



**Nominating Committee
2007-2008 Report to the Annual General Meeting**

September 2008

Submitted by
Robert Best, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)
Chair, Nominating Committee

Mandate

The CRKN Nominating Committee is established by the Board of Directors as a Committee of the Board as per clause 13 of the Corporation's By-laws, and is responsible for:

- identifying and nominating candidates for election to the Board of Directors;
- identifying and nominating candidates for appointment by the Board of Directors, to fill vacancies on standing committees, task groups, and the Advisory Board, as required.

Membership 2007-2008

During this year the composition of the Nominating Committee was expanded to include two additional members in order to have access to a diverse network of possible candidates for upcoming Board, Advisory Board and Committee vacancies. The Board of Directors approved this expansion at their meeting on October 12, 2008.

The following list reflects the current¹ members of the Nominating Committee:

- Robert Best, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (Chair)
- Linda Burrige, Brandon University
- François Duchesneau, Université de Montréal
- Greg Kealey, University of New Brunswick
- Mona Nemer, University of Ottawa
- Leslie Weir, University of Ottawa

- CRKN staff member Bethany Tory, Director of Operations, serves as a resource person to the Committee.

¹ Amit Chakma, University of Waterloo served on this committee until September 2007.

Accomplishments in 2007-2008

1. *Recruitment of Advisory Board Members*

The Nominating Committee made recommendations for the following Advisory Board appointments, taking into account staggered terms for sound succession planning, and balance in Advisory Board member composition. These appointments were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors:

- Katherine Schultz, Vice-President, Research and Development, University of Prince Edward Island: appointed October 12, 2007 for a three-year term;
- Leslie Chan, Program Supervisor, International Studies Program and Joint Program in New Media Studies, University of Toronto at Scarborough: re-appointed April 15, 2008 for a three-year term;
- Brigitte Lévy, Associate Professor, School of Management, University of Ottawa, and former President, Canadian Association of Learned Journals (CALJ): re-appointed April 15, 2008 for a one-year term;
- Paul Whitney, CEO, Vancouver Public Library: appointed May 20, 2008 for three-year term;
- Jan Wilkinson, Librarian and Director of the John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester: appointed May 20, 2008 for three-year term;
- Marielle Gascon-Barré, Vice-president and Scientific Director of the FRSQ (Fond de recherche en santé du Québec): appointed June 17, 2008 for two-year term;
- Yves Gingras, Professor, Department of History, Université du Québec à Montréal: appointed August 1, 2008 for a three-year term.

2. *Appointment to Board of Directors*

At their meeting on June 8, 2007, the Nominating Committee was informed that elected Board of Directors member, David Gants was resigning from the Board of Directors, due to an impending career move to the US. David Gants was elected by the membership in September 2005 under by-law clause 9(1)(b), and was serving a 3-year term to be completed in September 2008.

The Nominating Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that Micheline Cambron, Université de Montréal, be appointed for this position to complete the original term ending September 2008. The Board approved this recommendation at its meeting on October 12, 2007.

3. *Negotiations Resource Team (NRT) Chair position*

According to current NRT Terms of Reference, the chair is appointed from among the university librarians serving on the Board of Directors. Pursuant to CRKN by-laws,



these individuals are designated by the four regional library groups and by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), and serve varying terms at the pleasure of each designating organization.

The NRT is a key committee that carries out the core business of CRKN, and the NRT chair plays an important leadership role on both NRT and the Board of Directors. This role requires not only significant expertise and commitment of time, but also continuity of leadership as CRKN engages in major multi-year content expansion projects. With Michael Ridley's pending departure as chair of the NRT, the Nominating Committee was concerned that while the CRKN by-laws and NRT Terms of Reference would allow the Board to designate a new chair of NRT in the immediate term, the by-laws fell short of assuring the needed continuity for the position and the ability to engage in sound succession planning for this key position on the Board. Consequently, the Nominating Committee recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board concurred, that CRKN should revise its by-laws to allow recruitment of an individual to the Board for specific appointment as chair of the NRT.

Pursuant to this Board decision, the Nominating Committee issued a call for nominations for this position and recommended to the Board of Directors that Martha Whitehead, Queen's University be appointed as Chair of the Negotiations Resource Team, and subsequently a member of the Board of Directors. The Board approved this appointment on June 18, 2008.

4. *Board of Directors election*

At its meeting on May 26, 2008, the Nominating Committee was informed that Board of Directors member Micheline Cambron would be completing her term in September 2008.

As provided for in the by-laws, the Nominating Committee proceeded with a call for nominations from the members, and held a mail ballot to elect one representative from the university research community to the Board of Directors. The term for the position would be three years, commencing immediately following the annual general meeting on September 23, 2008.

The call for nominations was issued to CRKN members on June 6, 2008, and the Nominating Committee reviewed the nominations and prepared a slate of three candidates for approval by the Board of Directors at their meeting on June 18, 2008. Mail ballots were distributed to voting members on June 26, 2008, with the election results to be announced at the annual general meeting on September 23, 2008 in Montreal.

5. *Committee composition and vacancies*

During the period covered by this report, the Nominating Committee made the following committee appointment recommendations, subsequently approved by the Board of Directors:



- Sylvia Teasdale, Bishop's University: appointed as Treasurer and Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee, and member of the Executive Committee effective June 21, 2007;
- Jonathan Blay, Dalhousie University: re-appointed to Executive Committee;
- William Maes, Dalhousie University: appointed as Chair of the Membership Committee;
- Greg Kealey, University of New Brunswick: appointed to the Nominating Committee;
- Mona Nemer, University of Ottawa: appointed to the Nominating Committee;
- Leslie Weir, University of Ottawa: appointed to the Nominating Committee;
- Lucie Mercier-Gauthier, University of Ottawa: appointed to the Finance & Audit Committee;
- Christopher Callbeck, University of New Brunswick Saint John: re-appointed to the Finance & Audit Committee for a three-year term effective October 12, 2007;
- Gayle Gorrill, University of Victoria: appointed to the Finance & Audit Committee for a three-year term effective November 17, 2007;
- Michael Ridley, University of Guelph: appointed Chair of the Executive Committee and Vice-chair of the Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2008.

Objectives for 2008-2009

1. Assess and recommend any changes or additions required to the current composition of Board and standing committees. Recommend committee assignments for newly elected Board members.
2. Continue making proactive recommendations regarding appropriate succession planning to provide a stable and enduring governance structure for the organization, which will include fostering identification of a broader pool of candidates for Board and committee positions.

