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REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT/

RAPPORT DU PRESIDENT

Your Executive and Board have approved a new initiative of potentially great value to the Association in the years ahead. A CPSA TRUST FUND has been established under the Chairmanship of Tom Flanagan of the University of Calgary. Joining him as fellow Trustees are Réjean Landry (Laval), Denis Stairs (Dalhousie), Caroline Tuohy (Toronto) and, ex officio, the Association President. They will be assisted by an Advisory Board composed of a dozen or so political scientists from across the country. The purpose of the Fund is to enable the CPSA to draw from the interest created by the Trust's capital so as to help to maintain and enlarge our existing programmes and initiate new ones.

The move followed an assessment of the Association's finances by an ad hoc Trust Fund Committee which concluded that the implications of continued diminishing financial support from such bodies as the SSHRCC were potentially very severe for our Association. From 1977 to 1986 grants from outside agencies dropped from 40 per cent to 27 per cent of the Association's total revenue, with the burden to offset the loss of revenues unavoidably falling on individual and institutional CPSA members. It was our view that the trend established in the last decade of reduced Research Council support of learned societies generally is almost certain to continue and that something clearly must be done by our own Association before we begin to lose members because of steadily increasing membership fees.

Accordingly the CPSA TRUST FUND has been set up. As the CPSA currently has a Revenue Canada charitable registration number, members donating to the Trust, either in the form of an annual donation or in a single lump sum, will receive a tax benefit. It is hoped as well that some members will want to support the Association by leaving a specific bequest in their estate. We do not see the establishment of the Trust Fund as amounting to a "quick fix" of our tight financial situation, and clearly it will take time to capitalize the Fund to such a level as to begin drawing on its interest. But we do hope that with time the endowment will grow steadily, thereby allowing our Association to continue to support as many worthy projects and programmes as it now does. Needless to say, we also hope that members will be as generous in their support of the Trust in the years ahead as they have been of the Association and its several activities in the past.

Of those activities, mention should be made of developments over the last year on several fronts. Conrad Winn has done an admirable job of fundraising for the Parliamentary Internship Programme. Having established a committee for this purpose, the PIP Director appears to have the funding of the programme on a more solid footing than had been the case heretofore. He has also worked closely with colleagues from across the country and with the PIP Policy Committee (chaired by Caroline Andrew) to strengthen the academic part of the programme. For its part, the Ontario Legislative Internship Programme has continued to flourish in the ever capable hands of Fred Fletcher. Fred has completed his two full terms at OLIP and is now eager to be on to new projects. We thank him for his tireless efforts. He leaves behind a superb programme for his successor, Graham White.

As President I was privileged to be asked to represent the Association at the PIP and OLIP annual dinners in Ottawa and Toronto respectively. My earlier impressions of the two programmes (shared by many others I know) were confirmed on those two occasions when I had an opportunity to meet with past and present Interns, donors and academics. I was forcefully reminded of the contribution that our Association makes to public life in Canada with these two "high profile" competitions-- a contribution that reflects well on our profession and on the several hundred students who have served as Interns since the programmes were first introduced some years ago. If two or three decades from now our Trust Fund is as widely respected and supported as the Internship programmes are now, then it truly will have succeeded.

As it has done since 1975, the Association continues to select three political scientists (faculty or graduate students) to be awarded grants for the Essex Summer School. Financial support (amounting to \$2,733. per grant-holder in 1988) comes from the SSHRCC, and we gratefully acknowledge their generosity in contributing to this unique Canadian programme. Our Essex awards have now become well enough established that the competition generates increased interest with each additional year. The 1988 winners are Jean Crête, professeur (Laval), and Hélène Gaboury (Montréal) and Helen Moroz (Queen's), Ph.D. candidates at their respective universities.

The CPSA's experience in adjudicating competitions such as PIP, OLIP and the Essex Summer School prompted the Province of Saskatchewan to ask the CPSA to adjudicate a new \$10,000 graduate scholarship tenable at either the University of Regina or the University of Saskatchewan. Named the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship in honour of Her Majesty's visit to the province in 1987, the grant is open to any Canadian citizen or landed immigrant and is to be awarded for the advanced study and research into Saskatchewan government and politics. The first scholarship has been awarded to Kenneth Cheveldayoff (Saskatchewan).

This year we have paid increased attention to the matter of membership, hoping that with additional effort on the part of the Board and Executive we would be able to increase the number of individual members in the Association. With the help of the Heads of departments, we have attempted to contact professors, students (both graduate and undergraduate) and non-university based political scientists employed in their area who do not currently belong to the CPSA. Indications are that it has met with some success. Nonetheless it is critical that we continue to make every effort to contact those colleagues who clearly benefit from the work of our Association yet who, unlike the rest of us, do not belong to it.

I might mention three unrelated activities of the CPSA which, like all others carried on by volunteer political scientists working on our behalf, contribute to the improvement of political science specifically and social science generally in Canada. (1) In addition to our many contacts throughout the year with the SSHRCC, our interests on the federal scene are represented by Teresa Rakowska-Harmstone and Reg Whitaker who are our members on the SSFC Lobbying Network and the Advisory Committee on Public Records respectively. (2) David Smith has begun

