

ARTS/SCEA Report
Carol Beynon (UWO) President
May 2006

This has been another good year for The Arts Researchers and Teachers Society/Société des chercheurs et enseignants des arts (ARTS/SCEA) group. Once again, we had a very large number of paper submissions for the CSSE meeting, and the quality of submissions continues to be extraordinarily high. The topics to be presented this year are diverse and range across all arts areas. This is fourth year for the ARTS/SCEA SIG to formally recognize excellence in graduate research in the arts through the presentation of an Arts Graduate Research Award. More details appear below.

History/Executive: The ARTS/SCEA held its initial augural meeting in May, 2000 at the University of Alberta in Edmonton with the formulation of a constitution. In May, 2002 at the University of Toronto, Rena Uptis was elected as President, and Carol Beynon was elected as Vice-President. Bernie Andrews, the founding President, became Past-President of the ARTS/SCEA group, and has remained an active member of the ARTS/SCEA executive. In May of 2004, Carol Beynon assumed the position of President until May 2006; with Rena Uptis as Past-President. Sylvia Kind was elected Vice-President at the ARTS/SCEA AGM in May, 2004 and will assume the presidency in May 2006 at the AGM.

Program: In 2002, 6 papers were presented by the members of ARTS/SCEA at CSSE, held at the University of Toronto. This number rose dramatically in 2003, where a total of 20 papers were presented by 30 graduate students, teachers, community partners, and faculty. In 2004, there were 16 papers presented by 27 researchers from across the country, many of whom are new members to the ARTS/SCEA SIG. The trend continues and CSSE 2006 is our best showing yet.

We are very pleased that the corpus of papers presented under the auspices of ARTS/SCEA is a significant one, and that arts research is gaining prominence at CSSE. This success is partly due to the growing visibility and prominence of CACS; as a SIG, we benefit from the strength of our parent association. The ARTS/SCEA SIG is indebted to Sylvia Kind for orchestrating the peer review of the paper proposals and for organizing the program.

Arts Graduate Research Award: The ARTS/SCEA SIG is once again in a position to make an award for graduate research, thanks to a generous donation from The Royal Conservatory of Music. The 2006 Arts Graduate Research Award has now been adjudicated and the award recipient is: Josée Benoît, University of Ottawa with thesis supervisor, Mariette Theberge. The title of her thesis is *The Motivation of Grade 9 and 10 Students to Enroll in a Specialized Music Program/La motivation d'élèves de 9e et 10e année à s'inscrire à un programme spécialisé en musique dans une école secondaire de langue française de l'Ontario.*

Arts Dinner: At the 2004 meeting of CSSE, members of the ARTS/SCEA group met for dinner following the presentation of the Arts Graduate Research Award and the AGM, with the award winner as our guest. We continued this tradition in Winnipeg. London and will do so again this year in Toronto at the upcoming CSSE meeting.

Financial: The major expenditure for ARTS/SCEA is the Arts Graduate Research Award. This award, valued at \$500 p.a., has been sponsored by The Royal Conservatory of Music for a five-year period, ending with the CSSE meeting in 2007. There are no outstanding debts for ARTS/SCEA; we will have about \$250 banked after CSSE 2006 due to membership fees. This amount will cover the small expenses incurred at CSSE that are not covered by the hosting universities.

Finally, it has been a pleasure to be Vice-President and President of the ARTS SIG for the past four years. I extend a sincere vote thanks to Dr Sylvia Kind for her work all year as our program chair and thesis award chair. We look forward to the development of the ARTS SIG under her leadership.