

Reports for the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the  
Canadian Association for Theatre Research/  
Association Canadienne de la Recherche Théâtrale

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# Canadian Association for Theatre Research

Association Canadienne de la Recherche Théâtrale | <http://www.catr-acrt.ca>

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**Agenda: Annual General Membership Meeting**

Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023

Time: 3:30 – 5:45 PM ADT

Location: Dalhousie University and Zoom

1. *Preliminaries*

- a. Call to Order
- b. Land Acknowledgement (President: Robin)
- c. **MOTION**: to Approve the 2023 AGM Agenda
- d. **MOTION**: to Accept the Minutes of the 2022 AGM

2. *Report of the President* (President: Robin)

3. *Report of the Treasurer* (Treasurer: Katrina)

- a. **MOTION**: to approve the 2022 year-end financial statements
- b. **MOTION**: to approve the 2023 budget forecast
- c. **MOTION**: to appoint Adams & Miles as public accountant for the 2023 fiscal year

4. *Conference*

- a. CATR 2023 Conference Report (Conference Co-Chair: Roberta, Kailin, Heather)
- b. CATR 2024 Update (President: Robin)

5. *Recognitions*: Report of the Scholarly Awards Coordinators (Co-Coordinator: Wes, Jimena)

6. *Ongoing Initiatives*

- a. Anti-Racism & Anti-Oppression Ad Hoc Comm. Report (Interim Chair: Robin)
- b. Report of the Task Force on Precarity (Unaffiliated Scholar Rep: Jacqueline; Neil)

7. *Membership*

- a. Report of the Membership Coordinator (Membership Coordinator: Dennis)
- b. Report of the Elections Committee (Elections Officer: Matt Jones)
- c. Report of the Communications Officer (Communications Officer: Taylor)
- d. Report of the Committee on Conduct (Committee Rep: Signy)
- e. Report of the Graduate Students Representatives (Grad Student Reps: Sarah, Taylor)
- f. Report of the Mentorship Coordinator (Mentorship Coordinator: cricri)

8. *Cross-Institutional Reports*

- a. TheatreAgora Report (Theatre Agora Co-Chair: Taiwo)
- b. SQET Report (CATR Liaison to SQET: cricri)
- c. TRIC Report (CATR Liaison to TRIC: Selena)
- d. Federation Report (Federation Rep: Katrina)

9. *Other Business / No Oral Report*

- a. Lawrence Prize Report (Chair: Jess)
- b. Grants and Scholarships Report (Chair: Emily)
- c. Archival Committee Report (Chair: Jess)

10. *Adjournment*

## Report of the President

Submitted by: **Robin C. Whittaker**

It is a great joy and inspiration to work with **incredible colleagues** who are constitutive of the Canadian Association for Theatre Research. Online and in-person volunteerism is increasing again following the trying years of lockdown.

**CATR's annual conference** is at the heart of what we do and how we gather. It is funded by your membership and registration fees and, in recent years, from a series of successful grant applications strategized by our Treasurer Katrina Dunn. Our 47<sup>th</sup> annual conference is also our 2<sup>nd</sup> hybrid conference as we share research, practice, and disciplinary perspectives on Zoom and in Mi'kma'ki/Halifax, NS—20 years after our last Halifax conference! In person meetings allow for meaningful hallway conversations and spontaneous connections; online meetings respond to financial and accessibility needs for our membership. I know you will join me in thanking Roberta Barker, Kailin Wright, and Heather Davis-Fisch for their astute and diligent leadership of **CATR 2023**. And thank you to every volunteer and staff member working to make the conference a great success!

I wish to acknowledge the deeply felt, recent loss of several of CATR's close colleagues and friends. Just over a year ago, former CATR President and Lifetime Associate, **Denis Salter**, passed away. This fall we renamed our CATR Grants the Denis Salter Grants with the blessing of his family and the financial support of Montréal's Teesri Duniya Theatre Co., the McGill University English Department, and members like you. Moreover, following the passing of friend and CATR supporter **Joan Lawrence** last spring, in the fall **Heather McCallum** passed away. We acknowledged these extraordinary losses in the fall when the Lawrence Prize, Lawrence Scholarship, McCallum Scholarship, and Salter Grant were announced.

Today, we acknowledge the great loss of **Eury Chang** to our Board (as B.C. Rep), our membership (as a colleague), and our discipline (as a scholar and educator) following a lengthy illness. As I wrote in our new "In Memoriam" section on the CATR website (<https://catract.ca/in-memoriam>), I'll miss catching up with Eury at our conferences. Colleagues recall his kindness and curiosity. Since Eury's passing, his partner Robert Kardosh reached out to discuss establishing a funded recognition in Eury's honour. I am now pleased to announce that the Board has voted into existence CATR's **Eury Chang Grant for Asian Canadian and Intercultural Drama, Theatre, and Performance Research**. We plan to award at least one Eury Chang Grant each year with special emphasis on applications from, or that clearly engage and benefit, graduate students, recent doctoral graduates, and emerging scholars, as well as scholars who are independent, precarious, and do not identify as "emerging." The grant will be made possible by the kind support of Robert, clients and patrons of the Marion Scott Gallery in Vancouver, B.C., and CATR member and public donations.

As you can see from this package of AGM Reports alone, our Board members are working extremely hard to provide you with the association you want it to be! I wish to express my **deep gratitude** for all of the work that our elected and *ex officio* Board members do for CATR!

Thank you to our **out-going Board members** Neil Silcox (Atlantic Rep), Giorelle Diokno (Ontario Rep), Christine (cricri) Bellerose (Francophone Rep), and Sarah Robbins (Graduate Student Rep) for their years of service to the Board, as well as Deneh'Cho Thompson (Representative-at-Large) who resigned shortly before the January Board meeting owing to increasing institutional commitments. I also wish to extend my deepest gratitude to Yana Meerzon as she moves out of the one-year *ex-officio* role of Past President—her advice and leadership are deeply valued.

Congratulations to our **newly elected members** Kailin Wright (Atlantic Rep), Craig Walker (Ontario Rep), Jessica Riley (re-elected Prairie Region Rep), Shelley Liebembuk (British Columbia), Cassandra Chattonnier (Francophone Rep), Jayna Mees (Graduate Student Rep), and Fraser Stevens (Representative-at-Large). And welcome back to **continuing Board members** Taiwo Afolabi (Vice President), Liviu Dospinescu (Quebec Rep), Justin Blum (Alberta and the Territories Rep), Michelle MacArthur (Rep-at-Large), Taylor Marie Graham (Graduate Student Rep), and Jacqueline Taucar (Unaffiliated Scholar Rep). We have plenty of work to do, and I'm looking forward to working with each of you.

Along with our elected representatives, the Board has many valued **ex officio members** who share much of the load (<https://catracrt.ca/board-of-directors>). Many of them are continuing in their roles. But I wish to acknowledge one who is not: I want to thank **Jill Carter** for more than a decade of service on this Board, particularly as our Equity Representative. There is no question that year after year, Jill's perspectives have helped to shape how we work and think as a group in service of this association.

Congratulations to CATR's **2023 Associateship recipients!** Our new Honorary Associate is Nova Scotian Black-Indigenous (Métis) actor and Civil Rights Activist Dr. Walter Borden. Our first-ever Distinguished Scholar Associates are Dr. Alan Filewod, Dr. Glen Nichols, and Dr. Natalie Rewa.

A top priority of your Board remains the ratification of recommendations from **CATR's 2022 Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression (ARAO) Report**. Details of this work are found in this package's ARAO Committee Report, including 10 Motions ratified by the Board that will help direct our EDI/ARAO efforts moving forward.

As members will know, CATR has been incorporated in Ontario since June 2018. As such, our official mailing address / place of business is former president Marlis Schweitzer's office at York University. Though CATR receives scant mail there, the Board and Marlis agree that this necessitates a sort of formal arrangement: Thank you to Marlis for agreeing to be CATR's **Corporate Documents Steward!**

In addition to the above work, I have supported and led Board colleagues on a range of **initiatives**:

- began a broad review of the collection, storage, and usage of CATR member **data and information** across our operations, from the Federation Portal and member surveys, to our hard drives and clouds, to the committees and outside institutions who make use of it
- worked with Nicole Nolette, Jane Koustas, cricri Bellerose, and Taiwo Afolabi to officially update our joint **CATR/SQET MOU** and to help draft a **TheatreAgora Addendum**.

- took over from Eury Chang as **Working Group Liaison**. Thank you to Justin Blum (AB & Territories Rep) for agreeing to take over as Working Group Liaison after the conference!
- worked with Taylor Graham (Communications Officer) on her **Ad Hoc Communications Committee** to streamline parts of our website and social media presence, and to reconsider the duties of the Communications Officer to achieve optimal communication with CATR members and the public while being mindful of reasonable labour. Giorelle Diokno's accurate and responsive CATR website updates are starting to reimagine CATR's web presence. If you haven't already, please check out our newly reimagined Past Conference page (<https://catract.ca/past-catr-conferences>)! If you have unrepresented program covers from past conferences, I'd love to hear from you!
- reconvened and concluded the work of the **Ad Hoc Committee on CATR Awards** to update the terms of reference for the Saddlemyer Award—thank you to Jimena Ortuzar, Giorelle Diokno, Jacqueline Taucar, and Ric Knowles for your time and insights on this committee!
- assisted the **Committee on Conduct** in restructuring its membership, clarifying its protocols, and improving its transparency on the CATR website
- kept on the radar of the Archival Committee the prospect of moving the **A.C.T.S. (Atlantic Canadian Theatre Site)** (<https://lib.unb.ca/Texts/Theatre-restore>) website from UNB's servers to CATR's website
- began strategizing **CATR's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026** by speaking with former CATR presidents and beginning to assemble a blue-sky committee to celebrate our association's accomplishments during its first 50 years, and to look ahead to imagine our next 50. Please let me know if you would like to be part of this planning!

Sincerely,

Robin Whittaker, CATR President

## Report of the Treasurer

Submitted by: **Katrina Dunn**

It has been my pleasure to serve as Treasurer for the last year as we have worked to keep CATR financially stable and to plan for a strong future for the organization. I would like to acknowledge the help and work of Sasha Kovacs as previous Treasurer, Ninette Bishay and Kelly Tubera from Adams and Miles, Robin Whittaker, Taiwo Afolabi, Dennis Gupa and Selena Couture with CATR, Nicole Nolette with SQET, Gus Schrott at CIBC, Sheriff Samotu at BMO, and my accounting instructor David Saynor.

### **2022 Year End Financial Statements**

With this report you will find our year end financial statements for 2022, prepared by our accountants Adams & Miles. As I reported at last year's AGM, 2022 marks our movement from our previous mode of reporting (Notice to Reader) to a Review Engagement. This brings us in line with the requirements for a Soliciting organization (receiving government grant funds of more than \$10,000). This process had the accountants look at more detail in record keeping and provide more notes in the actual document. For myself, I found it an excellent learning experience and a good way to strategize about solving some the nagging issues we have in recording and reporting.

**The document shows a loss for 2022 of \$2,862 (p. 4).** It became clear in December of 2022 that our registration revenue for the 2022 Conference came in significantly lower than expected when tallied at year end. As well, our operational translation costs were up significantly for the year, and the Review Engagement process revealed that some of our membership expenses roll forward, which neither myself or the Membership Coordinator were aware of. A combination of these factors created this overage, but I hope that the new accounting system will prevent these surprises in the future (see below). **Our Accumulated Surplus, as seen in the Statement of Net Assets on p. 5, is currently \$60,513.**

### **Conference Reserve Fund**

As reported at last year's AGM, I have instructed the accountant to place **\$25,000 of CATR's accumulated surplus in a restricted Conference Reserve Fund, and the Board approved this at the April Board Meeting.** This amount is equivalent to the sum generally received through the SSHRC Connections grant that is the bedrock of the Conference budget. Though we have been very successful at receiving these funds in the past, they are not guaranteed, and we want to ensure that the Conference can proceed in the event that the Connections ask is unsuccessful. We can withdraw and use all or a portion of the \$25,000 sum to support a non-SSHRC Conference year. **With the allocation of this amount to the Reserve Fund, this still leaves an unrestricted amount of \$35,513 to help with unanticipated overages in CATR's operating budget.**

Donations in 2022 were strong, and I continue to be impressed by the generosity of the membership. In 2022 our donors gave a total of **\$4,369.** The majority of the donations were received through the



Federation portal when members were renewing their memberships, either close to the beginning of the year or in advance of the conference. Through the portal, the membership donated **\$2,121 to the Indigenous Host Initiative and \$1,798 to Grad Student Travel/CATR Grants. \$450 came in general donations through Canada Helps.** In 2020, I instigated a process of listing our donors on the “Donate” page of the CATR website. If you gave in 2022, your name will be there and tax receipts went out, either through CATR or Canada Helps, in early 2023.

## **Conferences**

For the last three years, more of the expenses of our annual conference are running through CATR’s accounts. I have been sitting on the Conference Organizing Committee as Chair of the Fundraising and Financial Management Committee, to raise funds for the conference that are not internal to the participating universities (i.e. host Department allocations, Conference Support Programs, and the SSHRC Connections grant). In my mind, this arrangement is beneficial for CATR in a number of ways. Firstly, hiving this off from the duties of the Conference Chair and local coordinators hopefully leads to less burn out for these committed volunteers. Next, it allows us to create more regularity and reliability for our financial supporters. Finally, I believe that it allows the Association to have more careful control over what is clearly the largest flow of money that we deal with, and to ensure that we are protected from any uncertainties or overages.

Over the last couple of years, I have noted a diminishment in the amount of resources that universities can bring to conferencing activities that they are hosting. This has been confirmed by some of the Chairs I have worked with and I think it is something for CATR to watch for. Though amounts certainly vary based on the size of the institution that we are working with, even universities with larger theatre/performance programs seem to have access to less conferencing funds. I believe our strategy should be to keep the conference budgets as diversified as possible.

The budget for the 2022 conference was **\$112,500** and this year’s is **\$92,500**. We were again lucky to be supported by SSHRC for this conference and to benefit from funds from the Digital Generator Grant. Theatre department sponsorships came in at \$7,500 – thank-you to all of you that helped secure funds from your departments. Support from Playwrights Canada Press, Talonbooks and University of Toronto Press Journals continues to be vital, as does the support of the Cole Foundation and the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada. We have budgeted for conference registrations at \$13,000, and after last year’s glitch we are watching this amount closely. At time of writing we are close to making our goal. Conference goers should note that registration fees pay for only 14% of the Conference expenses, with the rest of the required funds raised through grants, sponsorships and institutional funds. We are working hard to keep registration fees low for members but please expect a modest increase in registration fees next year.

## **Investments**

The investments held on behalf of the McCallum and Lawrence scholarships and prize have been given much attention this year as myself and previous Treasurer Sasha Kovacs consolidated funds previously

held in bank accounts at TD and BMO into a single GIC at CIBC with our main bank account. **The current balance of the consolidated investments at CIBC is \$37,462.75.** This amount is invested on a one-year term maturing each January. Some GICs at BMO rolled over before we could shift them, so we will be holding those at BMO until 2027, though I will be shifting 25% each year, as per our GIC agreement. **The BMO GICs total \$15,590.** The interest from these investments (both CIBC and BMO) pays for the Robert Lawrence Prize and Scholarship, and the Heather McCallum Scholarship.

We have these investments because of gifts from some of the founding members of CATR. An increase in our investments would allow us to grow the amounts of our awards and scholarships and perhaps add new ones. The Canadian Association of Gift Planners has a program called Will Power that you can see details of here: [Add a Gift to Charity in your Will and Still Support Loved Ones - Will Power](#) If a gift like this seems like it could be a part of your future, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

### **New Accounting System**

Since early in the new year, I have been working with accounting consultant David Saynor over Zoom to set CATR up on Quickbooks online. This has involved inputting our Chart of Accounts and setting up shortcuts tailored to CATR regular processes. Quickbooks interfaces with our CIBC bank account so that all transactions can be easily uploaded into the accounting system and we can reconcile at the end of each month. We are currently reconciled until the end of March 2023. I have been recording these training sessions for use by the next Treasurer and for my own reference. In this process I have been attempting to set up systems that solve some issues we've had, like clearly and accurately separating the funds that come through the Federation portal for membership, donations and conference registration. While making this shift has been a considerable time investment for me, I believe that it will ultimately save the Treasurer time, be far more accurate and error-proof, and give the Board much more detailed and timely information about the financial unfolding of CATR. The budget for 2023 included with this report shows you the new format. Our accountant also assures us that working in this way will reduce the fee for the Review Engagement, as much of the clean up and clarifying work that the accountants did this year will be done already in QuickBooks.

### **2022 Budget**

The projected budget for 2023 is based very closely on the 2022 budget with **revenues and expenditures totalling \$117,125.** We have some new funds to support the Denis Salter grants from Teesri Duniya, McGill University and individual supporters, which is very exciting. While the 2023 budget is workable, it is tight with very little room for the unexpected. While we have been successful in finding new funds for conference activities and special projects like TheatreAgora, funds for our basic operations are much harder to come by and our revenues have remained quite static for years. It is for this reason that I am recommending that we raise our membership fees in 2024. Membership fees have not raised in a long while, and this is the largest source of revenue for basic operations. This is my recommendations for membership fee raises:

<b>Annual Income Inside Canada</b>	<b>Membership Fees</b>	<b>Annual Income Outside Canada</b>	<b>Membership Fees</b>
Under \$35,000	\$40 increase to \$50	Under \$35,000	\$55 increase to \$65
\$35,000 - \$50,00	\$55 increase to \$75	\$35,000 - \$50,00	\$70 increase to \$90
\$50,000 - \$75,000	\$110 increase to \$130	\$50,000 - \$75,000	\$125 increase to \$145
\$75,000 - \$100,000	\$130 increase to \$150	\$75,000 - \$100,000	\$145 increase to \$165
\$100,000 or above	\$150 increase to \$175	\$100,000 or above	\$165 increase to \$190

**Canada Council Digital Generator Grant (TheatreAgora Project)**

The TheatreAgora project has been moving along nicely, driven by Taiwo Afolabi, and with a high level of engagement from a dedicated team from CATR and SQET. We have good momentum now with our designer Koumbit. This project must complete in March 2024 and then submit a final report. This summer, once we are through both the CATR and SQET conferences, the TheatreAgora committee will be revisiting the budget to plan for the final work of the project.

<b><u>Canada Council Digital Generator</u></b>			
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed</u></b>	<b><u>2022 Actuals</u></b>	<b><u>2023 Projected</u></b>
Curator (\$1000 per year for 2 years)	2000	1000	1000
Technical Director (\$2000 per year for 2 years)	4000	1250	2850
Curator's Translation and Accessibility Allowance	5000	3470	1530
Governance Consultant	5000	4500	
Archives Consultant	5000		5000
Digital Strategy Consultant	5000		5000
Accessibility Consultant	5000		5000
Pilot Project #1 - SQET Conference 2022	5000	5000	
Pilot Project #2 - CATR Conference 2022	10000	15000	
Pilot Project #3 - SQET Conference 2023	5000	5000	
Pilot Project #4 - CATR Conference 2023	10000		10000
Initial Site Redesign	25000	13276	11724
Final Site Redesign	10000		5000
Contingency	4000	79	3920
<b>Total</b>	<b>100000</b>	<b>48575</b>	<b>51425</b>

Respectfully,

Katrina Dunn

**Motions**

**Motion 1:** To approve the 2022 Financial Statements for CATR/ACRT prepared by Adams & Miles LLP

**Motion 2:** To approve the 2023 forecasted budget for CATR/ACRT prepared by Katrina Dunn

**Motion 3:** To appoint Adams & Miles LLP as CATR/ACRT's Public Accountant for the 2023 fiscal year

**2022 CATR Conference Final Financial Report**

<u>CATR Hybrid Conference 2022 - FINAL</u>		
	BUDGET	ACTUAL
<b>REVENUES CASHFLOW</b>		
CATR	\$ 63,500	\$ 49,686
St. Thomas	\$ 36,400	\$ 34,900
UTSC	\$ 9,750	\$ 9,750
ULethbridge	\$ 11,294	\$ 11,294
Gatherings Project	\$ 3,390	\$ 3,390
Playwrights Canada Press Luncheon Event Support	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	\$ 127,834	\$ 112,520
<b>REVENUES</b>		
	<u>2022 Budget</u>	
CATR Funds from previous year	\$ 7,000	\$ 9,000
SSHRC Connections grant	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Digital Generator Grant	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000
Registration Fees	\$ 16,875	\$ 9,975
Presses	\$ 7,875	\$ 5,211
Playwrights Canada Press Luncheon Event Personnel Support	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
St. Thomas University	\$ 11,400	\$ 9,900
University of Lethbridge	\$ 11,294	\$ 11,294
University of Toronto Scarborough	\$ 9,750	\$ 9,750
Theatre Departments Sponsorships	\$ 6,750	\$ 5,500
McGill Institute for the Study of Canada	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Canadian Heritage	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Cole Foundation	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Gatherings Project for Long Table	\$ 3,390	\$ 3,390
	<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 127,834 \$ 112,520
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
	<u>2022 Budget</u>	
CATR	\$ 63,500	\$ 49,616
St. Thomas	\$ 36,400	\$ 34,900
UTSC	\$ 9,750	\$ 9,750
ULethbridge	\$ 11,294	\$ 11,294
Gatherings Project	\$ 3,390	\$ 3,390
Playwrights Canada Press Luncheon Event Support	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
	\$ 127,834	\$ 112,450
<i>In Person Expenses</i>		
University of Toronto Scarborough, In Kind	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750
St. Thomas University, Research Assistant	\$ 1,500	\$ -
St. Thomas University, Course Release Robin Whittaker (in kind)	\$ 7,700	\$ 7,700
Robin Whittaker Travel Expenses	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200
University of Lethbridge, In Kind (space)	\$ 4,994	\$ 4,994
Catering	\$ 13,515	\$ 12,546
UL Front of House Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
UL Conference Services Expenses (Technicians)	\$ 1,500	\$ 5,024
	\$ 36,659	\$ 37,714

<i>Translation and Accessibility</i>		
Translation	\$ 9,000	\$ 5,828
Accessibility (SSHRC)	\$ 3,700	\$ 5,594
Accessibility through CATR	\$ 1,700	\$ 2,096
<b>Total Translation and Interpretation</b>	<b>\$ 14,400</b>	<b>\$ 13,518</b>
<i>Honorariums (to artists and precarious scholars)</i>		
Keynote Speaker (Otu) (SSHRC)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Keynote Speaker (Robinson)	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,000
Keynote Speaker (Beagan)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Keynote Travel and Accomodation (1)	\$ 1,500	-
General Honorariums	\$ 8,400	\$ 5,225
UL Honorariums (Where the Two Spirit Lives)	\$ 1,000	-
Accomodation	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800
UTSC First Story Walk	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Jumbies Theatre Workshop	\$ 500	\$ 500
Ice Age Cometh Performances (First Payment)	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

2023 Budget Overview for CATR

Canadian Association for Theatre Research

Budget Overview: 2023 - FY23 P&L

January - December 2023

	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>	
30000 Memberships & Partnerships	
200 SOET Memberships via CATR	1,250.00
300 CATR Memberships via SOET	650.00
30100 Memberships General	18,000.00
<b>Total 30000 Memberships &amp; Partnerships</b>	<b>19,900.00</b>
31000 Donations	
1000 Graduate Student Travel Grants Donations	1,750.00
1050 Dennis Salter Grants Donations	2,000.00
1100 Indigenous Host Initiative Donations	2,000.00
1200 Canada Helps General Donations	2,500.00
<b>Total 31000 Donations</b>	<b>8,250.00</b>
32000 Conference	
1300 Conference Registration	12,000.00
32510 Press Sponsorships	5,500.00
32520 Theatre Department Sponsorships	6,000.00
32530 Translation & Accessibility Supports	5,000.00
32540 Other Sponsorships	5,000.00
<b>Total 32000 Conference</b>	<b>33,500.00</b>
33000 Investment Income	
500 CIBC Bank Interest	50.00
800 McCallum/Lawrence Award Transfer from Investments	2,000.00
<b>Total 33000 Investment Income</b>	<b>2,050.00</b>
34000 Grants	
1450 ConferenceSpecial Project Grant and Sponsorship Revenue	51,425.00
<b>Total 34000 Grants</b>	<b>51,425.00</b>
GST & Other Rebates	2,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$117,125.00</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$117,125.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
40000 Conferences	35,000.00
3500 Board Directed Special Events/Initiatives	250.00
<b>Total 40000 Conferences</b>	<b>35,250.00</b>
41000 Publications	
4000 TRiC (Theatre Research in Canada) portion of membership dues	8,500.00
<b>Total 41000 Publications</b>	<b>8,500.00</b>
42000 Administration	
2100 CATR Website Licenses, Fees, and Management	750.00
2700 Paysafe Merchant Services Charges	250.00
2800 Bank Charges (Visa, MasterCard)	1,000.00
2900 CIBC Account Charges	200.00
3000 Director's Insurance	850.00
3200 Translation & Accessibility Costs	1,500.00
5340 Miscellaneous	200.00
<b>Total 42000 Administration</b>	<b>4,750.00</b>

Canadian Association for Theatre Research

Budget Overview: 2023 - FY23 P&L

January - December 2023

	TOTAL
43000 Memberships & Partners	
1500 Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences	2,100.00
1700 FHSS Membership Management System	150.00
1900 SQET Transfer	1,250.00
3950 Indigenous Host Initiative	2,000.00
<b>Total 43000 Memberships &amp; Partners</b>	<b>5,500.00</b>
44000 Professional Fees	
3100 Consulting	500.00
4200 Accounting Fees	4,000.00
<b>Total 44000 Professional Fees</b>	<b>4,500.00</b>
45000 Awards and Grants	
3600 Heather McCallum Scholarship	1,000.00
3650 Robert G. Lawrence Scholarship	500.00
3700 Robert G. Lawrence Prize	200.00
3800 Dennis Salter Grants	3,000.00
3850 Jury Diversity Support Honorariums	750.00
3900 Graduate Student Travel Grants	1,750.00
<b>Total 45000 Awards and Grants</b>	<b>7,200.00</b>
95000 Special Projects	
5050 TheatreAgora	51,425.00
<b>Total 95000 Special Projects</b>	<b>51,425.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$117,125.00</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

2023 CATR Conference Budget

<b>CATR Conference 2023 - BUDGET</b>	
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>
SSHRC Connections grant	\$ 25,000
Digital Generator Grant	\$ 10,000
<b>Registration Fees - budgeted at 13,000</b>	
Artist/Student/Precarious Online Registration Fees EB @ \$25 > Apr 3 @ \$30	\$ 1,000
Tenure/Tenure Track Online Registration Fees EB @ \$50 > Apr 3 @ \$60	\$ 2,000
Artist/Student/Precarious In Person Registration Fees EB @ \$75 > Apr 3 @ \$90	\$ 3,000
Tenure/Tenure Track In Person Registration Fees EB @ \$150 > Apr 3 @ \$180	\$ 7,000
<b>Presses</b>	
Playwrights Canada Press Sponsorship	\$ 2,000
University of Toronto Press Journals	\$ 1,500
Talonbooks	\$ 1,500
Academic Publishers (McGill Queens)	\$ 500
<b>Host Funding</b>	
St. Francis Xavier University - In Kind	\$ 4,500
St. Francis Xavier University - Cash (Restricted K. Wright Travel)	\$ 1,600
St. Francis Xavier University SIG Award - Cash (Restricted Zoom Assistants)	\$ 3,000
University of the Fraser Valley - In Kind	\$ 3,500
University of the Fraser Valley - Cash	\$ 1,000
University of the Fraser Valley Student Hires	\$ 4,000
Dalhousie Fountain School - In Kind	\$ 4,375
Dalhousie Fountain School - Cash	\$ 1,000
Dalhousie Dean and Provost - Cash	\$ 500
Dalhousie Provosts Office	\$ 1,000
Dalhousie - Vice President Research Office	\$ 2,000
<b>Theatre Departments</b>	
Theatre Departments Sponsorships	\$ 7,500
<b>Translation and Bilingual Funding</b>	
McGill Institute for the Study of Canada	\$ 2,000
<b>Other</b>	
Cole Foundation	\$ 3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 92,475</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>In Person Expenses</b>	
UFV In Kind - Digital Media Technician & Space for Keynote and Others	\$ 3,500
St. Francis Xavier - Theatre Space for Televised, DH Lab Zoom Assts., AV Technicians	\$ 4,500
Kailin Wright Travel Expenses - St. Francis Xavier - Cash	\$ 1,600
Dalhousie Fountain School - In Kind (space)	\$ 4,375
UL Daily Catering - 75 attendees @ \$35 per day x 3 days + tax and service fees (25%)	\$ 9,500
UL Banquet Food - 60 attendees @ \$21 each = \$1,260 + \$315 tax and service fees (25%)	\$ 3,500
UL Front of House Expenses	\$ 1,500
UL Conference Services Expenses (Technicians)	\$ 4,000
<b>Translation and Accessibility</b>	
Translation	\$ 5,000
Accessibility	\$ 7,500
<b>Honorariums</b>	
Keynote Speakers	\$ 3,000
SSHRC - 8 @ 450 each	\$ 3,600
Other Honorariums	\$ 1,500
Heist Theatre - Frequencies	\$ 3,000
Long Table - Graphic Notetaker + incidental	\$ 2,400





## Conference

### CATR/ACRT 2023 Conference Report

Submitted by: **Roberta Barker**

**Conference Co-Chairs:** Roberta Barker, Heather Davis-Fisch, Kailin Wright

Work began on CATR's 2023 conference, "Performing Shores / The Shores of Performance," in Summer 2022. Among our key goals were:

- Creating a conference that celebrated and showcased some of the vibrant performance cultures and communities of the East and West Coasts of this landmass, as well as the rich and diverse work of CATR's members.
- Striving to make it possible for as many CATR members as possible to participate in the conference in the way that worked best for them.

With these goals in mind, it was decided that the conference would take place in two stages: an online stage, hosted by St Francis Xavier University and the University of the Fraser Valley from June 10-12, 2023, and an in-person stage (with the option of hybrid delivery) hosted by Dalhousie University in Halifax from June 15-17, 2023. In support of this plan, we were fortunate enough to receive the SSHRC Connections Grant for which we applied in the Fall competition, as well as the generous aid of numerous other [supporters](#).

In response to an open call in Fall 2022, a total of 81 separate proposals were received for presentations including individual papers, curated paper panels, roundtables, seminars, praxis workshops, performances, working group meetings, and more. All of these proposals were accepted in some form by our Programming Committee (a marker of the excellence of CATR members' work).

Scheduling the conference proved somewhat challenging, as we received a great many different requests for online, hybrid, and in-person participation across at least eight time zones. We'd like especially to thank participants who graciously agreed to modify their initial requests in order to make it possible for us to meet the needs of their fellow CATR members. As of June 5, the highlights of the resulting conference program include (among others):

- **3 keynote sessions**, all focused on the work of Indigenous scholar-artists and scholar-artists of colour from host territories of the conference
- **An in-person plenary presentation, "Irresistible Practices," led by the Environmental Stewardship and Course Correction Working Groups:** CATR's first ever Working Group-led plenary
- **Online and in-person meetings of CATR's Task Force on Precarity**, led by Neil Silcox and Jacquy Taucar
- **Online Longtables on "Curating Safe Spaces,"** developed and led by the CATR Conduct Committee
- **22 virtual paper panels, working group sessions, performances, workshops, roundtables, and seminars** offered during the online conference from June 10-12

- **27 in-person paper panels, working group sessions, performances, workshops, roundtables, and seminars** offered during the in-person conference from June 15-17
- **3 in-person lunches** hosted respectively by Playwrights Canada Press, Talonbooks, and CATR
- **Live, in-person performances of *Frequencies* by Heist Theatre** (<https://www.liveheist.com/frequencies>)

It may be worth noting that requests to present in-person, especially on open paper panels, proved higher this year than requests to present online. As of June 5/23, 13 papers were confirmed for delivery as part of open paper panels at the online conference, while 36 papers were confirmed for delivery as part of open paper panels at the in-person conference, leading to a higher number of concurrent panels at the in-person than at the online conference. Moving forward, it may be worth looking again at the balance between online and in-person components of CATR's conferences. For instance, might the former be somewhat shorter and the latter somewhat longer in future years? Decisions about this balance will depend upon a range of unfolding factors, as well as upon our members' desires, so we raise this simply as a question, rather than as a recommendation.

In conclusion, we would like to deeply thank all the people who worked so hard to make the online and in-person conferences possible, especially the chairs and members of CATR's conference committees, who are listed [here](#). Special thanks go to our conference coordinators, Dave DeGrow (Online Conference Coordinator) and Luciana Fernandes (In-Person Local Events Coordinator); our Assistant Coordinators, Adam Hill (Online Conference) and Christopher Matheson (In-Person Conference); and our Membership and Care Coordinator, Christine (cricri) Bellerose. We would also like to thank all of CATR's members for their patience during a year when a hurricane and wildfires hit the host territory of Mi'kma'ki very hard. These and the other challenges of 2022-23 sometimes meant that key tasks took longer to complete than our team had initially hoped. We are sincerely grateful for our members' compassion and understanding.

Our deepest thanks go to the communities on whose unceded territories these conferences take place. *Saint Francis Xavier University and Dalhousie University stand on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the L'nu (Mi'kmaq) people.* The University of the Fraser Valley is situated on Stó:lō Téméxw, the traditional and unceded territory of the Stó:lō people. We are grateful to have had the privilege of gathering on these shores.

Respectfully on behalf of the co-chairs,

Roberta Barker

## CATR 2024 Update

Submitted by: **Robin Whittaker, President**

The Federation has announced that Congress 2024 will be in-person only at McGill University May 7-17, 2024 (<https://www.federationhss.ca/en/announcing-congress-2024-mcgill-university>). As of writing this update (June 6), we are exploring the possibility of hosting **CATR 2024** at McGill as part of Congress. I hope to have good news to confirm soon.

Importantly, we now have a system of organizing committees and paid staff positions that helps to decenter much of the workload needed for a vibrant conference, including adding our own online “Act” to our conferences through TheatreAgora.

I can’t wait to work with many of you in bringing CATR’s dynamic conference to your home institution in the near future!

Respectfully,

Robin Whittaker

**Report of the Scholarly Awards Coordinators**

Submitted by: **Jimena Ortuzar and Wes Pearce (co-coordinators)**

**Award Committees for 2023**

<b>Award</b>	<b>Committee Members</b>
Ann Saddlemeyer Award	Barry Freeman (chair), Karen Fricker, and Jessica Riley
Jean-Cléo Godin Award	Art Babayants, Julie Burelle, Cam Culham (chair) Marie Christine Lesage, and Sylvain Schryburt
Patrick O’Neill Award	Heather Davis-Fisch (chair), Nikki Cesare-Schotzko, Jenn Cole, Heather Fitzsimmons Frey, Dennis Gupa, and Kim McLeod.
Richard Plant Award	Benjamin Gillespie (chair), Matt Jones, and Signy Lynch

The committees have now selected the winners of this year’s awards. The awards will be presented during the CATR/ACRT conference in Halifax on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Revision of the Ann Saddlemeyer Award’s Terms of Reference**

An ad hoc awards committee was formed last fall to revise the terms of the Ann Saddlemeyer Award, which now broadens the criteria for this award. The previous description ‘Canadian drama, theatre and performance’ was revised to ‘the field of drama, theatre, and performance studies in what is now known as Canada’ (for the full description please see the CATR/ACRT website).

**Nomination Process**

Last fall we revised the call for nominations, which now clearly outlines that both CATR/ACRT members and non-members interested in the field of drama, theatre, and performance studies are encouraged to nominate their own work or the work of others, including works produced by smaller presses or non-Canadian journals.

The initial call for nominations went out in November but did not yield many nominations for the Richard Plant Award or the Jean-Cléo Godin Award. A second call for these two awards was sent out in early February with an extended deadline. This second call resulted in more nominations for the Plant Award but very few for the Godin Award. The committees included additional nominations that they have determined eligible for the awards.

**Next Steps to Improve Nomination and Award Process**

Due to the number of questions and concerns raised by committee members this year regarding the awards and nomination process (such as the criteria for determining eligible nominations), a new ad hoc awards committee will be formed in the coming weeks to revise and clarify the nomination process, review the criteria for the awards with respect to EDI/ARAO principles, revise the terms of reference where needed, and address ongoing difficulties in recruiting award committee chairs and members.

Respectfully,  
 Jimena Ortuzar

## Ongoing Initiatives

### Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Ad Hoc Committee and Implementation Working Group Report

Report Submitted by: **Robin C. Whittaker**

**Committee Members:** Robin C. Whittaker (Interim Chair), Carla Da Silva Melo, Jimena Ortuzar, Taiwo Afolabi, Andy Houston, Deneh'Cho Thompson

Robin took over as Interim Chair in February and reconstituted the ARAO Committee with the present members. **Thank you** to outgoing committee members Katrina Dunn and Jessica Riley! If you are interested in being on this committee, please email [rwhit@stu.ca](mailto:rwhit@stu.ca)! Already, the Board has implemented a **range of initiatives** that the ARAO Committee wishes to emphasize and celebrate as steps toward concrete EDI/ARAO actions:

- Annual Conference: normalizing accessibility practices online and in-person (including single-webpage design, sign language interpretation, access papers, visual descriptions); offering Committee on Conduct, ARAO sessions, and Longtable sessions; including an EDI statement in conference staff job postings
- Nominations Committee: revising approaches to seeking
- Committee on Conduct: improving process and contact information on the CATR website and, with the Board, restructuring their composition
- Recognitions: following EDI principles when selecting the Scholarly Awards' Committee chairs; revising our Associateships; revising the terms of the Ann Saddlemyer Award and Denis Salter Grants; including accessibility guidelines in the Lawrence Prize call
- Communications: improving transparency on the CATR website, including routinely updating names of Board ex-officio members and committee members; posting up to date CATR ByLaws in both languages (June 2022); reorganizing the Recognitions webpages and posting updated terms of reference for individual Recognitions

All these ongoing efforts deserve to be recognized as reflections of the volunteer labour of our Board, committees, and conference team members.

The focus of the **Committee's work this year** has been to take the recommendations from the original ARAO Committee's Report (Feb 2022) and mold them into Motions for the Board to consider (see below), to advise the Board on impletion, and to respond to proposed EDI/ARAO initiatives that might benefit CATR (e.g. a Federation grant to EDI/ARAO Board training; a CATR-supported *TRIC* Writing & Mentorship Fellowship).

We have also organized an **ARAO Session** during the online Act of the Conference to present what we've done so far and to take in feedback.

**Motions Drawn from CATR's February 2022 Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Report by the 2022-23 ARAO Committee:**

MOTION I: To move that, as related to Item 3 of the ARAO Final Report, the board strike an ad hoc committee to develop a living EDI/ARAO guiding statement that is made public and has a review mechanism to support the guiding statement's ongoing evolution. **(Passed by the CATR Board 24 Sept 2022)**

*Note: The (winter 2023) Committee recommends that a draft of this CATR EDI/ARAO Guiding Statement be formed by December 2023. The Guiding Statement should both guide and reflect ongoing EDI/ARAO measures as they are developed.*

MOTION II: To move that, as related to Item 12 of the ARAO Final Report, the board creates outward facing recruitment procedures for both board positions and committee positions that makes transparent recruitment processes and board/committee composition. **(Passed by the CATR Board 24 Sept 2022)**

*Note: The (winter 2023) Committee recommends these procedures be posted on the CATR website by December 2023.*

MOTION III: To move that the board "Create and post a clearly articulated and secured reporting process for conflicts/Code of Conduct violations, etc." (ARAO Final Report Item 18). **(Passed by the CATR Board 24 Sept 2022)**

#### Guiding Statement and Related Documentation

*Note: To avoid generating a new document, the ARAO Committee recommends that the extant CATR Handbook be updated to function as the EDI/ARAO Guidelines Document.*

MOTION IV: As related to Item 4 of the ARAO Final Report, to incorporate the Guiding Statement drawn from Item 3 into the CATR Handbook to reflect EDI/ARAO principles such that the CATR Handbook guides all CATR activities from EDI/ARAO standards. **(Passed by the CATR Board 8 May 2023)**

MOTION V: As related to Item 17 of the ARAO Final Report, to ensure that the Guiding Statement drawn from Item 3 informs all Conference-specific procedures and that these procedures are reflected in the CATR Handbook. **(Passed by the CATR Board 8 May 2023)**

#### Recognitions

*Note: At present, CATR's "Recognitions" include 2 Associateships, 4 Scholarly Awards, 3 Scholarships and Grants, 1 Prize, and 1 President's Award. (<https://catracrt.ca/recognitions>)*

MOTION VI: As related to Item 2 of the ARAO Final Report, to institute a recognition that honours a drama, theatre, and performance scholar and/or practitioner whose scholarship, practice, and or/community engaged work has significantly advanced anti-colonial and/or EDI/ARAO-based goals. **(Passed by the CATR Board 6 June 2023)**

*Note: There was a MOTION VII (to strike an ad hoc committee to review CATR's Recognitions) related to Item 2 of the ARAO Final Report, but this was deemed procedurally unnecessary because the President can strike an ad hoc committee without a Board vote.*

### Consultation, Education, and Training

MOTION VIII: As related to Item 5 and Item 21 of the ARAO Final Report, to provide a web-link to the Code of Conduct on the CATR Membership sign-up and renewal portal with language clarifying that any new or renewing member must read and accept its terms. A reminder to review the Code of Conduct should be sent to all conference participants before the Association's annual conference. **(Passed by the CATR Board 6 June 2023)**

MOTION IX: As related to Item 5 and Item 24 of the ARAO Final Report, to provide avenues for ongoing direct membership consultation, education, and training about the Code of Conduct and the Committee on Conduct, for example at the annual Conference or in stand-alone meetings held on virtual platforms (e.g. Zoom). **(Passed by the CATR Board 6 June 2023)**

MOTION X: As related to Item 7, Item 14, and Item 25 of the ARAO Final Report, to provide avenues for ongoing, CATR-specific consultation, education, and training for Board Members, the Board's Equity Officer, and the membership on subjects related to anti-oppression and anti-colonial practices, for example in workshops at the annual Conference, in stand-alone meetings held on virtual platforms (e.g. Zoom), or through in-your-own-time training modules. **(Passed by the CATR Board 6 June 2023)**

### Overall

MOTION XI: As related to Item 6 and Item 8 of the ARAO Final Report, to update all CATR governance documents as applicable to reflect all Board-approved Motions drawn from the ARAO Final Report. This includes updating vocabulary to reflect gender neutral and anti-oppression language. **(Passed by the CATR Board 6 June 2023)**

Additionally, the President will form two **ad hoc committees**: 1) to review CATR's recognitions; and 2) on member data & information collection, storage, and sharing. There are also four additional **Categories** of Items in the ARAO Report that the Committee flags for further discussion: Accessibility (Item 16), Compensation (Items 11, 15), and Ongoing Self-Reflection (Items 22, 23, 25).

Sincerely,

Robin Whittaker



## Report of the Task Force on Precarity

Submitted by: **Neil Silcox and Jacqueline Taucar**

The Task Force on Precarity in Theatre and Performance Studies was formed this year with the goal of creating community and providing support and resources to the plurality of post-secondary theatre educators and researchers who do not have secure employment.

We aim to create a warm, supportive, and welcoming space where we can talk frankly about the challenges of scraping together a livelihood in the academy, and to celebrate one another's victories whenever possible. We welcomed teachers and independent scholars, identifying from emerging to late career, from across the country to share our experiences, and support one another.

Our events have become a means of identifying the needs of precarious members and potential actions and generating ideas for supportive programming, including:

- Exploring Alt-Ac and career transitions
- Understanding that precarity affects our members' emotional, physical, and mental health and recognizing the need for supportive workshops
  - Community-building and sharing experiences are both acts of resistance and nourishing well-being.
- Need for tenured-precarious alliances to create hacks for better research access
- More pedagogical supports for precarious members

### Past Initiatives

We have hosted three online initiatives in 2022-2023, supported by a CATR Denis Salter Grant:

- The Festivus Open House for Precarious Theatre Teachers & Researchers
- The Valentines Day Precarious Love-In
- Pathways to Alt-Ac Careers Panel with David Owen, Alexi Marchel, and Joel Benabu

These sessions have been a great success, with over **60 registrations** from 45 unique individuals. The conversations that we have shared have been vulnerable, joyful, depressing, challenging, inspiring, and energizing. Woven throughout is the sense of isolation that comes from being a contract, part-time, or otherwise precarious part of the academic machine. We can see the importance of this work and are proud to be making a difference.

### Upcoming Initiatives

As part of the CATR 2023 Conference, we will be hosting three sessions.

1. During the online portion of the conference, we will host *Unpacking the Heavy Backpack: Mental Health for Precarious Scholars*, a 90-minute mental health workshop with Registered Counselling Therapist, and renowned playwright and director, Ali Joy Richardson.
2. During the in-person portions of the conference at Dalhousie, our session *Connections, Mentorship, and Skills for Precarious Folk*, will help build our community while empowering scholars to understand and express the unique skills they have honed in the academy.

3. We'll also be hosting a pay-what-you-can pizza dinner on the first night of the conference to facilitate the free-flowing, engaged conversation that is still so difficult to capture online.

While our plans for sessions after the conference are not firm, we have many ideas for how we can support our community of scholars.

Please contact [neilsilcox@gmail.com](mailto:neilsilcox@gmail.com) or [jtaucar@gmail.com](mailto:jtaucar@gmail.com) for more information and to join our conversations.

Respectfully,

Neil Silcox and Jacqueline Taucar

## Membership

### Report of the Membership Coordinator

Submitted by: **Dennis D. Gupa**

### Membership Info

As of June 5, 2023, we have 175 listed in the Federation database. Below are the two tables that present our membership numbers from 2019-2023 and statistics of our members.

### Retrospective Membership numbers by year:

Year (conference site)	2023 (online + in person)	2022 (online + in person)	2021 (online)	2020 (online)	2019 (UBC)
<b>Members</b>	173 (as of June 5)	164	219 + 112 donated memberships = 321	122 + 60 donated memberships = 182	205

### Members' Statistics

Job Titles	Numbers
Tenure Stream	59
Professor Emeritus/Emerita	11
Lecturers	9
Sessional/Part time	8
Postdoctoral	11
Graduate Students (PhD, MA, MFA)	25
Unidentified	35
Research Fellow/Research Associate	2
Others	113
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>

### Membership renewal and spring TRiC issue

Several meetings were organized by CATR and SQET late last year and early this year with University of Toronto Press Journal to with and TRiC in making sure that our members receive the journal in the right time and that we are invoiced correctly. The meetings were attended by Katrina Dunn (CATR Treasurer), Nicole Nolette (SQET Présidente), Alexandre Gauthier (SQET Trésorier), and Dennis Gupa (CATR Membership Coordinator).

**Federation Membership Portal Updates**

Dennis and Katrina attended a session on how to use the new Federation website last January 12, 2023.

Respectfully,

Dennis Gupa

**Report of the Elections Officer/Nominations Committee**

Submitted by: **Matt Jones and Michelle MacArthur**

**Members:** Thea Fitz-James, Matt Jones, Michelle MacArthur

**2023 Board Election**

The 2023 election was held in March. The call for nominations was shared on the CanDram and CATR lists and other relevant listservs, and the Nominations Committee actively solicited nominations to ensure there would be a full slate of candidates. We're delighted to report the election results, as follows:

- Jayna Mees, Graduate Student Representative
- Fraser Stevens, Member-at-large
- Kailin Wright, Atlantic Region
- Craig Walker, Ontario
- Jessica Riley, Prairie Region
- Shelley Liebembuk, British Columbia
- Cassandre Chatonnier, Francophone Representative

Complete bios are available on the [CATR website](#). These individuals will officially resume their roles after the 2023 AGM at the CATR/ACRT conference.

As has been the case in recent elections, the graduate student representative and member-at-large positions attracted the highest level of interest; the other positions were more difficult to fill, perhaps due to heavy service loads carried by tenure-track and tenured faculty members who are more likely to run for these roles.

**Implementation of Recommendations of the Bakau Report**

The following chart summarizes the Bakau Report’s recommendations regarding the election process and the actions the Nominations Committee has developed.

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Status/Timeline</b>
“The nominations committee reaching out to friends or within the same network of folks is not the most effective way to recruit diverse candidates.”	Include the following in the election call from the CATR Handbook describing the Nomination Committee’s mandate: “The committee’s mandate is to promote active involvement in the democratic process of the Association, and to encourage recruitment into the Association, active involvement in its activities, and representation in the electoral process. Its mandate is to promote involvement by a membership that reflects the diversity of our interests, both disciplinary and respecting language, geography, cultural affiliation, heritage, sexuality, age, profession, etc.”	Completed in last election cycle
	Expand the membership of the Nomination Committee to better reflect the diversity of CATR’s membership.	Currently in conversation with potential new member

<p>“The committee should consider more ways [to recruit diverse candidates] e.g putting out the call at the annual conference with a dedicated person that folks can approach and discuss how they can get on the board, reaching out to students who are members to gauge interest, and putting out numerous calls on the membership internal communication channel. Consider more places that you can look for folks.”</p>	<p>Share the call on platforms beyond the CATR and CANDRAMA listservs, such as the listservs of other DTPS associations (ATHE, ASTR) and associations in cognate disciplines (e.g. English, Communication Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Black Studies, etc.), as well as platforms that may attract artist-scholars such as TAPA.</p>	<p>Completed in last election cycle</p>
	<p>Generate a list of current Board Members who would be willing to meet upon request with potential candidates to discuss their positions and experience in more detail.</p>	<p>Completed in last election cycle</p>
<p>“Make it clear the work you are doing with anti-oppression and inclusion on your website and any other communications. Outline the safe space you are cultivating for marginalized folks.”</p>	<p>Update CATR website with information about the board’s actions related to anti-oppression and inclusion.</p>	<p>Ongoing action for broader Board and/or Communications Officer?</p>
<p>“Encourage marginalized folks to apply within these calls to action.”</p>	<p>Add line to election call encouraging members of equity-deserving groups to apply.</p> <p>Edit call to ensure the information is communicated clearly and accessibly, with particular attention to how board member responsibilities are described.</p>	<p>Completed in last election cycle</p>
<p>“Establish metrics to increase diverse leadership amongst the Directors and Officers.”</p>	<p>Nominations Committee to consult with Ad Hoc Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee for support in drafting metrics with aim of present draft metrics to board at fall meeting.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

**Seeking New Members**

The Nominations Committee is actively seeking new members. The time commitment is quite manageable, with most work occurring around the election cycle (winter/early spring). Interested CATR members can email [michelle.macarthur@uwindsor.ca](mailto:michelle.macarthur@uwindsor.ca).

Respectfully,

Michelle MacArthur  
Chair, CATR Nominations Committee  
[michelle.macarthur@uwindsor.ca](mailto:michelle.macarthur@uwindsor.ca)

Matt Jones  
Elections Officer  
[mattjones@torontomu.ca](mailto:mattjones@torontomu.ca)

## Report of the Communications Officer

Submitted by: **Taylor Marie Graham, Chair, CATR Communications Committee**

**Members:** Taylor Marie Graham (Chair/présidente), Giorelle Diokno, Bridget Baldwin, Robin Whittaker, Fraser Stevens, Carly Maga, and Neil Silcox

Since the 2022 AGM, CATR Communications has implemented the following changes and worked on the following initiatives:

1. Taylor Marie Graham was elected to the Board as the newest Graduate Student Representative (2022-2024) and officially joined the Board at the June AGM
2. Taylor Marie Graham took over the role of CATR Communications Coordinator from Natalia Esling in early August 2022 and has been working in this capacity since.
3. At the September 2022 meeting, Robin Whittaker created the Communications Ad-Hoc Committee which includes Taylor Graham (director), Carly Maga, Robin Whittaker, Neil Silcox, Fraser Stevens, and Giorelle Diokno.
4. Taylor recruited Bridget Baldwin to join the Communications Ad-Hoc Committee in March 2023 to specifically help with CATR social media.
5. Taylor Graham met with committee members individually throughout fall 2022 to discuss goals for CATR communications and discuss upcoming tasks.
6. Giorelle Diokno met with Taylor Marie Graham, Robin Whittaker, and Cameron Clarke to take over tasks related to website maintenance and updates. Throughout the fall and winter Giorelle has made many updates and changes to the website. Areas updated on the website include menus, media, recognitions, scholarships, conference information, Code of Conduct, In Memoriams, hyperlinks, email addresses, information about the Board, copies of the bylaws, calls for nominations, translations, etc.
7. Security and other back-end updates to the website were also completed by Cameron Clarke and Giorelle Diokno throughout the fall.
8. Taylor Marie Graham created a CATR Social Media Code of Conduct which the other committee members reviewed and commented on. The code of conduct was sent for translation and when this was complete, it was uploaded to the website as well as shared on CATR social media. Since that time, Taylor has been monitoring the social media accounts for activities in breach of said code of conduct. More recently, Bridget has also been helping to monitor the social sites for breaches in the social media code of conduct.
9. Taylor Marie Graham continues to monitor the CATR communications email account and responds to email inquiries every Monday and Wednesday.
10. Throughout her tenure so far, Taylor Marie Graham has shared 86 emails and CATR website news feed updates with the CATR membership through MailChimp. These emails include



CATR and community updates, calls, job postings, and other information of interest to our membership. This information was also shared by Taylor Marie Graham or Bridget Baldwin on CATR social media channels.

11. As Communications Coordinator for the 2023 Conference, Taylor Marie Graham has created a conference specific Instagram page where conference participants and attendees can access important information and share related events with their networks. Taylor and Bridget have been updating the conference Instagram.
12. At the May 2023 CATR Board Meeting, Taylor Marie Graham suggested to the board to consider applying for funding to hire a graduate student as an administrator with tasks including CATR Communications activities for the membership.
13. Taylor Marie Graham and Robin Whittaker completed a review of CATR communications procedures and based on their findings made the following clarifications and changes to CATR communications:
  - a. The CATR Communications email listserv will be used to communicate information from CATR board members to active CATR members only. If you are not a current member of CATR, soon you will be phased out of these direct communications, so be sure to join CATR if you want to continue receiving our direct communications from CATR.
  - b. The [CanDrama Listserv](#) is the place where all other email communications will be shared. This is a moderated, yet open resource where any member of the Canadian theatre community and beyond can share information of interest to our members. This includes university specific events, community events, workshops, etc. Sharing through this resource will ensure the recipients receive the most accurate information related to this event as possible and any questions will go directly to the event organizers. If you are not yet a member of the CanDrama Listserv, we strongly suggest you sign up!
  - c. The [Canadian Theatre Research and Performance Facebook Group](#) is another open resource moderated by CATR where CATR members and non-members alike are welcome to share resources and information with one another directly into the group with over 1K members!
  - d. [CATR Twitter](#) is another way we can help you promote your events and information. Be sure to @CATR\_ACRT and we will retweet anything that fits within our mandate to share!
  - e. [CATR Conference 2023 Instagram](#) is a place where members can share their conference specific experiences and events with the CATR network. Please tag us in your posts throughout the conference. We'd be happy to share!
14. The Communications Committee welcomes discussion from CATR members. Send feedback to Taylor Marie Graham at [catr.communications@gmail.com](mailto:catr.communications@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Taylor Marie Graham

## Report of the Committee on Conduct

Submitted by: **Signy Lynch**

**Members:** Selena Couture, Andy Houston, and Signy Lynch, in consultation and conjunction with Jill Carter, outgoing Equity Officer

CATR Members can contact the committee through our email address: [conductcatr2022@gmail.com](mailto:conductcatr2022@gmail.com)

### Summary of Actions

The committee on conduct and equity officer **drafted/updated a number of policies** on the committee's constitution, role, and how to contact us.

1. This year we took several steps to **improve communication** and member understanding about the conduct committee and our policies.
  - Link in membership portal: We requested that a link to the Code of Conduct be inserted into the membership renewal form along with a place for members to indicate they agree to the code.
  - The CATR website: with Giorelle Diokno's help, the website has been updated with a description of the conduct committee and how we work to uphold the Code of Conduct. Information is available for members about how to contact committee members, and the various ways breaches of the Code of Conduct might be addressed. The new Conduct Committee page: <https://catract.ca/conduct-committee/>
  - We are also working to add an anonymous reporting mechanism, making clear to submitters that many types of reports may be difficult/impossible to act on without getting their contact info/following up
  - We continue to respond to reports submitted to our email address (above) or through other conditions noted in the attached appendix.
2. We also planned the annual conduct-related session for the conference, this year a continuation of the previous "Curating Safer Spaces" long table
  - The committee's Curating Safer Spaces event took place at this year's conference in the online portion on June 11th and 12th. It consisted of two plenary sessions: a 90-minute session where attendees will go into three different affinity groups to discuss (racialized, otherwise marginalized, and other), followed by a three-hour full-group discussion, during which a graphic recording will be created to build upon for future sessions.
3. Conduct Committee member Selena Couture is collaborating with TRIC and CATR to create a writing and mentoring fellowship to help emerging (and particularly equity-owed) scholars with their first peer-reviewed publication.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee,

Signy Lynch

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### Appendix: Clarification of Committee on Conduct Constitution, Role, and Procedures

This year, at the request of the board, we developed language for how the conduct committee should be constituted, the role of the role committee, and procedures for bringing forward concerns about a breach of the code of conduct.

These actions address several items from the Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Committee report regarding clearer guidelines on how the conduct committee is elected, and clear and publicly accessible information on how to report concerns, and possible disciplinary measures.

Proposal for how Conduct Committee is constituted:

We propose that the committee be constituted of:

- 1 Board-appointed member
- 2 members nominated / elected
- 1 outside member (case by case) - ombudsperson - ideally there would be some form of compensation for this outside person (perhaps a theatre professional?)
- Equity Officer (case by case) - acting as advisor

The Equity Officer is not an official member of the committee, but should be involved/advise the committee as is useful.

This proposal was passed by the board via email vote, and the process of appointments/elections will begin next year, aligning with the existing board 2-year rotating to ensure some continuity in the committee. It is not clear who the board-appointed member is at this point, and an ombudsperson still needs to be appointed. (It was suggested that this be a representative from a separate academic association, who might be solicited via the Congress equity committee or other means)

Roles/Responsibilities of Conduct Committee:

The CATR Conduct Committee has two chief purposes/responsibilities:

1. To respond to concerns regarding member conduct that does not follow the Code of Conduct with the goal of ensuring equitable access to CATR for all members.
  - a. We are not an investigative or judicial body. We support communications and advise the CATR executive on possible solutions (including disciplinary or corrective measures) to members who engage in prohibited behaviour.
2. Collaborating with the Equity Officer, and the ARAO committee, to design and curate an annual event/gathering for membership at the conference that will serve the needs of CATR membership regarding continuing issues of equity and social justice.
  - b. This event should be permanently attached to a conference budget line.

Procedure for how to submit concern about breaches of the CATR Code of Conduct to the committee (text that has been uploaded to the CATR website):

- Note: This will be clearly visible and easily available to all members and non-members seeking this information. We suggest creating a Conduct Committee page on the website. If the website changes happen immediately, the current conduct committee details can be posted:
  - Selena Couture, U of Alberta - [couture@ualberta.ca](mailto:couture@ualberta.ca)
  - Andy Houston, UWaterloo → [houston@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:houston@uwaterloo.ca)
  - Signy Lynch - UofT Mississauga - [signy.lynch@utoronto.ca](mailto:signy.lynch@utoronto.ca)
  - Equity Officer: to be announced

- Outside Ombudsperson: to be announced

The CATR Committee on Conduct's purpose is to respond to concerns regarding member conduct that does not follow the Code of Conduct. We are not an investigative or judicial body. We support communications and advise the CATR executive on possible solutions (including disciplinary or corrective measures) to members who engage in prohibited behaviour with the goal of ensuring equitable access to CATR for all members.

You can read the full Code of Conduct here [insert links]: in English, and in French

**List of current members/emails:** Should be a list of committee members with emails, affiliations, etc., as well as the ombudsperson (and the equity officer?)

### **Levels of contact with the Conduct Committee**

CATR members, or others engaged with CATR events/activities are encouraged to contact the committee about issues of concern regarding the conduct of our members, at our confidential email address: [conductcatr2022@gmail.com](mailto:conductcatr2022@gmail.com), or at our individual email addresses (listed above)

You can engage the committee in several ways/at several levels. The actions taken by the committee are driven by the needs of the person complaining, and individual members or the committee as a whole won't take things further without the complainant's consent.

We welcome the following:

- **Casual inquiry** - with individual committee members. Individuals can reach out to single members of the committee via, including the ombudsperson who is outside the organization, and their discussion will be kept confidential from the remainder of the committee unless otherwise agreed to.
- **Casual inquiry** - with the committee as a whole. Individuals can reach out to the whole committee via our confidential email address ([conductcatr2022@gmail.com](mailto:conductcatr2022@gmail.com)) in a casual manner without deciding how to proceed.
- **Official complaint** - to the whole committee. If this relates to matters of discrimination and/or harassment, the committee will undertake the steps specified in the Code of Conduct. If not, a number of pathways may be undertaken.

Individuals may ask for any members of the Conduct Committee to excuse themselves from the proceedings, in case of potential conflicts.

### Disciplinary measures

The Conduct Committee advises the board, based on the code of Conduct toward the goal of ensuring equitable access. No disciplinary decisions will be made by the Committee, Instead, the Committee will turn over individual matters to the board if discipline may be warranted.

Disciplinary actions the board might take include removing someone from the board or removing their membership/limiting their access to the organization, as well as referring complaints to home/other institutions.

## Report of the Graduate Student Representatives

Submitted by: **Taylor Graham and Sarah Robbins (Outgoing)**

Since the 2022 AGM, the Graduate Student Representatives have worked on the following initiatives:

1. Taylor Graham took over the role of **CATR Communications Coordinator** from Natalia Esling in early August 2022 and has been working in this capacity since. A large part of this job includes sharing materials such as job postings and call for papers which are of interest to graduate students via CATR email and through social media. Taylor has shared dozens of communications via the CATR Communications email.
2. As **Communications Coordinator** for the 2023 Conference, Taylor Graham has created a **conference specific Instagram page** where conference participants and attendees can access important information and share related events with their networks. Instagram is, generally speaking, the place where many graduate-level students connect online and therefore this account was created to help the graduate student membership presenting, participating, and attending the conference to connect with CATR-related events, share their conference-related activities with their networks, and expand their professional networks.
3. Sarah Robbins served on the **CATR 2023 Conference Programming** committee. In her role, she reviewed all submitted proposals, in discussion with the committee, and made recommendations for additional potential programming. Sarah responded in a timely manner to the Conference Chair's email requests for immediate feedback on the shifting needs of the conference. Sarah congratulates Co-Chairs Roberta Barker, Kailin Wright, Heather Davis-Fisch on CATR 2023!
4. Taylor and Sarah have reviewed the **Emerging Scholars TF Recommendations** (Jan 2020) document, and continue to work toward the following initiatives:
  - Provide more online resources for graduate students such as: listservs of job vacancies and publishing opportunities
  - Provide more specific outreach to graduate students across Canada through CATR communication tools
5. **Sarah Robbins** was elected to the CATR Board in June 2021 and **completed her tenure as Graduate Student Representative** in June of this year. Before joining the Board, Sarah served on the **Ad Hoc Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee** from August 2020, helping to create the committee's Final Report in February 2022. Sincere thank you to Sarah for her service to the organization from Taylor on behalf of the Board. Bravo!

6. **Jayna Mees** (PhD Student, YorkU) was elected as the new **Graduate Student Representative** in the April 2023 election for a two-year term. Congratulations and welcome to the Board, Jayna!

The CATR Grad Reps are always interested and eager to hear from graduate members of the association. You can reach your graduate student representative by email at [taylormariegraham@gmail.com](mailto:taylormariegraham@gmail.com) and [jayna.mees@gmail.com](mailto:jayna.mees@gmail.com).

Respectfully,

Taylor Graham and Sarah Robbins

**Report of the Mentorship Program Coordinator**

Soumis par / Submitted by: **Christine (cricri) Bellerose**

FRANÇAIS

Les programmes de mentorat visent à favoriser et à entretenir une culture d'entraide parmi les membres de l'Association canadienne de recherche théâtrale par le biais de diverses activités : le jumelage entre mentor.e-mentoré.e et entre paires; des sessions de soutien, hors conférence ; et une initiative de mentorat de groupe pour chercheur.es émergeant.es, synchrone à la conférence annuelle.

Cette année, le programme a coordonné le jumelage entre mentor.e et mentoré.e en personne à l'Université Dalhousie lors de la conférence de l'ACRT 2023.

Nous sommes à la recherche de volontaires pour se joindre à la coordination des programmes de mentorat. Pour manifester votre intérêt, contactez Christine (cricri) Bellerose <[catr.mentorship@gmail.com](mailto:catr.mentorship@gmail.com)>.

Cordialement,  
Christine (cricri) Bellerose

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ENGLISH

The mentorship programs aim to foster and nurture a mutual aid culture among our Canadian Association for Theatre Research membership through various activities: mentor-mentee and peer pairing; off conference support sessions; and group mentoring initiative open to emerging scholars, synchronous to the annual conference.

This year, the program coordinated mentor-mentee pairing in-person at the Dalhousie University during the CATR conference 2023.

We request volunteers to join the mentorship programs. If interested, please email Christine (cricri) Bellerose <[catr.mentorship@gmail.com](mailto:catr.mentorship@gmail.com)>.

Respectfully,  
Christine (cricri) Bellerose

## Cross-Institutional Reports

### TheatreAgora Report

Submitted by: **Taiwo Afolabi**

**Members:** Taiwo Afolabi (Co-Chair), Nicole Nolette (Co-Chair), Jordana Cox, Katrina Dunn, Jane Koustas, Jeanne Murray-Tanguay, Jacobs Nevins, Marie-Eve Skelling, Neil Silcox, Fraser M. Steven, Robin Whittaker.

I appreciate TheatreAgora Committee members. I have highlighted major themes and points of deliberation. Since the 2022 AGM, TheatreAgora Committee has taken the following initiatives:

#### **TheatreAgora+ MoU Addendum**

An addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that outlines governance policies and processes of TheatreAgora. TheatreAgora is the virtual meeting place of CATR and SQET for hosting of online workshops, performances, teach-in, or stand-alone conference. The addendum was created by the TheatreAgora Committee with the guidance of a policy consultant, Fanny Martin. After the initial review, the MoU Addendum was circulated to both association boards for review and in its final stages.

#### **MoU between CATR and SQET**

Likewise, the MoU between CATR and SQET is undergoing revision. The MoU needs renewal because the term ended in 2018. The MoU has been circulated for review by CATR and SQET board members. The revision was started by by Taiwo Afolabi, Katrina Dunn, Dennis Gupa and Robin Whittaker, with additional review and revision done by Nicole Nolette, Robin Whittaker, Jane Koustas and Christine (cricri) Bellerose.

#### **TheatreAgora+Conference**

Based on TheatreAgora's contract with Koumbit, the TheatreAgora website is getting ready for the CATR conference. Conference Committee is working with the Digital Dramaturgy committee to input all the information for the conference on the website. The conference coordinator, David DeGrow coordinates all the information from the conference, Neil Silcox coordinates the Digital Dramaturgy committee to input all the information and Fraser M. Steven is Koumbit's contact person for CATR and Nicole Nolette for SEQT.

Also, alongside the Communication Committee, co-chaired by Taylor Graham, we decided that all information about the conference live on TheatreAgora so that conference information could be in one place for easy communication.

#### **TheatreAgora+Membership**

With the ongoing work with TheatreAgora, there are two aspects to membership components on the website:



- a) Membership to the website for each association to transfer members' information; and,
- b) Point of Information: Uploading members' profiles to the website and deciding the information to include on the profile.

### **TheatreAgora+Copyright/copyleft**

An ongoing deliberation about copyright/copyleft within TheatreAgora Committee and between CATR and SEQT. Koumbit proposed a general attribution in the website footer, that could be something along the lines of "Unless stated otherwise, website content is licensed under [CC BY License] by [[TheatreAgora.ca](http://TheatreAgora.ca) Credit]."

\* Then, in specific content (activities, resources, and so on), we could add another attribution text at the bottom of the content, that could be something along the lines of "This content by [name of author], is used on this website under [CC License types]".

### **Visual TheatreAgora Images**

Two images have been submitted for TheatreAgora visual image. Designed by Meysam Khavari, both can be viewed here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NygAkck7bmP94wltzTthViS05AsPNOFv/view>

### **Call for Papers for TheatreAgora**

Call for papers for TheatreAgora has been created by Jordana Cox, TheatreAgora's Curator, for members to submit their proposals for online workshops, performances, seminars or conferences. Link to the call draft here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kJD2zm-F4sqoc6K1P-dyLYW2Vx2QPBYz9tgk1yrVUJY/edit?usp=sharing>

### **TheatreAgora Info Session at the CATR conference**

Information session about TheatreAgora to be presented by TheatreAgora's Curator, Jordana Cox on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:15-11:45am EST. The session will focus on the 2023-2024 season, and participants are invited to ask questions on how TheatreAgora can support their creative and research works. A similar information session will be organized for SEQT. Finally, after the conferences, work will continue to fulfill Koumbit's contract and users can pass on feedback about TheatreAgora to Fraser M. Steven at [F.Stevens@shu.ac.uk](mailto:F.Stevens@shu.ac.uk)

Respectfully,  
Taiwo Afolabi

## SQET Report

Soumis par / Submitted by: **Christine (cricri) Bellerose**

### FRANÇAIS

#### LE COLLOQUE DE LA SQET

Du 8 au 10 juin 2023 à l'Université d'Ottawa, a eu lieu, *Traces des arts vivants au Québec et au Canada francophone*, le Colloque conjoint du Centre de recherche sur les francophonies canadiennes (CRCCF) et de la Société québécoise d'études théâtrales (SQET). Ce colloque a été rendu possible grâce à l'appui du Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes (SQRC), du Département de théâtre de l'Université d'Ottawa, du Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature et la culture québécoises (CRILCQ) et du Conseil des arts du Canada.

Les sessions de travail et d'atelier, et ainsi que les tables rondes sont organisées par sujet d'intérêt et regroupent des expertises et méthodologies de recherche diversifiées. Depuis 2010, la SQET a mis en place une nouvelle structure associative divisée en quatre axes de recherche : Théâtre et formation, Recherche-création, Théâtre québécois d'hier et d'aujourd'hui, Théorie et critique. De 2022 à 2024 se joint également le Groupe de recherche Arts vivants et écologie au Québec (AVEQc) (2022-2024). Pour de plus ample information, vous pouvez consulter < <https://www.sqet.org/a-propos/#axes>>.

La SQET poursuit son volet de mentorat sous la forme d'échanges entre les chercheur.es émergent.es participant.es et culmine dans l'exercice de synthèse des observations notées au cours des différentes séances du colloque auxquelles chacune aura assisté, lors d'une table ronde publique en clôture de colloque.

#### LE PROTOCOLE D'ENTENTE

L'ACRT et SQET continue de travailler conjointement à la mise à jour du Protocole d'entente entre nos associations, et de sa traduction en français et en anglais. Le protocole d'entente inclut un accord de double adhésion ainsi qu'une entente détaillée vis-à-vis de l'emploi d'une langue spécifique ou du bilinguisme entre nos associations. Le travail s'étend également à une entente incluse dans l'annexe TheatreAgora, qui porte sur la relation particulière entre les deux associations concernant la gestion de Theatreagora.ca. Ce protocole d'entente expose les objectifs et les modalités de gestion d'un partenariat. Il peut aussi expliquer les processus de communication, de partage d'information et de consultation. Il ne s'agit pas d'un document juridique, même s'il peut décrire la structure de gouvernance et la source d'autorité du partenariat.

Cordialement,

Christine (cricri) Bellerose

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### ENGLISH

#### SQET CONFERENCE

The University of Ottawa hosted *Traces des arts vivants au Québec et au Canada francophone*, a joint conference from le Centre de recherche sur les francophonies canadiennes (CRCCF) and la Société québécoise d'études théâtrales (SQET), from June 8 to June 10, 2023. This conference was made possible by the generous support from the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes (SQRC), the

Department of Theater of the University of Ottawa, the Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la littérature et la culture québécoises (CRILCQ) and the Canada Council for the Arts (CCA).

Sessions are grouped by topic of interest and bring together diverse expertise and research methodologies. Since 2010, SQET innovated a structure divided between four axis: Theatre and Training; Research-Creation; Québécois Theatre History and Contemporary Theatre; Critical Stage, and included the working group on Performing arts and ecology from 2022 to 2024. For more information, please consult <<https://www.sqet.org/a-propos/#axes>>.

The SQET continues its mentoring initiative in the form of in-person exchanges between participating emerging researchers during the conference. The initiative is hosted in public at a round table closing of the conference. The aim of the exercise is to summarize observations noted during the various sessions attended by the participant emerging researchers.

#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

CATR and SQET are working to update both the CATR/SQET MOU and its TheatreAgora Addendum. The document is bilingual—French and English. The MOU includes a dual membership agreement, and an understanding of language-specific and bilingual information dissemination and hosting, between our associations. The appended TheatreAgora addendum covers the two associations' special governance relationship with respect to operating theatreagora.ca. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) highlights the objectives and management arrangements of a partnership. It may also explain communication, information sharing and consultation processes. It is not a legal document though it may outline the partnership's governance structure and source of authority.

Respectfully,

Christine (cricri) Bellerose



## Report of the CATR Federation Representative

Submitted by: **Katrina Dunn**

On February 3<sup>rd</sup> the Federation finally launched its **EDID Initiatives Fund for Scholarly Associations** with a very quick deadline of February 24<sup>th</sup>. Based on the many Board conversations we had had about this, I managed to put in an application, **and we were successful in receiving \$2,500 of support.** This activity flows right out of the recommendations from CATR's Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Committee Report from February 2022. Here is the summary of the project from the application: *For a number of years, members of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Association for Theatre Research have been looking for a way to deepen and solidify our commitment to EDID through some concentrated training. We are requesting the Federation's support to realize this aspiration by hiring WC Consultants to lead us in a session of Anti-oppressive, Anti-racist (AO/AR) & DEI Training in June of 2023. This training is to educate The CATR Board on the foundations of cultural competency, diversity, and an active anti-oppressive, anti-racist (AO/AR) approach, in order to better serve its members and community. After a planning session with our consultants, the training itself will be a three hour Zoom workshop adjacent to CATR's annual conference in June of 2023.*

The consultant we are working with, Dr. Warren Clarke, is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Manitoba and has experience leading similar sessions with government agencies, organizations, academic institutions, and numerous other communities. He is a founder of The Afro-Caribbean Mentorship Program, and The Barbershop Talk Series. Due to the extreme scheduling demands on the 2023 Conference, we are planning for this session to happen within a month of the conference.

Dennis Gupa and I have worked closely with Membership Relations Officer Vanessa Foran over the first half of 2023 on the Federation's Membership Management System portal. We use this system to renew and join members, to make donations and to register for our conferences. While the portal has been difficult to use in the past and support has been intermittent, Vanessa's new role means that she has been there for us in a very hands-on way as we have done our 2023 updating and tailored the system to the 2023 conference.

Respectfully,

Katrina Dunn

## Other Business / No Oral Report AGM

### Lawrence Prize Report

Submitted by: **Jessica Riley**

Members of **2022 Committee**: Jessica Riley (Chair), Carla Melo, Lindsay Lachance, Michelle MacArthur, Eliza Gardiner, and Peter Kuling

Members of **2023 Committee**: Jessica Riley (Chair), Carla Melo, Michelle MacArthur, Peter Kuling, and Sasha Kovacs.

In the weeks following the last AGM, the **Lawrence Prize Committee for 2022** deliberated on the nominated presentations by emerging scholars that we attended at last year's conference. We determined a winner (**Sheetala Bhat** for “**Restart the play’: On Cyclicity and the Indian Woman in the Theatrical Future of *C Sharp, C Blunt***”) and an honourable mention (**Jessica Watkin** for “**Disability Dramaturgy: History, Perspective, and Practice**”). We wrote citations for these two excellent papers (which can be read at <https://catract.ca/robert-g-lawrence-prize-past-winners/>) and created a video for public announcement in the fall.

At the excellent suggestion of Lindsay Lachance, the 2022 committee instituted a new practice (to be extended this year): we undertook to provide constructive, encouraging feedback to be shared with all nominees for the Lawrence Prize. The extra labour involved in this initiative was well worth it; many of the nominees expressed gratitude for the encouragement this provided. I'm very grateful for the exceptional generosity the 2022 committee put into this work.

In recent weeks, the work of the **Lawrence Prize Committee for 2023** has begun. This has included distributing the call for self-nominations, receiving nominations via email, establishing this year's committee membership, and attending the nominated presentations over the conference. In the weeks to come we'll be deliberating and crafting our citation(s) and comments in support of these emerging scholars.

Respectfully,

Jessica Riley

## CATR Grants and Scholarships Report

Submitted by: **Emily Rollie, Chair**

**Members:** David Geary, Lindsay Lachance, Emily Rollie (Committee Chair)

### Updates & General Information

- As of fall 2022, CATR Grants were renamed to Denis Salter Grants
- For the past three cycles (2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022), we extended the timeline for submissions and selection into early fall. This adjustment seems to have offered applicants more time to create their materials and has generally helped increase the overall number of applications. The anticipated timeline for 2023 includes:
  - August 15, 2023 – deadline for submissions
  - September 15, 2023 – committee convenes to determine recipients
  - October 2023 – announcement of recipients

### 2022 Grants & Scholarship Recipients

- McCallum Scholarship - Arash Isapour  
Isapour's project considers the representation of Middle Eastern masculinities on Canadian stages and examines representations of Middle Eastern masculinity in the plays and/or productions of Marcus Youssef, Soheil Parsa, and Wajdi Mouawad.
- Lawrence Scholarship – Francis Matheu  
Matheu's project, a production of Caryl Churchill's *Vinegar Tom*, to be produced in Feb 2023, attempts to extend Churchill's work to address contemporary considerations of gender, race, and other identities within the play. In particular, the Lawrence Scholarship will support Matheu's preparatory research and a planned paper.
- Denis Salter (formerly CATR) Grants
  - Christine Balt  
"Applied Theatre Now: Theory, Practice, Impacts" – a three-part virtual conversation series for CATR members, to occur in winter 2023.
  - Hope McIntyre and Kim Richards  
Online workshop to offer an organized mode of learning for CATR members about how to incorporate more sustainable practices into our work.
  - Ilana Khanin, with Funmi Cole, Evan Moritz and Yizhou Zhang  
Festival Of Original Theatre (FOOT) 2023, a graduate student conference at the University of Toronto.
  - Marilo Nuñez and "Decolonizing Activation"  
Decolonizing Activation is a collective attempt to find pathways for decolonizing theatre, performance, and performance studies and supports the work of artist-scholars to explore land-based practices and collective learning and teaching models.
  - Sarah Robbins & Stephen Johnson  
A long-running project, "Gatherings: Archival and Oral Histories of Performances' Virtual Antiques Roadshow Fall 2022" and support of the work of graduate students who involved in the project.
  - Jacqueline Taucar and Neil Silcox  
E-initiatives for contingent, underemployed, precarious faculty, and emerging and

independent scholars – an outgrowth of and event supporting the work of the CATR Task Force on Precarity.

- Video announcement (also announcing the Lawrence Prize, committee chaired by Jess Riley) is available online: <https://youtu.be/doPm2liMjgE>

Respectfully,

Emily Rollie



## Archival Committee Report

Submitted by: **Jessica Riley**

**Members:** Jessica Riley (Chair), Moira Day, Kim McLeod, Jacquy Taucar, Robin Whittaker

I took over as Chair in June 2022, when the former Chair, Robin Whittaker, stepped into his role as President. Activities this year include:

- Continuing to work toward securing a home for recent and future hard copies of CATR records. Despite a current pause in any new intake of records, we have received word that the University of Guelph will extend its existing collection of early CATR files, with intake to resume at some point in 2024.
- Kim McLeod, with the assistance of a U of Guelph grad student, made great strides in assessing and digitizing records already held in U of G's LW Conolly Theatre Archives. Many thanks to Kim.
- Huge thanks also go to Robin for all the work he did, as the founding Chair of this committee, toward preserving and/or rendering more accessible the surviving records of this organization. Most recently, this extends to his work in ensuring the digital preservation of conference materials on the CATR and Agora websites. Special thanks to Fraser Stevens and Signy Lynch, as co-Chairs of the 2022 CATR Digital Dramaturgy Committee, to CATR web designer Cameron Clark, and to all the Digital Dramaturgy and Communications team members (outgoing and incoming) who contributed to this preservation work for the 2022 conference. And huge thanks as well to those who will extend this work this year and into the future!

Beyond these updates, I would like to acknowledge the loss of Eury Chang. Eury will be missed by all who knew him, including those of us who worked with him on the CATR Archival Committee. My thanks to Robin and the CATR community for the moving tribute to Eury's life and work on the CATR website: <https://catracrt.ca/in-memori-am-eury-chang/>

Respectfully,

Jessica Riley