards that were normally covered under the conference that are not covered by the available sponsorship funds. The ambassador and undergraduate awards have been part of the CSM operating budget since 2013. Since 2018 all the awards expenses are part of the CSM Operating budget.

N4 In 2020 CSM contributed \$3,000 in support for Burrows Award to match contributions received from McMaster and Burrows family. These funds were deposited in a deferred account. Starting 2021, Burrows Award in the amount of \$500 will be given annually to support Womxn in Microbiology and their EDI activities.

N5 In 2019 CSM allocated \$3,000 in the budget for a new initiative to support CSM Members' Events and allocated \$2,000 for Student research day events which it has been supporting.

N6 In 2018 The AMR & Plant Vaccine Workshops' funds were transferred from CSM to Genome Alberta who hosted the event to pay for facility deposit.

Any revenue received for **2020 U of G Conference** and expenses paid in 2020 for the U of G conference will be moved to 2022 Conference revenue and expenses. The revenue will be considered Deferred revenue in 2020 and the expenses will be considered prepaid expenses in 2020. This is because the conference has been postponed to 2022. For that reason there are no amounts entered in the 2020 Annual Conference Revenue and Expenses columns.

As of **June 2nd, 2021**, CSM **Investment** account balance is **\$275,980.65** and **Chequing** account balance is: **\$59,226.95**. Tangerine was offering 1.80% interest for GICs to be locked for 270 days. In March 2020, \$100,000 were moved from Saving account to GIC and in April 2020, another \$100,000 were moved from Savings account to GIC. That explains the increase of interest revenue in 2020. These offers have not been available for 2021 yet, we are keeping an eye on them.

- 9. Secretary's Treasurer's Report cont'd
- b) 2020 Financial Statements Audited by

Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Financial Statements
December 31, 2020

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of
Canadian Society of Microbiologists

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Canadian Society of Microbiologists, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020, and the statements of operations and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2020, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with ASNPO.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- ♦ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Independent Auditor's Report, continued

- ♦ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- ♦ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- ♦ Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ♦ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Numeris CPA

Numeris CPA Professional Corporation
Chartered Professional Accountant
Licensed Public Accountant

Ottawa, ON
June 3, 2021

**Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
Assets		
Current		
Cash	\$ 43,858	\$ 13,510
Short term investment	275,431	272,031
Accounts receivable	-	57,680
Prepaid expenses	12,278	3,870
Government remittances receivable	-	1,808
	\$ 331,567	\$ 348,899
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,942	\$ 46,136
Deferred revenue (note 3)	92,632	67,393
Government remittances payable	86	-
	103,660	113,529
Balance	227,907	235,370
	\$ 331,567	\$ 348,899

On behalf of the Board of Directors

_____ Member

_____ Member

Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Statement of Operations
and Changes in Net Assets
Year ended December 31, 2020

	2020	2019
Revenues		
Memberships - individual	\$ 33,670	\$ 40,198
Awards support	3,574	10,050
Interest income	3,400	3,104
Advertising and job postings	675	1,002
Subscription fees for CJM	500	668
Annual conference, Schedule 1	-	55,180
	41,819	110,202
Expenditures		
Secretariat	26,486	29,369
Awards	8,931	25,650
Interest and bank charges	4,816	5,027
Professional fees	3,900	3,850
Website	1,777	1,484
Liaising and advocacy	1,177	1,705
Memberships in other organizations	1,041	2,231
CJM subscriptions	600	618
Office	330	264
Miscellaneous	224	-
	49,282	70,198
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures before extraordinary items	(7,463)	40,004
Disbursement to conference organizing committee	-	17,590
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures	(7,463)	22,414
Balance, beginning of year	235,370	212,956
Balance, end of year	\$ 227,907	\$ 235,370

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Please Note: This statement is the difference between one year and the previous. 2019 is the difference between 2018 & 2019, while 2020 is the difference between 2019 & 2020. There was no accounts receivable as there was no conference.

Account Receivable:

2020: \$0 2019: \$57,680.4 difference between 2020 & 2019 is: 0 - 57,680 = 57,680
2019: \$57,680.46 2018: \$26,146.22 difference between 2019 & 2018 is: 57,680 -26,146.=31,534

**Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Statement of Cash Flows
Year ended December 31, 2020**

	2020	2019
Operating activities		
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ (7,463)	\$ 22,414
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Short term investment	(3,400)	7,056
Accounts receivable	57,680	(31,534)
Prepaid expenses	(8,408)	(3,870)
Government remittances receivable	1,808	(400)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(35,194)	16,542
Deferred revenue	25,239	(4,335)
Government remittances payable	86	-
Net increase in cash	30,348	5,873
Cash, beginning of year	13,510	7,637
Cash, end of year	\$ 43,858	\$ 13,510

1. Nature of operations

The Canadian Society of Microbiologists was incorporated without share capital in 1958 under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act and is recognized as a not-for-profit organization for income tax purposes. The Society seeks to advance microbiology in all its aspects and to facilitate the interchange of ideas between microbiologists. The membership includes honorary, emeritus, ordinary, student, and post doc members.

2. Significant accounting policies

The organization applies the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

(a) Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable when the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Other revenue, including membership and conference, is recognized in operations as the services are rendered.

Investment revenue is recognized as earned.

(b) Capital assets

Capital assets purchased at a cost of less than \$2,000 are expensed in the year of purchase. The Society does not own capital assets at this time.

(c) Financial instruments

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks.

(d) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2020

3. Deferred revenue

Beveridge Funds

In 2013 \$21,325 was transferred to the CSM from the Beveridge Memorial Scholarship Fund in order to support the Beveridge Poster Competition. Three prizes of \$500 will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

ISME-8 Funds

In 2013 \$50,000 was transferred to the CSM from the ACSME as part of the winding up of the ISME-8 conference surplus funds. The use of these funds is restricted by Terms of Reference agreed to by the CSM with a maximum annual disbursement of \$4,000.

Roger Knowles Funds

In 2017 funds were transferred from alumni of Roger Knowles' laboratory and the CSM in order to establish a memorial award. The use of these funds is restricted and will support a prize of \$500 to be given to the best oral presentation at the Post Doctoral Research Symposium at the CSM Annual Conference. The prize will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

Burrows Award for Womxn in Microbiology

In 2020 funds were donated by the Burrows family, McMaster University and matched by the CSM in order to establish an award that will recognize a womxn graduate student in microbiology who demonstrates both scientific excellence and commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) in the microbiological and related sciences. One prize of \$500 will be awarded annually until the funds are depleted.

	2020	2019
ISME 8 Funds	\$ 36,230	\$ 36,230
Deffered Revenue - annual meeting	14,574	1,500
Deferred Membership	13,990	10,775
Beveridge Scholarship	10,824	10,824
Roger Knowles Award	7,864	7,864
CJM Subscription Fees for Next Year	150	200
Burrows Award	9,000	-
	\$ 92,632	\$ 67,393

4. Awards

	2020	2019
PD & Student Symposia Awards	\$ -	\$ 4,500
CSM Travel Awards	-	5,000
AF, Fisher, & Murray Awards	3,578	4,989
Undergrad, Ambassador, & Travel Awards	1,670	4,700
Students Research Day & members' events	500	4,280
Student Poster Awards	-	1,500
Burrows Award	3,000	-
Awards supplies and miscellaneous	183	681
	\$ 8,931	\$ 25,650

Note, in 2020 the \$3,000 cost of the Burrows Award represents the CSM's contribution to fund the award.

4. Awards, continued

5. COVID-19

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced a global health emergency because of a new strain of coronavirus, the "COVID-19" outbreak. On March 11, 2020 the WHO classified the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic, based on the rapid increase in exposure globally.

The Canadian Society of Microbiologists actively monitored the situation and was able to continue some of its operations virtually while cancelling, adapting or postponing programming. The financial health of the Organization remained strong during this fiscal year as the Organization continued to receive funding from membership fees and investments. As such, while the Organization closed the fiscal year with an operating deficit, the organization still has significant working capital reserves. The Organization continues to be a going concern.

The effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on the Organization's operational costs for fiscal year 2020 have been reflected in the financial statements. An estimate of the impact of the pandemic on the 2021 fiscal year cannot be reasonably estimated, however the Organization continues to actively monitor the situation and adapt its operations and projects to continue delivering on its mandate.

Schedule 1
Canadian Society of Microbiologists
Schedule of Annual Conference
Year ended December 31, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Revenue		
Registration fees	\$ -	\$ 168,708
Exhibits and other commercial support	-	25,801
Grants	-	19,641
Miscellaneous	-	70
	<u>-</u>	<u>214,220</u>
 Expenditures		
Facility	-	111,163
Conference supplies and other	-	19,405
Speakers	-	13,974
Credit card discount	-	10,748
Website and alerts	-	2,159
Board travel	-	1,591
	<u>-</u>	<u>159,040</u>
 Excess of revenues over expenditures	 <u>\$ -</u>	 <u>\$ 55,180</u>

9. Secretary's Treasurer's Report – Mazen Saleh
d) Membership Report

As of 2 June, 2021

	2021 Total	2021 Renew	2021 New	2020 Total	2020 Renew	2020 New	2019 Total	2019 Renew	2019 New	2018 Total	2018 Renew	2018 New
Ordinary	246	222	24	312	285	27	336	283	53	316	254	62
Student	235	104	131	158	118	40	316	110	206	265	103	162
Post-Doc	61	43	18	58	47	11	73	51	22	71	52	19
Emeritus	17	17	0	21	21	0	20	19	1	20	19	1
Honorary	0	0	0	3	3	0	4	4	0	3	3	0
Total	559	386	173	551	468	77	749	467	282	675	431	244

Please note:

2021 has 8 more members than 2020. 2019 has the highest total for regular membership (336) and renewed (283), highest Student membership (316) and new (206). It seems that the PD membership varies between 71 (2018) – 78 (2016).

2 Years Plan

	2020	2019	2018
Ordinary	100	85	117
Student	33	54	43
Post-Doc	15	24	21
Emeritus	9	4	6
Total	157	167	187

Non Paid Members

	2020	2019	2018	Total
Ordinary	102	69	44	215
Student	83	170	141	394
Post-Doc	19	27	24	70
Emeritus	4	1	4	9
Hon	3	0	0	3
Total	211	267	213	691

Please note 215 records of members who have not renewed from 2017 were deleted January 6, 2021.

A short historical timeline of year-end membership totals follows:

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
New Mmb	173	77	282	244	258	292	106	79	207	109	107	239	268
Renewed Mmb	386	468	467	431	450	386	306	391	332	371	364	345	213
Total Mmb	559	545	749	675	708	678	412	470	539	480	471	584	481

Province/Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	Section	2018	2019	2020	2021
Alberta	49	57	39	47	AEM	269	289	215	208
British Columbia	50	42	42	28	II	197	204	163	158
Manitoba	111	54	42	62	MGCM	209	256	173	193
New Brunswick	6	3	2	2	Unspecified	0	0	0	0
Newfoundland	14	5	6	6	Total	675	749	551	559
Nova Scotia	15	10	11	8					
Ontario	217	277	215	220					
PEI	2	1	1	1					
Quebec	84	200	101	110					
Saskatchewan	60	55	47	38					
USA	32	20	21	14					
Overseas	28	25	24	23					
Total Members	668	749	551	559					

9. Secretary's Treasurer's Report

e) CSM Website Report

In 2020 a total of 30 job advertisements were posted for members in good standings. A total of 6 pages of paid advertisements and 2 logos were posted for non-members which brought a revenue of \$650 in 2020.

As of **June 2, 2021**, 22 job advertisements were posted for members in good standings and 13 pages of paid advertisements were posted for non-members which brought a revenue of \$1,300 in 2021.

Pages

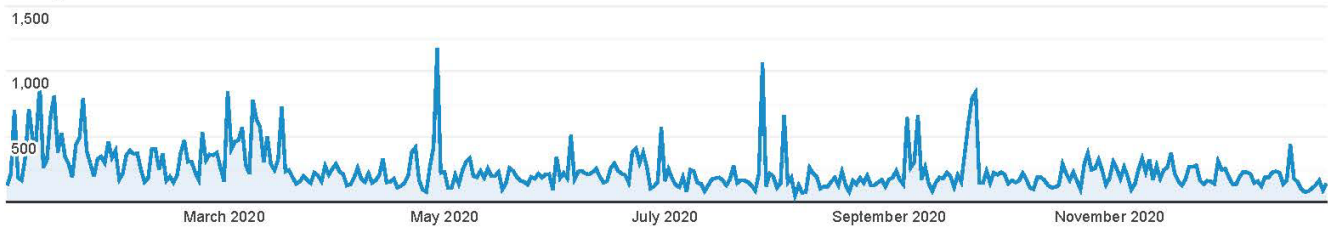


All Users
100.00% Page Views

1 Jan 2020 - 31 Dec 2020

Explorer

Page Views



Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	89,865 % of Total: 100.00% (89,865)	71,333 % of Total: 100.00% (71,333)	00:01:14 Avg for View: 00:01:14 (0.00%)	32,807 % of Total: 100.00% (32,807)	60.04% Avg for View: 60.04% (0.00%)	36.51% Avg for View: 36.51% (0.00%)	US\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (US\$0.00)
1. /english/stu_studying.asp	8,196 (9.12%)	5,209 (7.30%)	00:01:22	4,702 (14.33%)	45.51%	38.87%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. /	8,115 (9.03%)	6,935 (9.72%)	00:01:18	6,718 (20.48%)	42.54%	43.12%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. /english/wn_careers.asp	7,300 (8.12%)	4,692 (6.58%)	00:00:47	2,940 (8.96%)	47.79%	36.59%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. /english/conf_upcoming_details.asp?PageID=94	5,023 (5.59%)	4,164 (5.84%)	00:02:26	2,680 (8.17%)	74.07%	64.98%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. /english/mem_directory.asp	2,191 (2.44%)	948 (1.33%)	00:00:23	292 (0.89%)	28.08%	8.81%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. /english/mem_apply.asp	1,653 (1.84%)	1,370 (1.92%)	00:02:31	219 (0.67%)	70.32%	41.14%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. /english/awards_details.asp?PageID=1	1,195 (1.33%)	1,022 (1.43%)	00:02:30	612 (1.87%)	73.69%	60.84%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. /english/mem_renew.asp	1,100 (1.22%)	763 (1.07%)	00:00:32	461 (1.41%)	19.74%	13.36%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. /english/mem_meet.asp	1,045 (1.16%)	713 (1.00%)	00:00:40	108 (0.33%)	56.48%	17.32%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. /english/awards_details.asp?PageID=2	971 (1.08%)	816 (1.14%)	00:02:48	663 (2.02%)	81.00%	70.03%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 3337

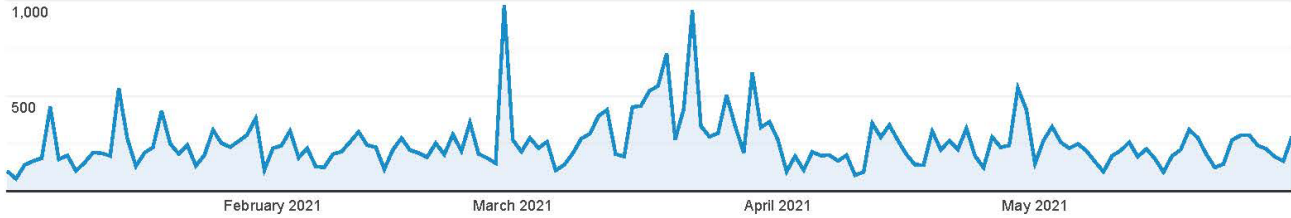
Pages

1 Jan 2021 - 31 May 2021

All Users
100.00% Page Views

Explorer

Page Views

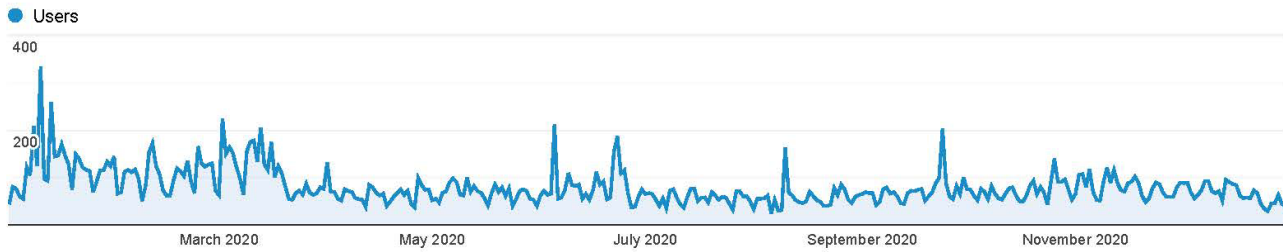


Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances	Bounce Rate	% Exit	Page Value
	38,302 % of Total: 100.00% (38,302)	30,262 % of Total: 100.00% (30,262)	00:01:22 Avg for View: 00:01:22 (0.00%)	16,221 % of Total: 100.00% (16,221)	57.72% Avg for View: 57.72% (0.00%)	42.35% Avg for View: 42.35% (0.00%)	US\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (US\$0.00)
1. /	5,228 (13.65%)	4,427 (14.63%)	00:00:44	4,293 (26.47%)	44.35%	47.59%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. /english/wn_careers.asp	3,046 (7.95%)	2,032 (6.71%)	00:01:01	1,414 (8.72%)	48.37%	38.90%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. /english/stu_studying.asp	2,887 (7.54%)	1,783 (5.89%)	00:01:21	1,598 (9.85%)	46.18%	38.66%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
4. /english/conf_upcoming_details.asp?PageID=95	2,689 (7.02%)	2,265 (7.48%)	00:02:20	705 (4.35%)	70.64%	66.34%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
5. /english/conf_call.asp	1,159 (3.03%)	820 (2.71%)	00:00:36	764 (4.71%)	18.46%	19.33%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
6. /english/mem_apply.asp	1,155 (3.02%)	954 (3.15%)	00:03:37	232 (1.43%)	68.10%	46.32%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
7. /english/wn_careers_det.asp?id=378	784 (2.05%)	697 (2.30%)	00:02:50	550 (3.39%)	90.36%	78.70%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
8. /english/mem_directory.asp	771 (2.01%)	365 (1.21%)	00:00:25	75 (0.46%)	22.67%	8.04%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
9. /english/conf_registrants_details.asp?PageID=54	702 (1.83%)	586 (1.94%)	00:02:49	231 (1.42%)	62.34%	46.58%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
10. /english/mem_renew.asp	577 (1.51%)	424 (1.40%)	00:00:39	212 (1.31%)	19.34%	11.27%	US\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 10 of 1897

Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2020

Devices:

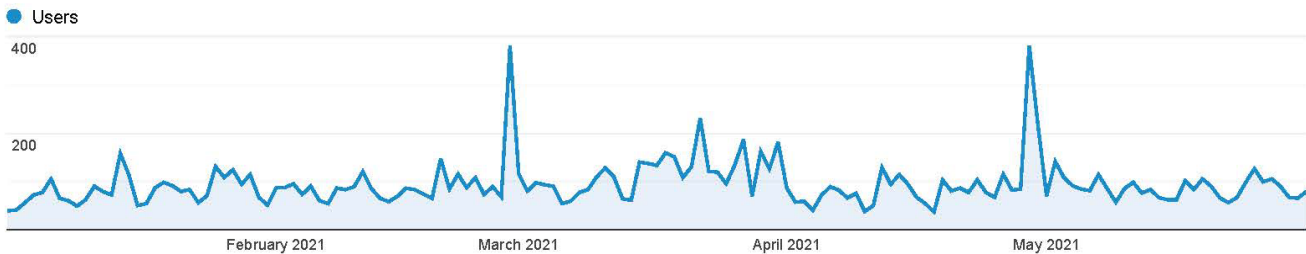


Device Category	Acquisition			Behaviour			Conversions		
	Users	New Users	Sessions	Bounce Rate	Pages/Session	Avg. Session Duration	Goal Conversion Rate	Goal Completions	Goal Value
	22,075 % of Total: 100.00% (22,075)	21,623 % of Total: 100.00% (21,623)	32,807 % of Total: 100.00% (32,807)	60.04% Avg for View: 60.04% (0.00%)	2.74 Avg for View: 2.74 (0.00%)	00:02:08 Avg for View: 00:02:08 (0.00%)	0.00% Avg for View: 0.00% (0.00%)	0 % of Total: 0.00% (0)	US\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (US\$0.00)
1. desktop	13,956 (63.13%)	13,554 (62.68%)	21,667 (66.04%)	56.99%	2.99	00:02:16	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. mobile	7,725 (34.95%)	7,649 (35.37%)	10,565 (32.20%)	66.18%	2.22	00:01:52	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. tablet	425 (1.92%)	420 (1.94%)	575 (1.75%)	61.91%	2.76	00:02:27	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 3 of 3

Jan 1 – May 31, 2021

Devices:



Device Category	Acquisition			Behaviour			Conversions		
	Users	New Users	Sessions	Bounce Rate	Pages/Session	Avg. Session Duration	Goal Conversion Rate	Goal Completions	Goal Value
	10,669 % of Total: 100.00% (10,669)	10,452 % of Total: 100.00% (10,452)	16,223 % of Total: 100.00% (16,223)	57.71% Avg for View: 57.71% (0.00%)	2.36 Avg for View: 2.36 (0.00%)	00:01:51 Avg for View: 00:01:51 (0.00%)	0.00% Avg for View: 0.00% (0.00%)	0 % of Total: 0.00% (0)	US\$0.00 % of Total: 0.00% (US\$0.00)
1. desktop	6,734 (63.18%)	6,578 (62.94%)	11,070 (68.24%)	53.15%	2.47	00:02:01	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
2. mobile	3,778 (35.44%)	3,728 (35.67%)	4,950 (30.51%)	67.78%	2.10	00:01:29	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)
3. tablet	147 (1.38%)	146 (1.40%)	203 (1.25%)	60.59%	2.83	00:02:21	0.00%	0 (0.00%)	US\$0.00 (0.00%)

Rows 1 - 3 of 3

10. Meetings Secretary's Report – Chris Yost

To be presented orally.

11. Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

a) Report on 2021 Conference – Chris Yost

To be presented orally

11 Meeting, Conferences and Workshops

b) Report on 2022 conference – Cezar Khursigara and Kari Dunfield

This report provides an update on the preparation and planning for the 71st Annual Conference of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists to be held at the University of Guelph, June 19 – 23, 2022.

The theme for 2022 Conference will remain 'Microbes for Life' and will focus on microbes in health and agriculture. However, all traditional CSM pillars will be equally represented, including Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Infection and Immunity, and Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology.

CSM Executive and CSM 2020 Conference Co-Chairs decided on Friday, March 13, 2020 to cancel the CSM 2020 University of Guelph Conference due to COVID 19 pandemic.

We are working with the University of Guelph Conference Services to confirm the space for 2022. Space that has been put on hold are: Rozanski for the scientific sessions, Science Complex for the opening reception, Creelman for lunches. The one space that yet to be confirmed as conference services have not been able to get in touch with is the Field House where the posters, exhibits and banquet were planned. An alternative space that might be available for the 2022 conference is the Event Center which was not available for 2020 conference and is a better alternative to the Field House.

- a) We will be able to clone the web content that was created for 2020 and just revise them with more current information.
- b) Those who have registered and paid were contacted more than once and given the option to have their registration extended to 2022 or refunded. This decision was taken to save on the cancellation fees that the conference will have to absorb. Those who chose to be refunded received back 100% of what they paid. The majority of those who responded requested to have their fees moved to 2022. We did a second follow up with them when it became clear that we would not be able to hold an in person conference in 2021.
- c) We will be going with the same program and the speakers that were invited for 2020 unless they are not available, then replacement will be identified.
- d) All the U of G departments and colleges that have transferred funds to CSM2020Conference U of G account indicated their willingness that the funds can be retained for 2022 Conference. To date there is \$23,000 in sponsorship / grants funds that have been promised / received in support of the 2020 CSM Conference including the \$10,000 from CIHR.
- e) The 2020 LOC members and Symposia chairs were contacted and they all confirmed their interest in continuing for 2022 Conference.
- f) The conference contract with RCMS was extended to 2021, we will revise it to reflect 2022.
- g) Some of the symposia titles will need to be refreshed.

So, for 2022 Conference Organization, we will pick up where we stopped for 2020 Conference. The program will be refreshed, we will need to approach the exhibitors again, contact U of G departments that have promised but have not transferred the funds or have not yet promised to support the conference yet, contact the hotels again for room blocks, confirm the space, update the website and be ready to welcome you in Guelph, holding a big party celebrating microbiology and seeing each other again!

Local Organizing Committee

Member	Affiliation	Contact
Kari Dunfield (co-chair)	School of Environmental Science, Ontario Agricultural College	dunfield@uoguelph.ca
Cezar Khursigara (co-chair)	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	ckhurig@uoguelph.ca
Wafaa Antonious (Conference Organizer)	Rofail Conference & Management Services (RCMS) & CSM – SCM Secretariat	info@esm-scm.org
Georgina Cox	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	gcox@uoguelph.ca
Jennifer Geddes-McAlister	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	jgeddesm@uoguelph.ca
Rebecca Shapiro	Molecular and Cellular Biology, College of Biological Science	shapiror@uoguelph.ca
Marc Habash	School of Environmental Science, Ontario Agricultural College	mhabash@uoguelph.ca
Nicole Ricker	Pathobiology, Ontario Veterinary College	nricker@uoguelph.ca
Hany Anany	Guelph Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	hany.anany@canada.ca
Moussa Diarra	Guelph Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	moussa.diarra@canada.ca
Hanan Shehata (PDF)	Integrative Biology, College of Biological Science	hshehata@uoguelph.ca

Locations and Venues

We have reserved venues on campus for pre-conference meetings, presentations (including keynote addresses), meetings, the opening night reception, vendor booths and posters, lunches and residences and additional venues for accommodation. Venues for the President's Banquet are still under consideration, but we have tentatively reserved space on-campus and at a nearby hotel. A detailed map of campus can be found here:

https://www.parking.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/Campus%20Map%20202016_0.pdf

Rozanski Hall

Named in honour of Mordechai Rozanski, the University's longest serving president, Rozanski Hall houses lecture theatres ranging in size from 30 to 600 seats (the 4 largest rooms hold 600, 414, 211 and 120 seats, respectively) and modern classrooms with computer-based multimedia equipment. All sessions/seminars, Keynotes and the CSM Annual General Meeting will use this Hall. It has been reserved for CSM use only for the duration of the Conference.



Event Center or the Field House

All vendor booths, and poster boards will be located in either the Event Center or the Field House. They both are very large gyms only a 5-minutes walk from Rozanski Hall and will be used exclusively for CSM throughout the week.

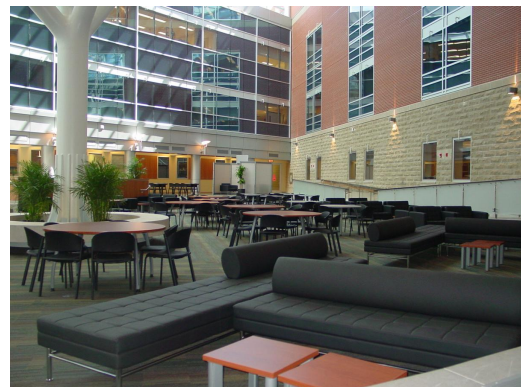
University Center

The UC is one of the main hubs on campus, you'll find administration, Central Students Association offices, registrar, The Brass Taps, cafeteria (for the Student Mixer) a/food court, study spaces, concerts, etc.

Summerlee Science Complex Atrium

The Atrium is a shared space in which the interactions and synergies between the Arts, Science and Technology are foregrounded. It serves as a student and faculty meeting place, and as a venue for receptions, presenting to the University community, and the community at large, the exciting intellectual, scientific, and artistic activities which are part of the daily life of the University of Guelph.

We originally were planning to hold the Opening Reception for CSM 2020 at the Atrium. But we might end up holding it at the Delta Hotel to have the attritions penalties put toward the Opening reception instead. The Atrium has outlets on the floor throughout the space as well as on the walls. The Atrium is 2-minute walk from Rozanski Hall.



Creelman Hall

The Creelman Marketplace looks like a classic 1930's warehouse with a bright, bustling ambience. This venue will be used for lunches throughout the conference. Creelman Hall is a 4-minute walk from Rozanski and Peter Clark Halls

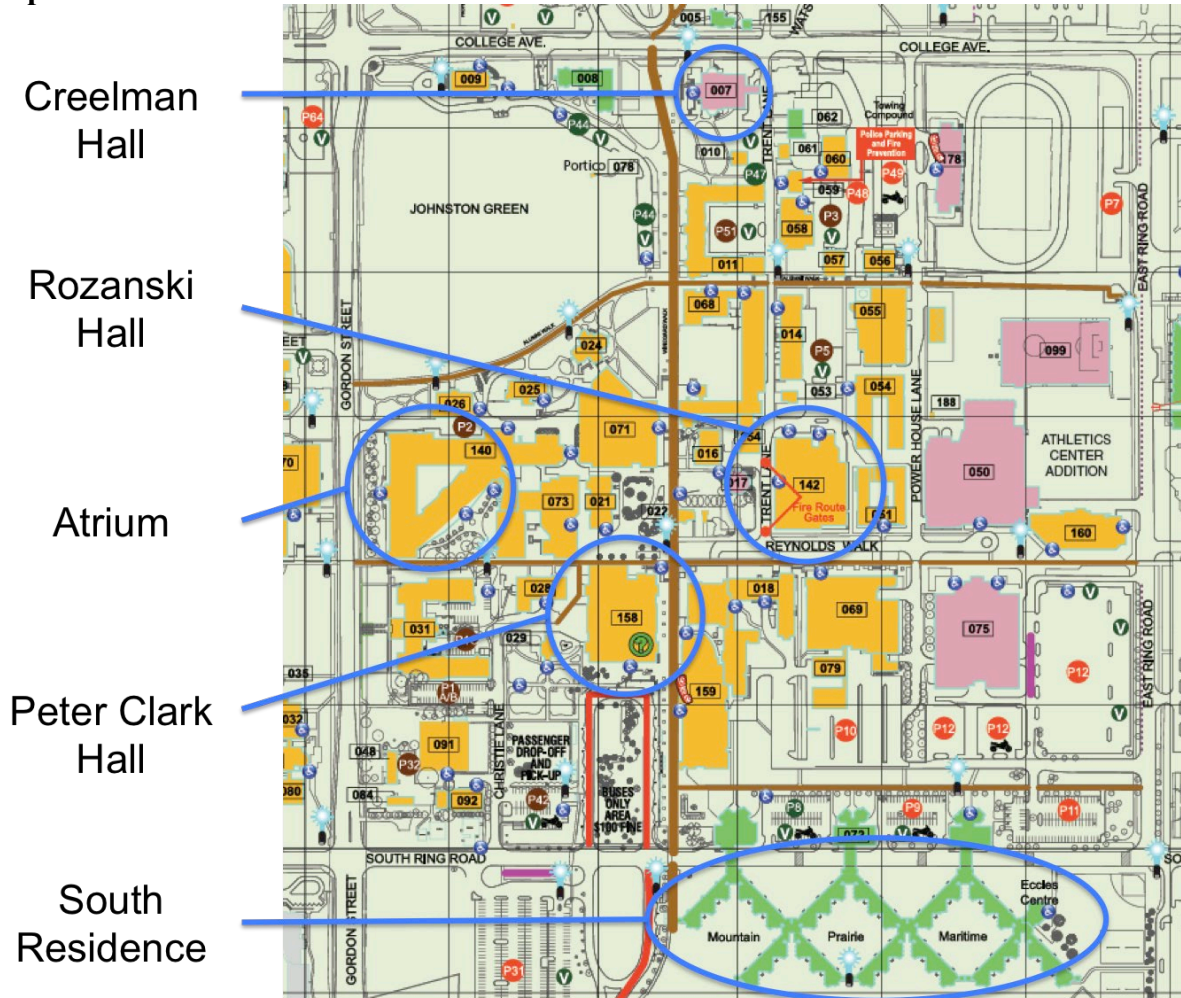


South Residence

The South Residence is comprised of 4 buildings that were all recently upgraded for Fall 2018. The South Residence is only a 3-minute walk to Rozanski and Peter Clark Halls.



Map of Venues



11. Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

c) Future Conferences – Takuji Tanaka

With the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference schedules are affected a lot. I have confirmed Dr. Sellam and Raivio will lead the hosts of future meetings, presumably 2025 and 2026, respectively. The details may be changed due to the COVID-19 turmoil, but the current future hosts are:

2022 – University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, contact parson, Dr. Cezar Khursigara (ckhursig@uoguelph.ca)

2023 – Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, contact parson, Dr. Nikhil Thomas (n.thomas@dal.ca)

2024 – Western University, London, Ontario, contact parson, Dr. Martin McGavin (mmcgavin@uwo.ca)

2025 – Université de Montréal, Montréal, Québec, contact parson, Dr. Adnane Sellam (adnane.sellam@umontreal.ca)

2026 – University of Alberta, Edmontn, Alberta, contact parson, Dr. Tracy Raivio (traivio@ualberta.ca)

12. Post Doctoral Representative Report – vacant

13. Graduate Student Representative – Olivia Ihedioha

It is a pleasure working as a graduate student representative with the CSM executive over the past three years. Through our Facebook page, we create awareness and promote the society via posting advertised jobs, annual conferences and microbiology-related articles. Please write a brief bio about yourself and send it to infor@csmscm.org if you want to be featured on “Meet The Microbiologist” section of our website; this will be shared on the Facebook page. Regular posting of content from the CSM website on the Facebook page has increased the number of followers (from 912 in May 2020 - 1266 in May 2021).

14. New Members of the Executive & Council

New members of the Executive Committee: Kari Dunfield, 2nd Vice President

Dr. Kari E. Dunfield, is a Professor and Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Environmental Microbiology of Agro-ecosystems, in the School of Environmental Sciences at the University of Guelph. She received her BSc in the Biological Sciences Department at the University of Calgary in 1995, and her MSc in the Department of Plant Agriculture (1999) and PhD in the Department of Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan (2002). She worked as a postdoctoral research associate at the University of Maine, Darling Marine Center, and joined the University of Guelph in 2004. Working at the intersection of microbiology, ecology, and soil science, her work investigates the microbial communities and microbial processes driving the global processes that help support life on Earth, and focuses on climate change, soil conservation, human pathogens and antimicrobial resistance genes in the environment, and food security. She is passionate about educating the public about the importance of soils, and is the Executive of a knowledge mobilization and outreach program, called Soils@Guelph, and the North American Representative for UN-FAO Global Soil Partnership (Pillar 1). Dr. Dunfield has contributed previously to the CSM as the Co-Chair of the Education and Careers Committee and is currently the Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Canadian Journal of Microbiology*.



15. Reports from the Section

a) Applied and Environmental Microbiology (AEM) - Laura Hug, Chair & Eric Bottos, Vice-Chair

The AEM section received three ECR applicants for the section symposium, and one additional talk was solicited by invitation. Posters were approved in aggregate, so individual AEM statistics are not available.

b) Infections and Immunity (II) – Georgina Cox, Chair & Joel Weadge, Vice Chair

Due to changes in the conference organization this year (virtual), the Infection and Immunity section did not assess any of the submitted abstracts. However, we are looking forward to attending the virtual 2021 conference. We are very pleased with the conference schedule and the opportunities provided to student, postdoctoral, and early career researchers to communicate their exciting research findings this year. We eagerly anticipate a return to the in-person conference the following year.

c) Molecular Genetics and Cellular Microbiology (MGCM) –Alex Hynes, Chair &, Jenny Lee Thomassin, Vice-Chair

The role of the chairs differed considerably from previous years. To assist with the online CSM meeting, both chairs joined the LOC and were involved in the organization of the meeting. Because abstracts were not separated by section by the submission criteria, each chair instead reviewed a number of general pool abstracts. This year, given the balance of submissions, the Section Symposia were set aside exclusively for Early Career Researchers. As there were 17 ECR submissions and 18 slots across all three sections, this greatly simplified the process of selection. Finally, unlike in 2019, the chairs were not involved in ranking the extended abstracts that fell within their section.

16. Reports from Committees

a) Education and Career Committee –Co-Chairs: Denice Bay, Dawn Bignell and Edel Perez Lopez

Members

Jennifer Ronholm (McGill U), Yannick Tremblay (U Saskatchewan), Anni Moore (), Sean Booth (PDF member; U Oxford)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Judging a high number of extended abstracts (71 oral + 17 poster) this year due to virtual format, submissions were skewed heavily toward the oral symposium.
- Due to the submission portal set up, most extended abstracts were submitted as oral with few students selecting poster only. **We need to change the oral symposium so that its either oral only or poster only to improve distinction between student competitions (as recommended in 2019).**
- Received 17 poster only extended abstracts in the poster competition this year despite the virtual format. There is likely the perception the oral symposium is more prestigious based on difference in abstract applications.
- Very few award application nominations this year prior to the original deadline indicates that award-specific emails should be sent next year to avoid the need for a deadline extension and increase application interest.
- Judging by Education and Careers committee only worked well this year and there was no need to include section Chairs and Vice-Chairs in most judging.
- No ISME-8 travel awards selected due to virtual conference format
- No applicants were received for 2021 CSM Ambassador. We still have three past ambassadors who have not presented at their selected University/ Institutions: Deeksha Shetty (postdoc; McGill University) selected as 2019 CSM Ambassador
- Chris Yost has coordinated the Postdoctoral symposium competition abstract ranking, symposium and they will announce the CSM Roger Knowles Postdoctoral Research Prize
- Career development professional skills workshop this year was cancelled this year.
- Denice Bay is stepping down as E&C co-chair in 2022 – replacement TBD.
- Thanks to our volunteer judges for help this year

ORAL SYMPOSIUM AND POSTER COMPETITION

This was a unique year for extended abstracts in that the number of extended abstracts submitted for the oral+poster symposium (88 total) was higher than in any other previous year (highest was 61 oral +7 poster set in Sherbooke U 2019 CSM) since 2011. But we did receive more extended abstracts for the poster competition this year (17 total) as compared to the last 2019 conference which was also the lowest poster competition abstract submission turnout (7 total). Increased submissions to the oral symposium is presumably guided by a strategy of students trying first for the oral symposium, knowing that their abstracts would then also be considered for the poster competition if not selected, as per our guidelines which was not corrected from last year's recommendations on the website – the E&C need to correct this. The Education and Careers Committee (“Edcom”) was able to judge and rank all of the extended abstracts for the oral and poster competition without additional section chair involvement this year and we thank our committee members for the fast turnover in adjudication.

We thank Chris Yost for gratefully assisting us in manually assigning all poster and oral abstract sections into one of three sections AEM, II and MCGM (as this was not done on the submission portal). There were sufficient numbers of abstracts in each section for both the poster and oral symposium competitions. Each

abstract was judged by at least twice by Edcom members and in the event of conflicts abstracts were assigned to a third member for evaluation. Members had anywhere from 25-32 abstracts to review, score, and rank (19 oral + 6 posters in AEM, 25 oral + 6 posters in II, and 27 oral + 5 posters in MCGM). Although we did not ask applicants to identify their gender or sex, based on first name searches we had higher than average turnout from women (56%) as compared male (24%) and unisex (20%) named applicants. This suggests that more female student applicants applied to the virtual conference this year.

This process worked well despite the high reviewing load and all judges quickly returned marks for compilation within 3-4 weeks to co-chair Denise for tabulation. All judges noted it very difficult to score the top posters this year so it was a very competitive process this year and decisions were tough to make in the top 5 of each section. The poster and oral symposium speakers were selected based on total judging scores/ rankings and in consultation with the Edcom co-chairs as an email communication. In the event of scoring ties or top rankings which occurred in II and MGCM sections, where a few students submitting abstracts from the same lab ranked high or tied (as was the case in II and MGCM oral symposium), only one student from a lab in a section was selected by the co-chairs out of fairness. Other ties were settled by selecting finalists representing broader Canadian institutions abiding by equity diversity and inclusion guidelines as competition finalists.

The **judges** for the oral symposium will be CSM faculty members selected from the conference past presidents and attendees and they are currently being contacted by email. We are grateful for the willingness of these individuals to contribute to the process. Four awards sponsored by Canadian Science Publishing (CSP), Canadian College of Microbiology (CCM), Cedarlane, and ISME-8 will be handed out to the top four oral presentations.

Round 2 poster judging of the top 4 posters submitted in advance of the conference is ongoing as of June 1, for 2 weeks prior to the conference by Edcom members who did not judge these section abstracts. We are asking the section chairs to judge Round 3 of the posters virtually “in-person” during the virtual poster competition conference. In the memory of Terry Beveridge, three poster prizes in the amount of \$500 will be handed out for each section: II, MGCM, and AEM. An ASM award comprising an ASM student membership and a book or journal will be handed out for best poster layout.

Student competition conference chairing will be coordinated by Edcom co-chairs and led by either Denise, Dawn or Edel.

AWARDS

Due to the virtual format there were no ISME-8 travel awards this year.

There were no CSM Ambassador Award applicants this year likely due to the pandemic’s travel restrictions. We would normally be able to award two ambassadorships in a given year.

CSM Undergrad awards: no undergraduate awards were received this year. This may be due to a lack of reminders and the inability to have as many undergrads working in labs due to COVID personnel lab restrictions. Up to six awards could have been given. Due to the pandemic a number of students never fulfilled their travel and presentations from previous award years:

Nikhil George (U Waterloo) - pending

Moira Dion (U Laval) - pending

Deeksha Shetty (postdoc; McGill University) -pending

Jackson Tsuji (U Waterloo) – completed talk virtually at UBC

All were contacted to give virtual talks at their selected institutions or prepare video content for CSM YouTube channel as option to travel but they never followed up.

CSM KNOWLES POSTDOCTORAL SYMPOSIUM

Chris Yost gratefully assisted in the postdoctoral symposium abstract reviewing. A total of 23 abstracts were received and blindly reviewed by CJM Editors with subject area expertise. As in previous years, a total of six postdoc abstracts, where the top two from each section were selected for oral presentations in the virtual symposium. Principles of EDI are reflected in the selected presentations.

The chair of the PDF symposium during the conference is to be determined.

We thank all volunteer judges for their help this year!

CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The 5th annual career development workshop was cancelled this year as presenter Dr. Aleeza Gerstein (U of Manitoba) is on maternity leave and the other speaker Dr. George DiCenzo wished to wait for Aleeza to return. Next year this workshop will focus on tips and recommendations for effective online/ social media scientific communication.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Denice Bay extended her time as co-chair by one year this year and plans to step down as Edcom Co-Chair in 2022. She plans on assisting the Edcom with the Career development workshop planning as this was cancelled this year. Education committee members Dawn Bignell and Edel Perez-Lopez will continue as co-chairs and will arrange a replacement for Denice as co-chair from the committee membership. Denice is happy to take up a committee member position this year while they search for a replacement member next year.

b) Committee on Microbiology Undergraduate Education Report (FOME)– Joe Rubin, Maria Davis

This year (2020 – 2021) has been a busy one for CMUE. The committee put considerable efforts into bringing together the community of microbiology educators to collectively address and help each other in the rapid pivot to remote teaching and learning. We hosted “FOME 2020, Physically distanced Edition” on June 17th 2020 via zoom. This was followed by monthly interactive teaching and learning sessions until September 2020 to keep the community engaged and connected. We have continued to host interactive workshopping sessions at the end of each term, December (Fall) 2020 and May (Winter) 2021, as a virtual space of educators to learn from each other.

For FOME 2021, the committee is happy to announce a Keynote session with Dr. Tamara Kelly (York University) and Dr. Tanya Noel (Windsor) on June 10 2021. This will be followed by FOME happy hour, a virtual space for educators to decompress and socialize.

As we continue to develop our ideas looking forward to CSM 2022, CMUE committee will continue its efforts to support microbiology educators over the next 12 months using virtual workshops. A heartfelt thank you to all the committee members for all their efforts into planning of FOME 2020 and 2021. We would sincerely like to thank the outgoing members Josie Libertucci and Yanelis Acebo Guerrero. We look forward to welcoming new members in July 2021. We would also like to thank the CSM executive and meetings secretary Chris Yost for their continued support.

c) Awards Report

i CSM Murray Award for Career Achievement – Silvia Cardona

The committee has unanimously voted for Dr. Turlough Finan as this year's recipient of the CSM Murray Award. The committee considered Dr. Finan's fundamental contributions to the genetics, genomics, and physiology of rhizobia and his recent high-quality publication focused on the minimal gene set from *Sinorhizobium meliloti* required for efficient symbiosis and nitrogen fixation. Most importantly, the committee was impressed with Dr. Finan's role in training. Many of Dr. Finan's previous trainees are now establishing as the next generation of microbiology professors. In summary, Dr. Finan's work is absolutely deserving of the 2021 CSM Murray Award.

ii Thermo Fisher Scientific Award – Janet Hill

In my capacity as Past President of the CSM, I chaired the selection committee for the CSM Thermo Fisher Scientific Award for 2021. Other members of the selection committee were Chris Yost (CSM Meetings Secretary and co-Editor-in-Chief, Canadian Journal of Microbiology), Dawn Bignell and Edel Pérez-López (co-chairs of the Education Committee), and Kari Dunfield (co-Editor in Chief, Canadian Journal of Microbiology). The committee considered three nominations and decided unanimously to select Dr. César de la Fuente as the 2021 CSM Thermo Fisher Scientific Award winner. On behalf of the committee, I encourage all CSM members to consider nominating themselves or championing a nomination of a deserving early career microbiologist for the Thermo Fisher Scientific Award for 2022. All members of the CSM/SCM who have held an independent academic position for five years or less from Jan 1st of the year of nomination are eligible. Eligible leaves of absence (e.g., parental leave, medical leave) are credited as twice the amount of time taken.

iii Armand-Frappier Outstanding Student Award – Kari Dunfield

The Armand Frappier Outstanding Student Award Committee included Kari Dunfield, U of Guelph, Carole Creuzenet, U of Windsor, and Cara Haney, UBC. We received four very strong applications in 2021, and are pleased to recommend Dr. Kali Iyer, University of Toronto for this award. We encourage the applicants who are still eligible to re-apply next year.

17. Reports from Representatives to outside organizations

a) Canadian Journal of Microbiology, 2018-2019 - Chris Yost and Kari Dunfield, Co-Editors in Chief

The Canadian Journal of Microbiology (CJM) contains new research in the field of microbiology, including:

- *Applied microbiology and biotechnology*
- *Microbial ecology, microbial structure, physiology, and metabolism*
- *Virology, genetics, and molecular biology*
- *Infection and immunity*
- *Fungi and other eucaryotic protists*
- *Microbiological methods*

Society Support

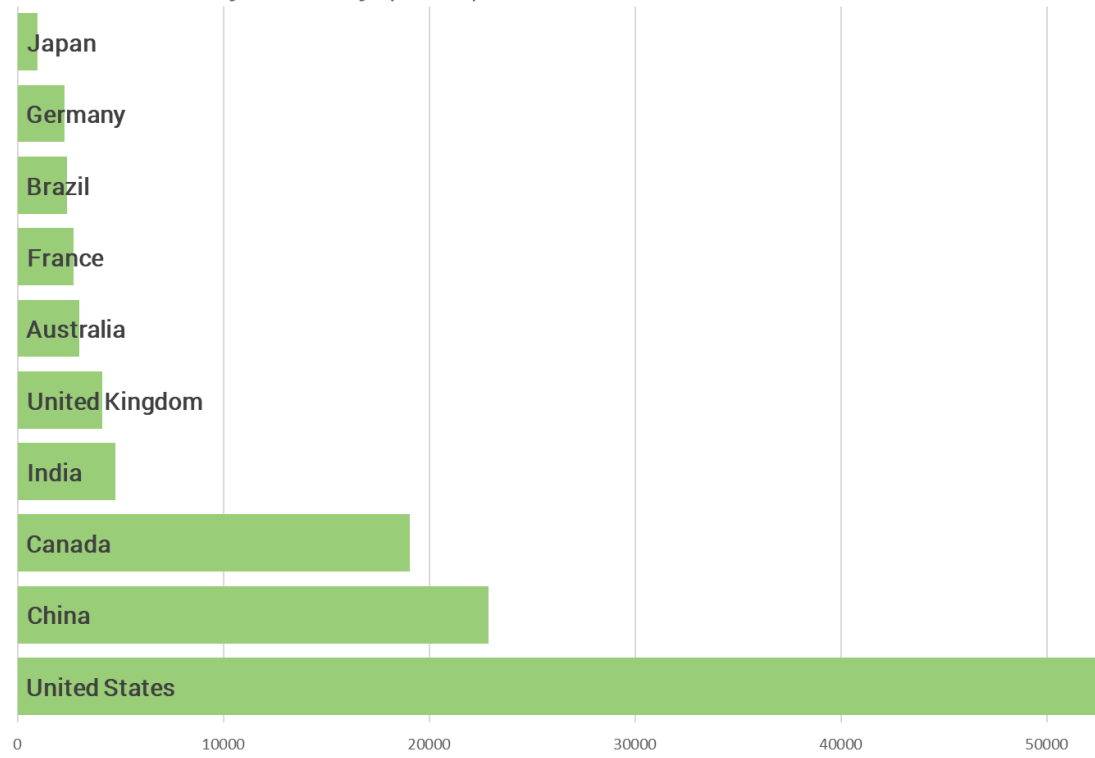
CJM is proudly affiliated with the Canadian Society of Microbiologists (<https://www.csm-scm.org/>).

Online Access

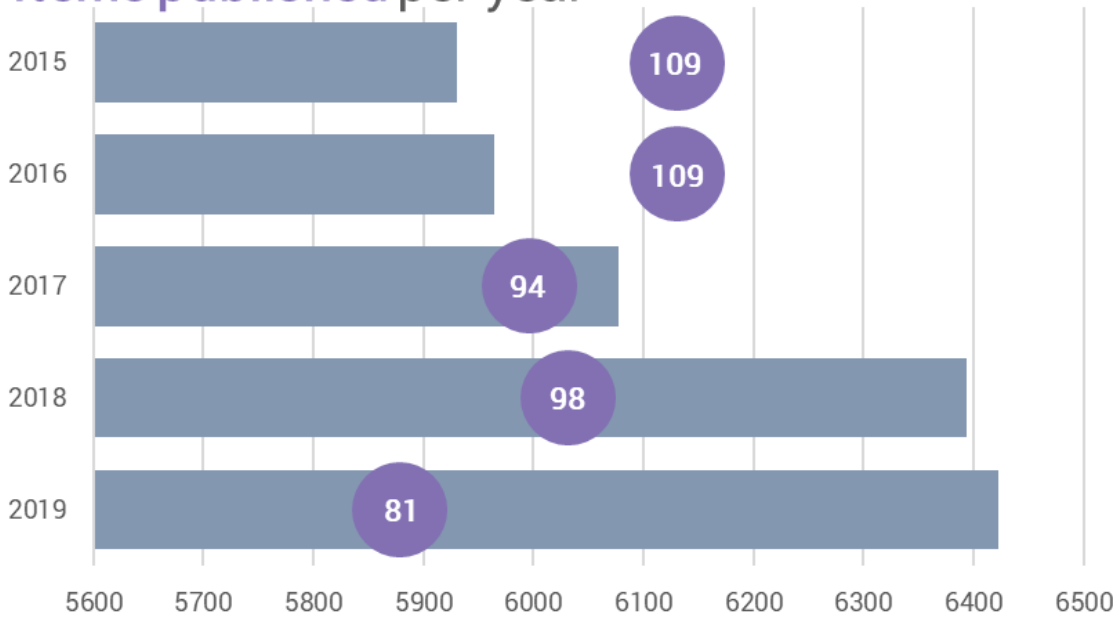
The table below summarizes online access to CJM for the 2017-2021 (year to date, as of May 28, 2021), as well as the distribution by country.

	<i>Table of Contents</i>	<i>Full-text HTML</i>	<i>Full-text PDF</i>	<i>Full-text Total</i>
<i>2017</i>	<i>31,503</i>	<i>16,861</i>	<i>62,279</i>	<i>84,140</i>
<i>2018</i>	<i>38,585</i>	<i>31,136</i>	<i>64,241</i>	<i>95,377</i>
<i>2019</i>	<i>38,263</i>	<i>57,310</i>	<i>107,421</i>	<i>164,731</i>
<i>2020</i>	<i>24,510</i>	<i>59,670</i>	<i>86,463</i>	<i>146,133</i>
<i>2021 (YTD)</i>	<i>5921</i>	<i>38,880</i>	<i>21,692</i>	<i>60,572</i>

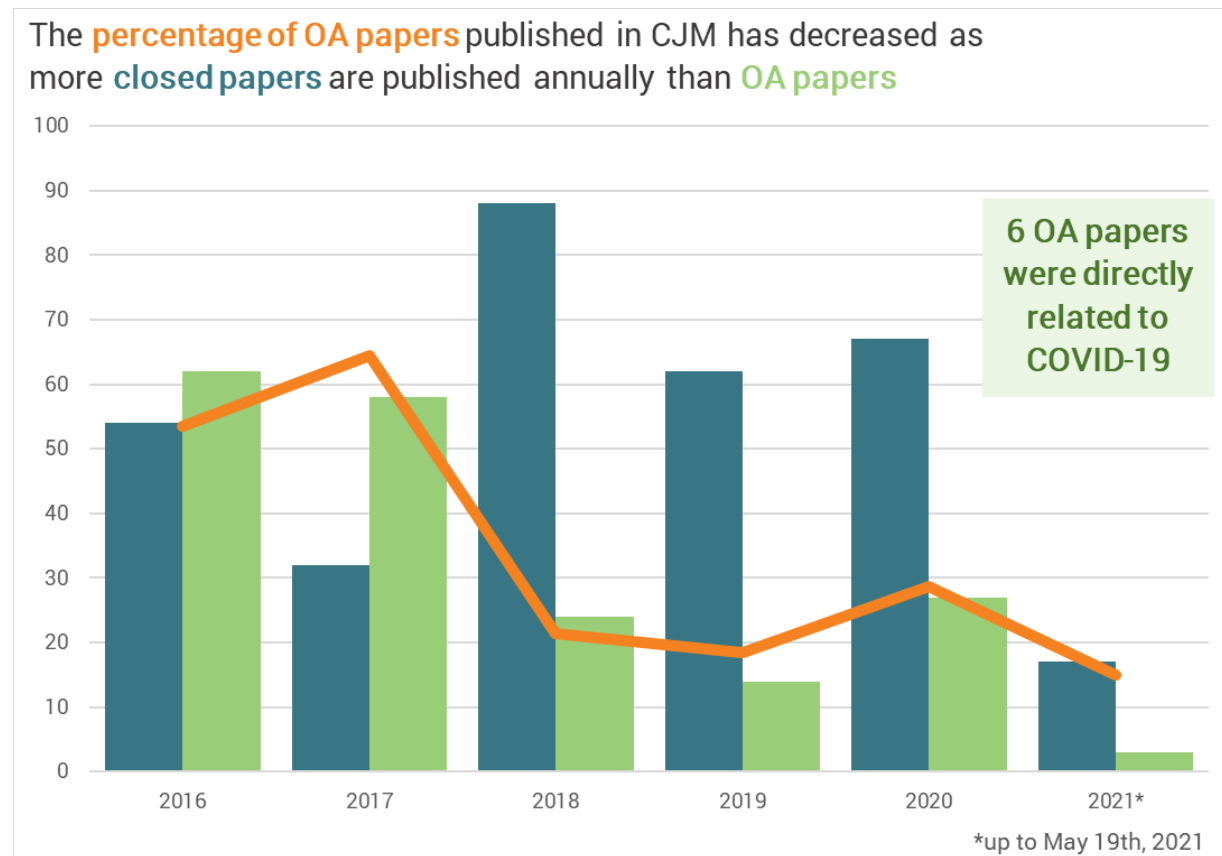
CJM Access by Country (2020)



Total cites and number of citable items published per year



Open Access



Free access to all CSP journal content is also provided to developing countries through Research4Life, ensuring that developing countries get barrier-free access to CJM.

CSP offers all researchers from any Canadian university participating in the CRKN consortium (43 universities) a 50% discount on the usual paid open access fee of \$3000 (OpenArticle). **CSP offers an additional discount to all members of the Canadian Society of Microbiologists; members pay \$1000 for open access.**

Social Media Outlets and Other Marketing Efforts

The following data are pulled from Altmetric, a tool that collects article-level online attention from sources including mainstream media, blogs, public policy documents, social media, and Wikipedia. For more information regarding the Altmetric Attention Score, click [here](#).

For articles published in issue in 2020 (January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020), 47 articles had an Altmetric Attention Score (i.e., were shared online); collectively, the 47 articles had 304 social media mentions and 6 news and blog mentions.

The top 5 articles, according to their Altmetric Attention Score (**in bold**) are listed below. By clicking on the title of the article you will be brought to the article's Altmetric overview and can learn about the online sources that mentioned the article, including posts on the CSP Blog:

1. *It takes three to tango: the importance of microbes, host plant, and soil management to elucidate manipulation strategies for the plant microbiome; open access* **(32)**
2. *Keeping the microbiology lab alive: essential microbiology lab skill development in the wake of COVID-19; open access* **(22)**, featured on CSP Blog
3. *Finding the silver lining during a global pandemic: opportunities for curriculum innovation in microbiology education; open access* **(20)**, featured on CSP Blog
4. *Fourteen steps to relevance: taking probiotics from the bench to the consumer; (15)*, author cited article in piece for Nature Portfolio's Microbiology Community blog ([click here for post](#))
5. *Volatile organic compounds kill the white-nose syndrome fungus, Pseudogymnoascus destructans, in hibernaculum sediment; (10)*, featured on CSP Blog

Please note that for these top 5 articles, the main source for online mention was Twitter and most mentions on Twitter were by the Canadian Science Publishing Twitter account.

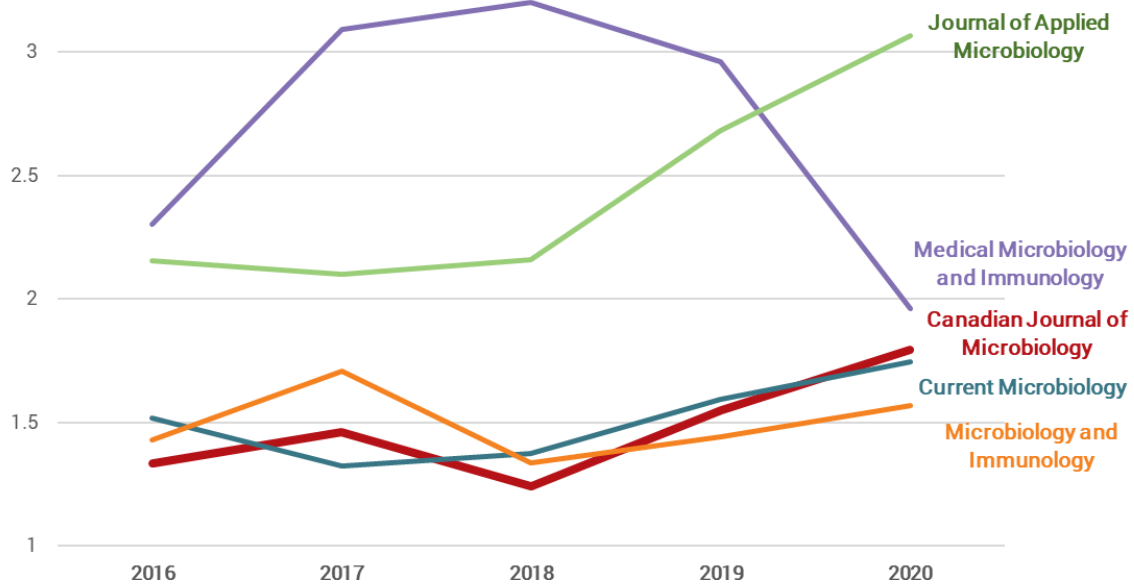
Sponsorships, Exhibits, Awards (2020)

- CSM Murray Award (2020 and in 2021)
- Infection and Immunity Research Forum
- Early Career Researcher Symposium (2021)

Journal metrics summary for CJM

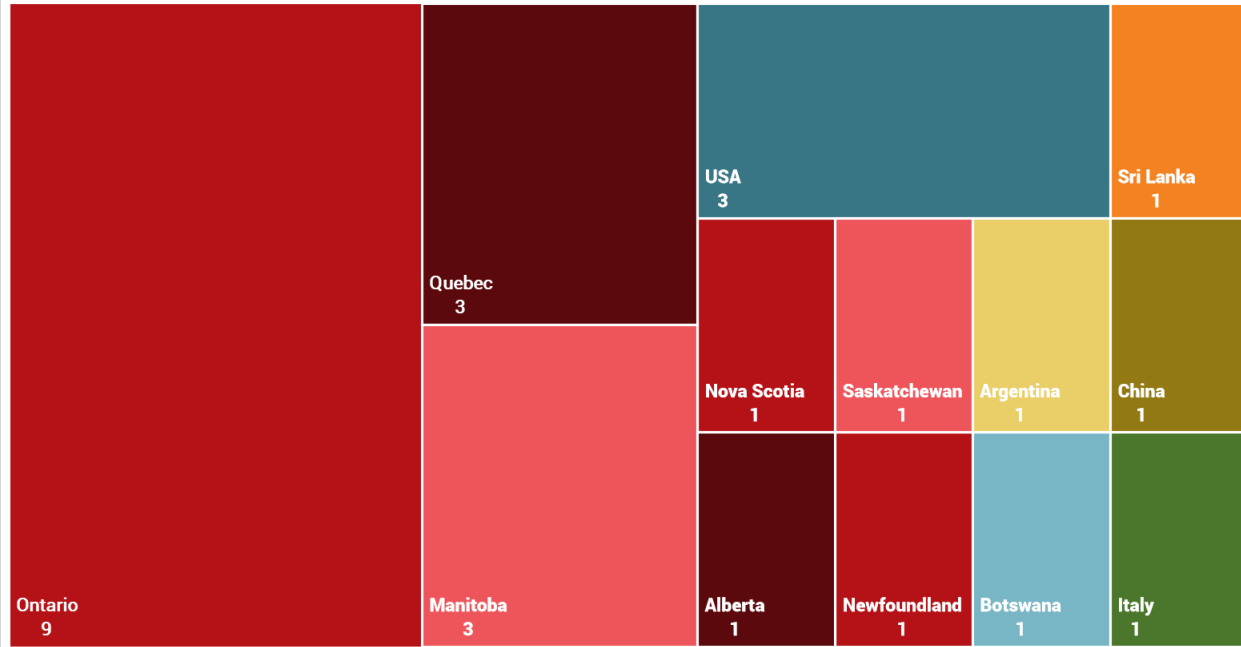
Metric	Description	Year	Value	Rank in Microbiology	Rank in Biotechnology & Applied Microbiology
2-year impact factor ¹	Average no. of times articles from the journal published in the past 2 years have been cited in the JCR year	2019	1.793	107/135	117/156
		2018	1.550	111/133	127/162
		2017	1.243	111/126	134/161
		2016	1.462	99/125	113/160
		2015	1.335	102/123	122/161
5-year impact factor ¹	Average no. of times articles from the journal published in the past 5 years have been cited in the JCR year	2019	1.794	103/128	115/156
Total cites ¹	Total no. of citations to the journal in a year (citations to papers published in any year)	2019	6421	46/135	57/156
Immediacy index ¹	Average no. of times an article is cited in the year it's published (indicates how quickly articles in a journal are cited)	2019	0.556	80/133	92/155
Cited half-life ¹	Median age of journal items cited in 2019 (i.e., half of the citations are to items published within the cited half-life)	2019	18.4	N/A	N/A
Eigenfactor ¹	% estimate of time library users spend with the journal (algorithm based on no. of times articles published in the journal in the past 5 years were cited in 2019, but also which journals contributed these citations – highly cited journals influence network more than less cited journals)	2019	0.00288	90/134	87/156
Article Influence Score ¹	Measure of avg influence of each article in the journal over the first 5 years after publication (roughly analogous to 5-year IF). Mean score is 1.00; >1.00 indicates that each article has above-average influence, <1.00 indicates that each article has below-average influence	2019	0.440	104/128	108/156
h-index ³	A journal with an h-index of 48 has published 48 papers that have each been cited at least 48 times	2019	14		
¹ Web of Science Journal Citation Reports (based on 2019 data, released in 2020)					

Two year impact factor of **Canadian Journal of Microbiology** and its competitors, 2016-2020

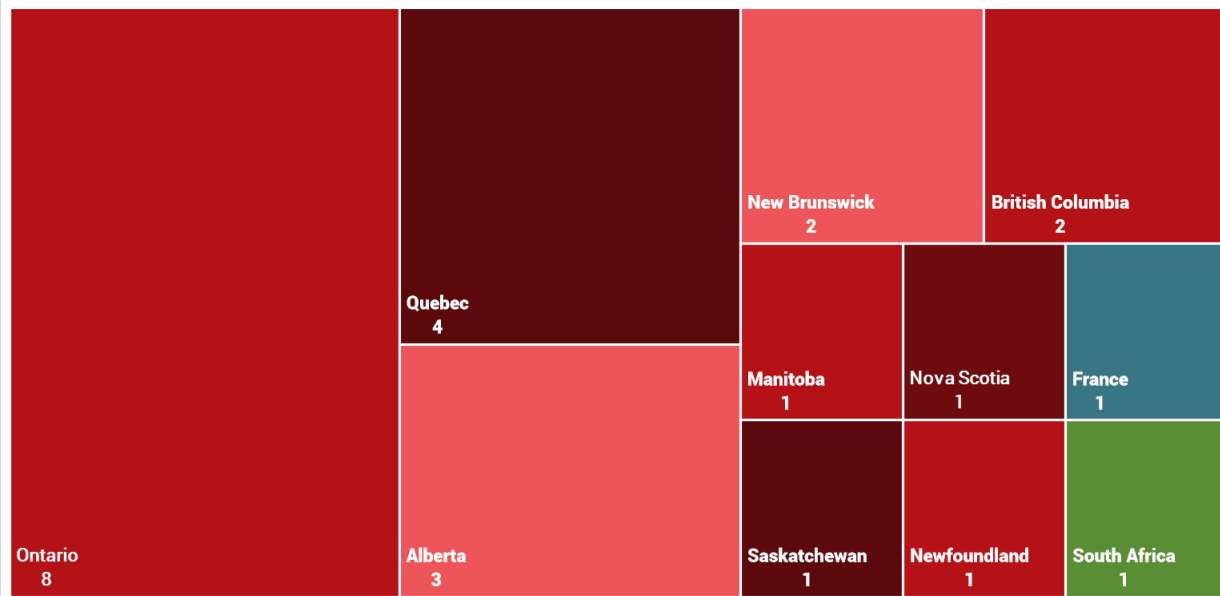


Diversity at CJM

There is little Editorial Board Member geographic diversity: **one third** are located in **Ontario** and only five members are located outside North America



There is little geographic diversity among editors: **one third** are located in **Ontario** and only two members are located outside Canada

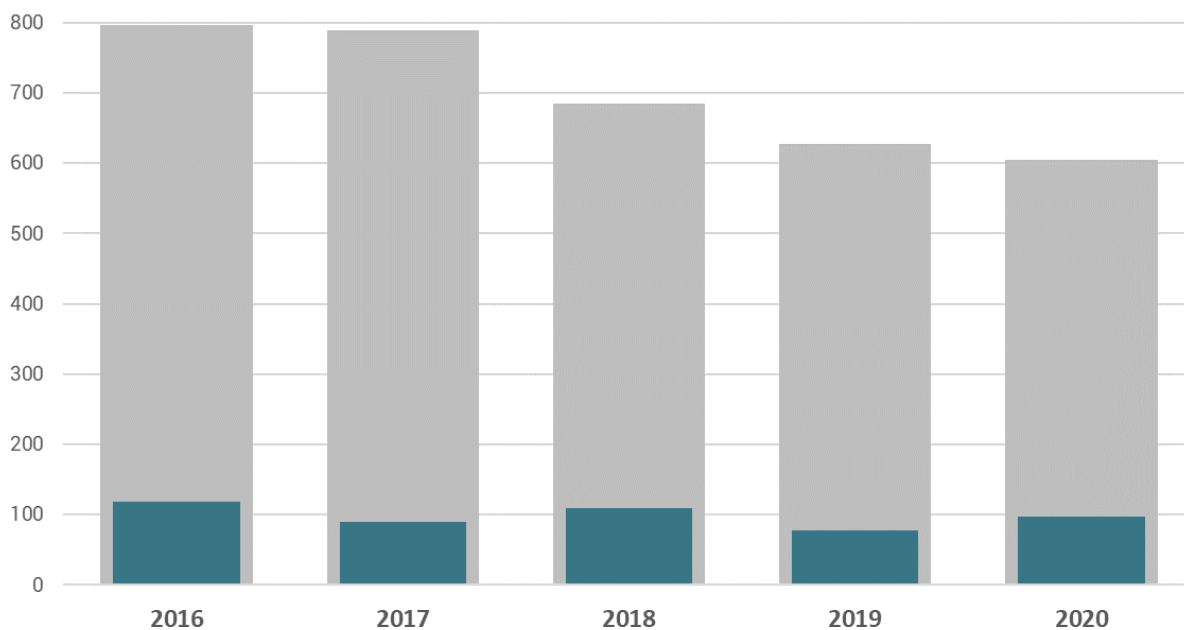


Editorial Statistics

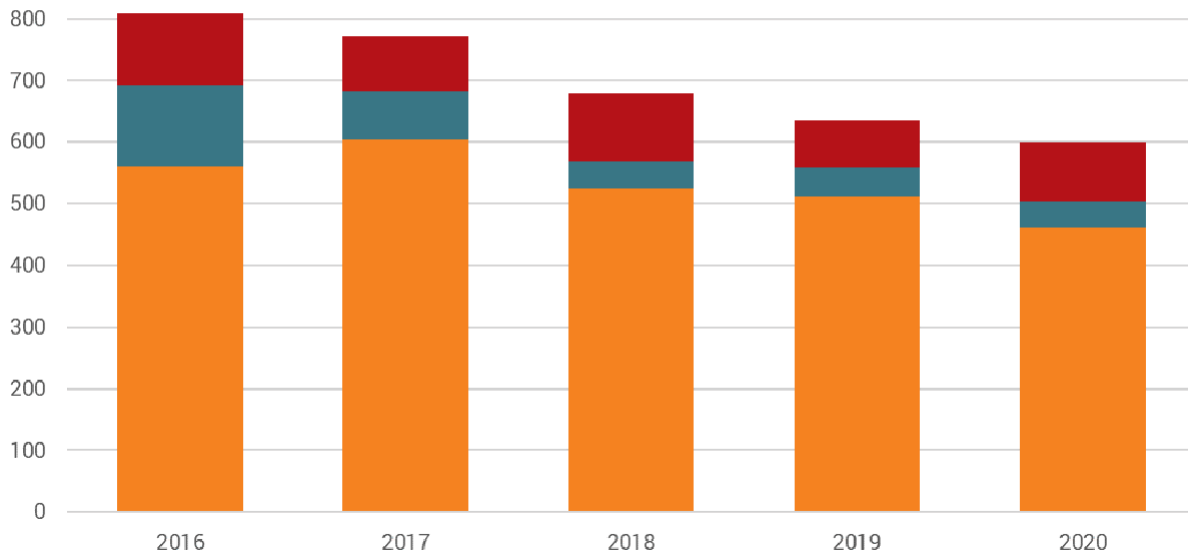
Of the 67 manuscripts published in CJM in 2020, the majority were Articles



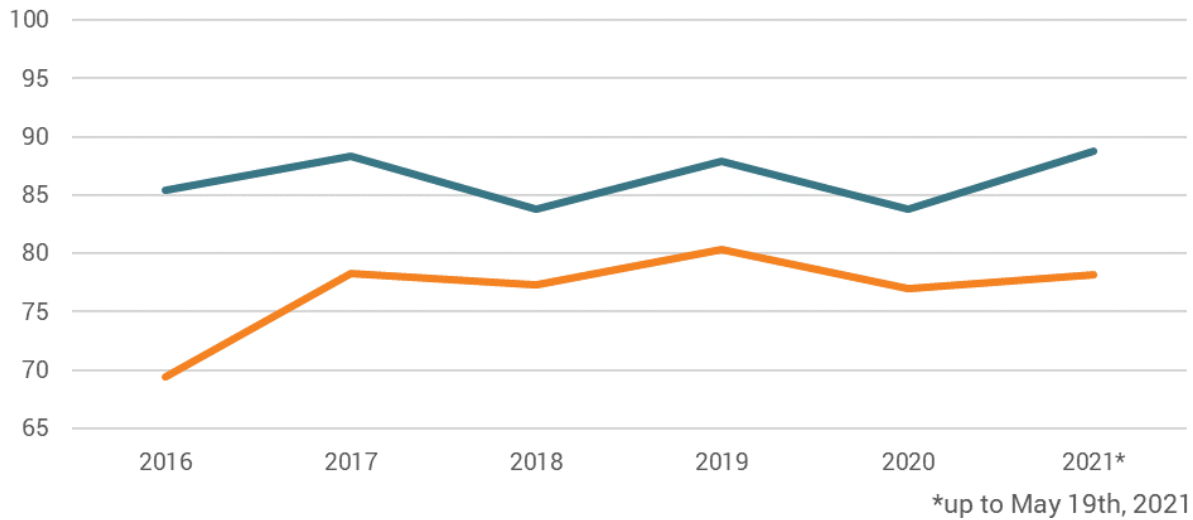
Number of original submissions and final accepts from 2016 through 2020



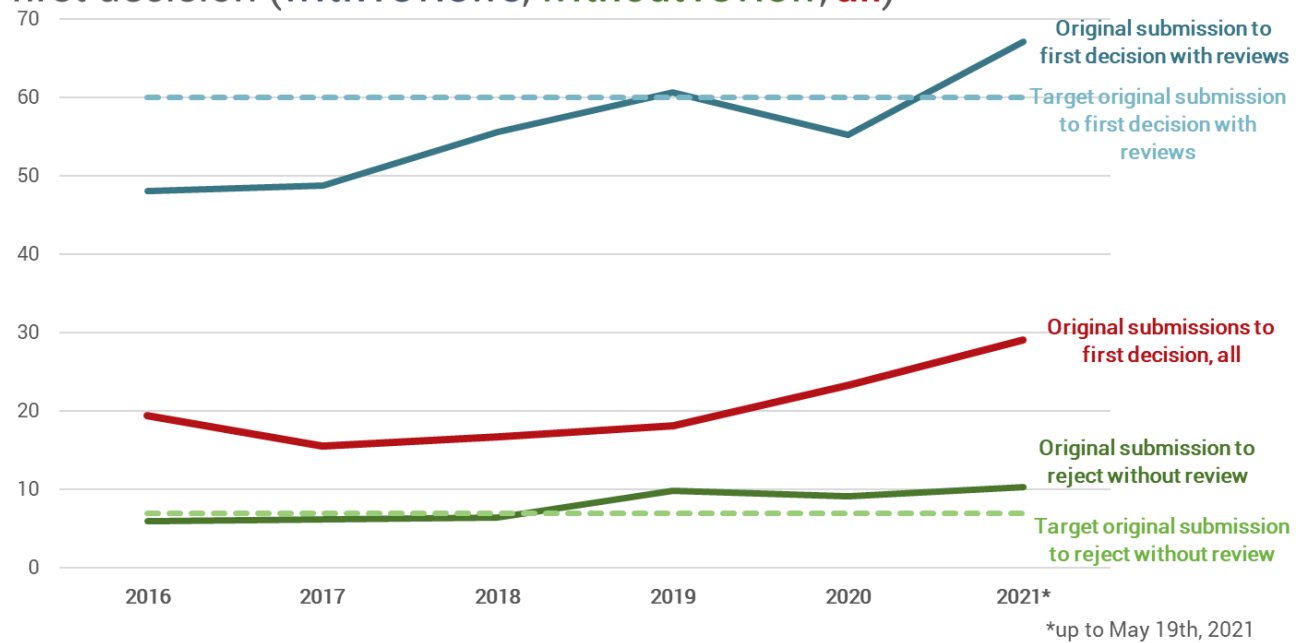
Number of **accept**, **reject after review**, and **reject without review** decisions over five years (2016-2020)



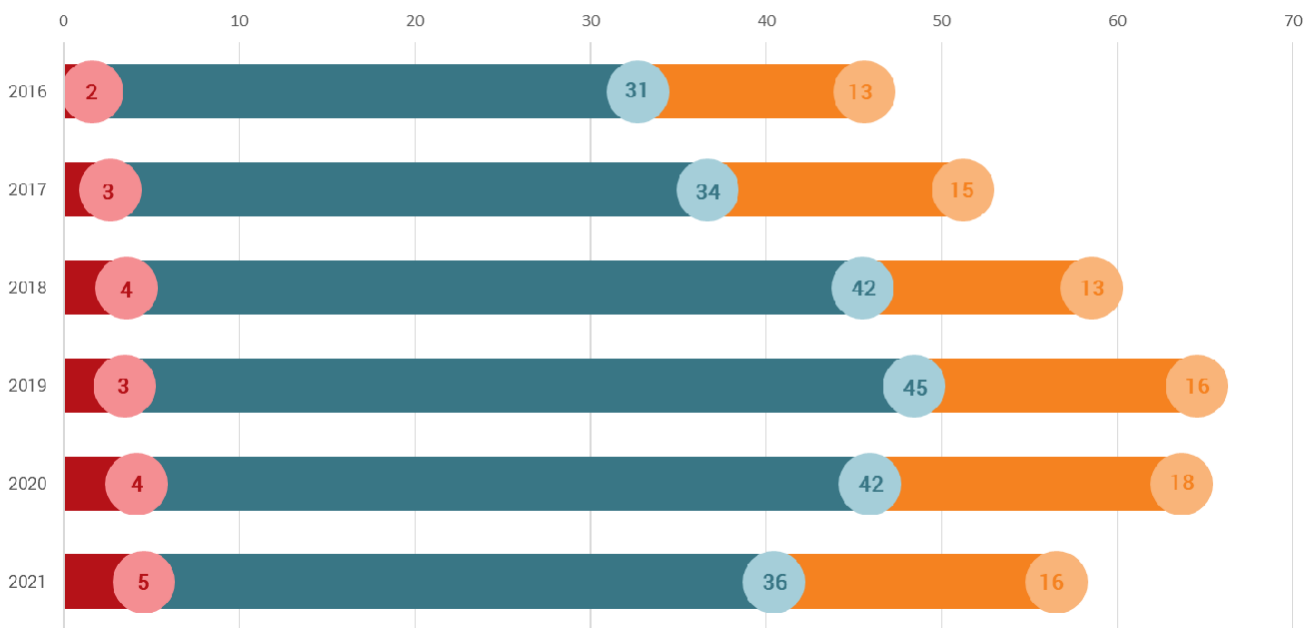
As submissions have decreased annually, **rejection** (including reject without review) and **reject without review** decision rates have remained high



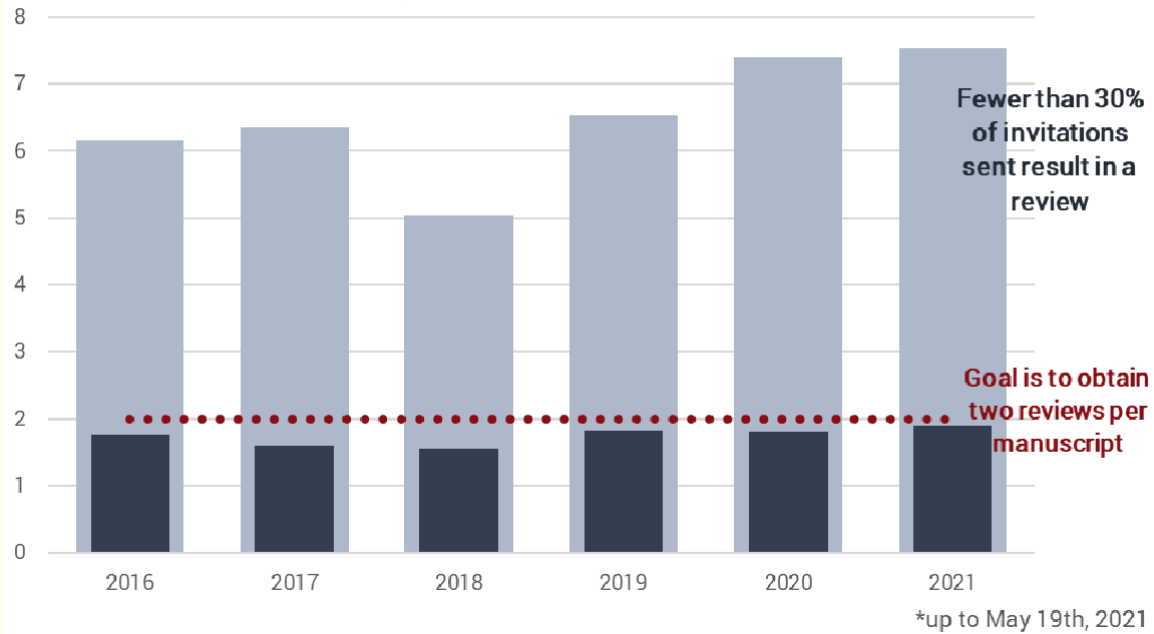
Mean number of days from original submission to first decision (with reviews, without review, all)



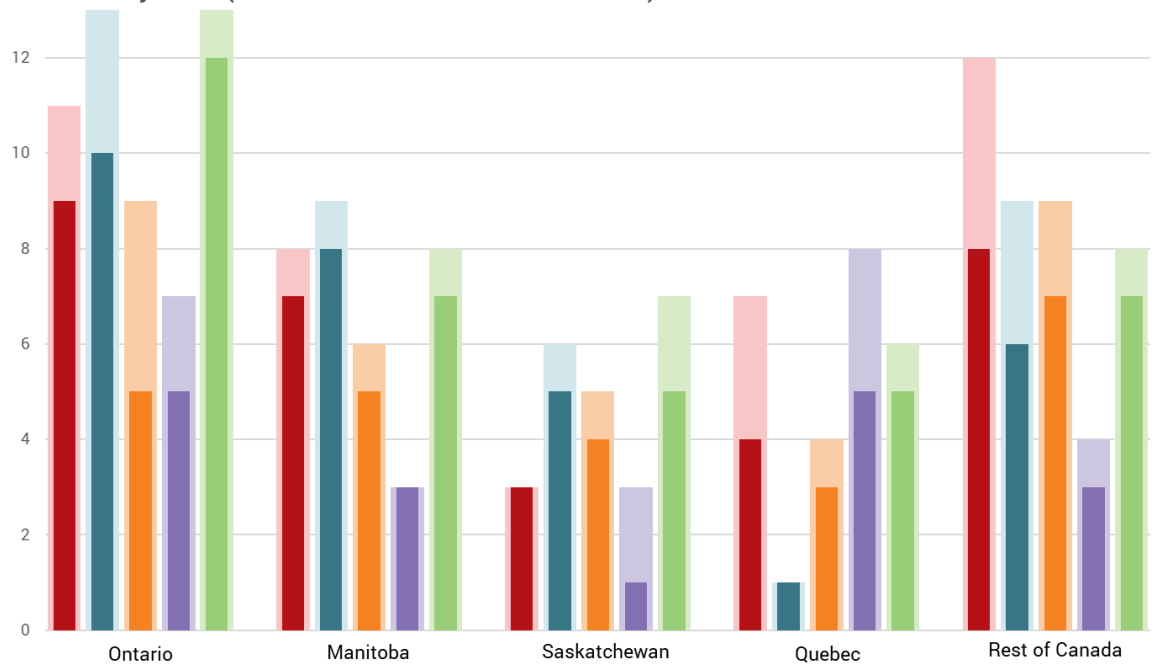
Average number of days a manuscript waits for EIC to assign ED, ED to successfully invite reviewers, and reviewer scores to be completed



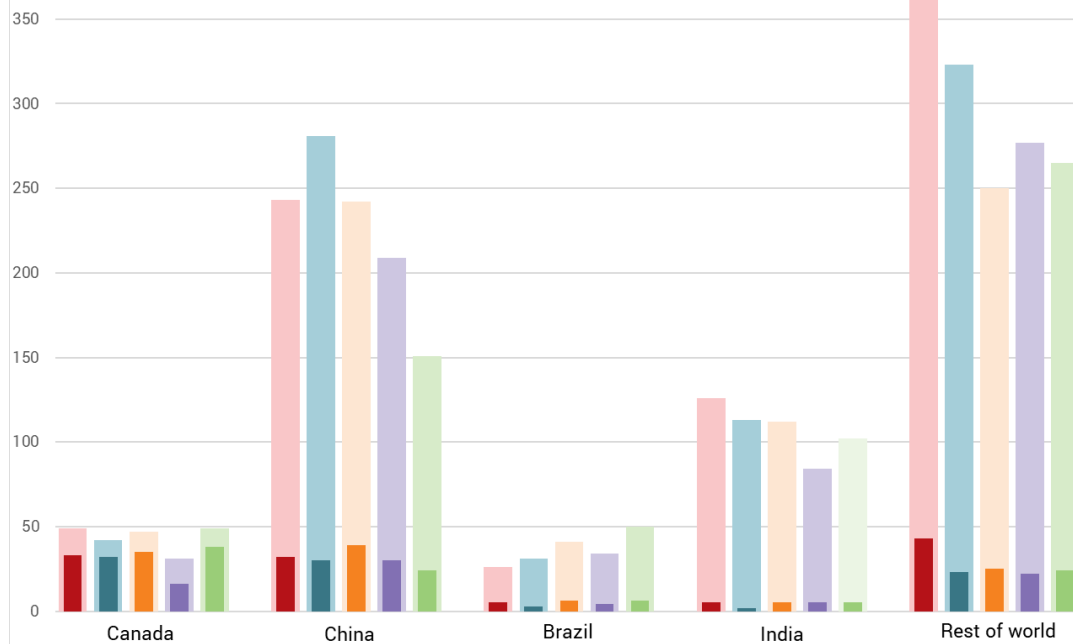
Average number of reviewer invitations sent and completed reviews per year



Number of submitted and accepted manuscripts by province over five years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)



Number of submitted and accepted manuscripts by region over five years (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)



Top 10 highly cited articles (2019 – present)

DOI	Title	Authors	Times cited
10.1139/cjm-2018-0636	<i>Evaluation of ACC-deaminase-producing rhizobacteria to alleviate water-stress impacts in wheat (Triticum aestivum L.) plants</i>	Chandra, Dinesh; Srivastava, Rashmi; Gupta, Vadakattu V.S.R.; Franco, Christopher M.M.; Sharma, Anil Kumar	28
10.1139/cjm-2019-0331	<i>Zika virus: an emerging challenge to public health worldwide</i>	Sharma, Vikrant; Sharma, Manisha; Dhull, Divya; Sharma, Yashika; Kaushik, Sulochana; Kaushik, Samander	18
10.1139/cjm-2019-0330 OPEN ACCESS	<i>Bacterial microbiome associated with the rhizosphere and root interior of crops in Saskatchewan, Canada</i>	Cordero, Jorge; de Freitas, J. Renato; Germida, James J.	16
10.1139/cjm-2019-0309	<i>Renaissance of vancomycin: approaches for breaking antibiotic resistance in multidrug-resistant bacteria</i>	Mühlberg, Eric; Umstätter, Florian; Kleist, Christian; Domhan, Cornelius; Mier, Walter; Uhl, Philipp	13
10.1139/cjm-2018-0560	<i>Bacterial community succession in dairy manure composting with a static composting technique</i>	Meng, Qingxin; Xu, Xiuhong; Zhang, Wenhao; Men, Mengqi; Xu, Benshu; Deng, Liting; Bello, Ayodeji; Jiang, Xin; Sheng, Siyuan; Wu, Xiaotong	11
10.1139/cjm-2019-0153	<i>Development and application of DNA-aptamer-coupled magnetic beads and aptasensors for the detection of Cryptosporidium parvum oocysts in drinking and recreational water resources</i>	Iqbal, Asma; Liu, Juwen; Dixon, Brent; Zargar, Bahram; Sattar, Syed A.	9
10.1139/cjm-2018-0497	<i>Reshaping fecal gut microbiota composition by growing with Polygonum cuspidatum, Houttuynia cordata, and Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Zheng, Yao; Hu, Gengdong; Wu, Wei; Qiu, Liping; Li, Dandan; Bing, Xuwen; Chen, Jiazhang	8
10.1139/cjm-2018-0379	<i>Isolation and characterization of mercury-resistant bacteria from wastewater sources in Egypt</i>	Naguib, Martha M.; Khairalla, Ahmed S.; El-Gendy, Ahmed O.; Elkhatib, Walid F.	8
10.1139/cjm-2020-0085 OPEN ACCESS EDITORS' CHOICE	<i>It takes three to tango: the importance of microbes, host plant, and soil management to elucidate manipulation strategies for the plant microbiome</i>	Tosi, Micaela; Mitter, Eduardo Kovalski; Gaiero, Jonathan; Dunfield, Kari	7
10.1139/cjm-2020-0004	<i>Antibacterial and antibiofilm effects of α-humulene against Bacteroides fragilis</i>	Jang, Hye-In; Rhee, Ki-Jong; Eom, Yong-Bin	7

b) *International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses – Andrew Lang*

Access to all the latest information about ICTV activities and updates is available at the ICTV website (<http://talk.ictvonline.org/>). At this site you can also subscribe to the ICTV email newsletter. Some recent and ongoing ICTV highlights:

- Taxonomic proposals submitted over the previous year were reviewed by the ICTV Executive Committee in October 2020 and ratified by the ICTV Membership in March 2021. The current virus taxonomy (Master Species List #36) is available online at <http://ictvonline.org/virusTaxonomy.asp>.
- The ICTV Online (10th) Report on Virus Taxonomy is available and freely accessible at <http://ictv.global/report>. Summaries of the Online Report chapters are published in the *Journal of General Virology* ICTV Virus Taxonomy Profiles section. These summaries are linked to the full Online Report chapters on the ICTV website and are indexed in PubMed.

c) *Biological & Chemical Defence Review – Jon van Hamme*

I hereby submit to the CSM-SCM a report on the activities of the Biological and Chemical Defence Review Committee (BCDRC) for the period April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. In this reporting period the BCDRC comprised Dr. Heinz-Bernhard Kraatz (University of Toronto), Dr. Jonathan Van Hamme (Thompson Rivers University; representing the Canadian Society of Microbiologists), Dr. Heather Durham (Montreal Neurological Institute; representing the Society of Toxicology of Canada, and Chair), and Executive Officer Brigadier General (ret'd) James Selbie. Our arm's-length website can be found at <http://www.bcdrc.ca/> with links to formal, public reports.

The mandate of BCDRC is to provide an independent, third-party review of the Biological and Chemical Defence (BCD) research, development and training activities undertaken by the Department of National Defence (DND) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) with a view to assessing whether these activities are defensive in nature, and are conducted in a professional manner with minimal risk to public safety and the environment. Recent conflicts reported in the news involving the use of biological toxins, documented use of chemical weapons, and potential use of biological agents makes the Committee's work ever more important and relevant.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, between April 2020 and March 2021 the BCDRC completed numerous virtual visits and inspections at DND establishments, Defence Research and Development Canada (DRDC) sites and other institutions involved in BCD research. Due to the nature of virtual visits, highly sensitive and classified matters could not be discussed, and physical laboratory inspections could not be executed. Two Committee members did receive secret-level debriefings in person in Ottawa.

During its 2020 virtual visits the Committee was satisfied that DND and the CAF are maintaining a purely defensive policy in biological and chemical warfare research, countermeasures, surveillance and training; that such research is compliant with Canada's obligations as a signatory state to the Biological Weapons Convention and Chemical Weapons Convention; and that such research does not pose a threat to public safety or the environment. Based on observations during the course of its visits, the Committee made several recommendations that will be published in its 2020 Annual Report on the BCDRC website. The report is delayed for 2020 given that virtual inspections were not completed until October of 2020, inspections that normally take place in May and June. A full report of the Committee's diverse activities can be found at: <http://bcdrc.ca/annual-reports/>.

We have delayed our 2021 activities into November, hoping that in person visits will be possible.

I started a four-year term as Chair of the BCDRC on April 1, 2021. The Committee is grateful for the leadership provided by Dr. Heather Durham, outgoing Chair, who will continue as a Committee member this year.

Yours, Jonathan Van Hamme, Professor, Thompson Rivers University.

d) *ASM International Membership Comm. & Ambassador to Canada – Christine Szymanski*

This is my first year of my second 3-year term as the ASM Ambassador to Canada. Each year, the Ambassadors submit requests to ASM for support of the CSM Annual Conference. Previously, the country ambassador has submitted a grant to fund the ASM Student Poster Prize at the CSM Annual Conference. The young ambassador submits a grant to fund a CSM/ASM student networking event. The work plans and funding requests are due by the end of January (decisions are sent early March) and the ambassadors work together with the local organizing committee on these submissions. There are also opportunities to request funds for special ASM lectures or sessions at the CSM Annual Conference or if anyone is interested in organizing a microbial specialty meeting in Canada. For these opportunities, you would need to contact the ambassadors prior to January 30 of the year you are planning to host a meeting. This year, I submitted a request for one Student Poster Prize. ASM has agreed to again fund the request (1 membership and e-book, a combined \$250 value) awarded at the Canadian Society of Microbiologists virtual Annual Conference. I would also like to thank our departing Youth Ambassador, Thomas Finn for his service to CSM and I look forward to working with our next Youth Ambassador that will fill this role.

i. *ASM Young Ambassador to Canada – Vacant*

Not available

e) *Partnership Group in Science and Engineering – PAGSE – Thien-Fah Mah*

1 June 2020 – 30 June 2021

(provided by Emma Brown, PAGSE manager)



The Partnership Group for
Science and Engineering

Le Partenariat en faveur des
sciences et de la technologie

The Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (PAGSE;

www.pagse.org) is a non-profit umbrella organization of national

societies in Science and Engineering. It was formed in June 1995 at the invitation of the Academy of Science of the Royal Society of Canada. The organizations that comprise PAGSE represent almost 60,000 individual members from industry, academia, and government sectors. We work collectively to represent the Canadian science and engineering community to the Government of Canada, and to advance research and innovation for the benefit of Canadians. PAGSE is *not* a lobby group. It does not seek an audience to advance the cause of specific science and engineering initiatives. Rather, its intent is to address the broader issues of science and engineering policy at the national level and to inform parliamentarians on topics of science and engineering.

Organizational Update

Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, this past year marked several important milestones for PAGSE, including its 25th anniversary. Along with a new website and rebrand, PAGSE became officially incorporated as a non-profit organization in July 2020 with the inaugural Board of Directors guiding the process. These behind-the-scenes accomplishments will set PAGSE up for long-term success as a trusted source of non-partisan information on science and engineering research in Canada.

Activities on the programming side were also busy, with a relaunch of the Bacon and Eggheads series following a brief hiatus at the beginning of the pandemic. Response to the virtual format has been overwhelmingly positive with record-high attendance numbers, and demand from across Canada for live streaming of events upon our eventual return to in-person breakfasts on Parliament Hill. New issues of SciEng Pages have also been released, with a goal to publish these on at least a quarterly basis moving forward.

Bacon & Eggheads

PAGSE (*in partnership with its supporting organizations, listed in Appendix I below*) presents a monthly breakfast meeting on Parliament Hill, known as “Bacon and Eggheads”. Speakers at the meetings inform parliamentarians about

recent advances in science and engineering. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this season's events have been held virtually:

[Developing Vaccines for Pandemics – Contrasting the Ebola and COVID-19 experience](#)

Gary Kobinger, Université Laval

October 29, 2020

[Seeds of a Better Anthropocene](#)

Elena Bennett, McGill University

December 3, 2020

[Better Pandemic Preparedness – How Canadian science can be ready for future threats](#)

Volker Gerdt, University of Saskatchewan

February 18, 2021

[Energy Systems and Land Reclamation: An Environmental Imperative](#)

M. Anne Naeth, University of Alberta

March 25, 2021

[The global race towards quantum technologies: Canada's contributions and imminent opportunities](#)

Alexandre Blais, Université de Sherbrooke

April 22, 2021

[On the path to a net-zero carbon economy: carbon capture, utilization and storage](#)

Donald Lawton, Carbon Management Canada and the University of Calgary

May 13, 2021

[Have we entered the sixth mass extinction event? A view from home](#)

Lenore Fahrig, Carleton University

Andrew Gonzalez, McGill University

Mark Vellend, Université de Sherbrooke

June 2, 2021

SciEng Pages

SciEng Pages is an initiative undertaken by PAGSE to provide brief, evidence-based assessments of topical science and engineering topics to Parliamentarians and the public. Two new issues have been published this year:

- February 2021: ***[5G in Canada](#)***
- June 2021: ***[Canada's role in the responsible supply of technology metals](#)***

To view all SciEng Pages issues please visit: <https://pagse.org/scieng-pages/>.

PAGSE Council Meetings

Guests, representing science and engineering in the government and industry sectors, are invited to PAGSE Council meetings to present their perspectives on science and engineering in Canada, on the activities of their organizations, as well as the potential issues and challenges that they would like to see PAGSE address. Members also consider federal activities and reports and how best to promote and sustain Canada's scientific base. During the last year PAGSE has welcomed the following guests:

- October 9, 2020: **Rémi Quirion**, Chief Scientist of Québec
- February 24, 2021: **Alejandro Adem**, President of NSERC
- May 26, 2021: **Mona Nemer**, Chief Science Advisor of Canada

Meetings with Other Organizations

- July 2020: NDRIO
- July 2020: CANARIE
- July 2020: TD Bank
- July 2020: NSERC
- August 2020: Canadian Museum of Nature
- September 2020: Genome Canada
- September 2020: International Development Research Centre
- January 2021: Professional Geoscientists Ontario
- January 2021: Natural Resources Canada
- January 2021: National Research Council of Canada
- February 2021: Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences update meeting
- June 2021: Canadian Botanical Association

Submissions to Parliamentary Committees and Consultations

With the support of several member representatives, PAGSE submitted a brief to House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance in response to the pre-budget consultations in August 2020. [All past submissions are available on the PAGSE website.](#)

APPENDIX I

PAGSE Members

Canadian Academy of Engineering (Representative: *Robert Crawhall*)
Canadian Aquatic Resources Section of the American Fisheries Society (Representative: *Caleb Hasler*)
Canadian Association of Physicists (Representative: *Maikel Rheinstadter*)
Canadian Conference for Fisheries Research (Representative: *Steven Cooke*)
Canadian Council of University Biology Chairs (Representative: *Bruce McKay*)
Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (Representative: *Mike Hall*)
Canadian Geophysical Union (Representative: *Rich Petrone*)
Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (Representative: *Gordon Griffith*)
Canadian Physiological Society (Representative: *Graham Collingridge*)
Canadian Rivers Institute (Representative: *Glenn Benoy*)
Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution (Representative: *vacant*)
Canadian Society for Molecular Biosciences (Representative: *Imogen Coe*)
Canadian Society of Microbiologists (Representative: *Thien-Fah Mah*)
Canadian Society of Plant Biologists (Representative: *Owen Rowland*)
Canadian Society of Zoologists (Representative: *Katie Gilmour*)
Chemical Institute of Canada (Representative: *Paul Smith*)
Engineering Institute of Canada (Representative: *Branislav Djokic*)
IEEE Canada (Representative: *Kexing Liu*)
International Association for Great Lakes Research (Representative: *Paul Sibley*)
Society of Canadian Limnologists (Representative: *Bjoern Wissel*)
Statistical Society of Canada (Representative: *Jack Gambino*)

Board of Directors

Jérôme Marty, *PAGSE Chair*
Robert Crawhall
Maria DeRosa
Natalie Goto, *Bacon and Eggheads Committee Chair*
Rees Kassen
Kexing Liu

Supporting Organizations

CANARIE Inc.
CIFAR
Coherent Advice
Colleges and Institutes Canada
Genome Canada
IMRSV Data Labs
International Development Research Centre
McGill University
National Research Council of Canada
Natural Resources Canada
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
TD Bank
Université Laval
University of Alberta
University of Calgary
University of Saskatchewan
Welch LLP