

2019 CAG-ACG SC-CÉ President's Report

2019 was my second year as Student Executive President. I would like to recognize the support provided by the other Student Executives and Past President over this past year: Christine Sheppard (Vice President), Ariane Seguin (Communications Coordinator), Tia Rogers-Jarrell (Student Representative Coordinator), Andrea Rochon (Secretary-Treasurer), and Stephanie Chamberlain (Past President). Please find below a highlight of our activities over the past year.

Student Representatives & Student Local Interdisciplinary Network (LINK) Seed Grant in

Aging: Currently we have 21 student representatives located on campuses across Canada. Our representatives include students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. Over the past year student representatives have organized student events, conferences, and careers and networking opportunities. This year we successfully worked to secure \$800 in funding from CAG-ACG for the LINK Seed Grant, in addition to the money we raise annually at the conference. We were able to allocate two Link Seed Grants to Student Representatives for 2018/19: 1) \$400 University of Waterloo – Symposium on Aging Research; and 2) \$300 Simon Fraser University – Careers and Networking Night. With the additional money we had available we were able to provide four student representatives with Student Representative Awards that subsidized a portion of the cost of their annual CAG-ACG membership fees. The Student Representative Awards recognize student representatives who have done an exceptional job fulfilling their role on their campus (promoting the CAG-ACG and the SC-CÉ, recruiting new student members, and organizing gerontology-related activities).

2019 Pre-Conference and Conference Events: For the 2019 CAG Conference, we plan to hold the following Pre-Conference and Conference Events: 1) Social Innovation Workshop, hosted by NouLAB, and sponsored by Consortium national de formation en santé; 2) Escape Room Team-Building Exercise; 3) AGM; 4) Student Social; and 5) Symposium: Getting Past Reviewer #2. In addition, CIHR will be hosting breakfast for students on the pre-conference day. We continue to host our annual raffle (with gift cards as a prize) as a fundraising event to raise additional funds for the LINK Seed Grant at the conference.

Bylaws: We have completed our revision of our bylaws, and the updated bylaws were passed by our membership in an online vote in April 2019. Changes to the bylaws included:

- The terminology has been updated to be more consistent and gender-neutral.
- The responsibilities of the Executive Officers have been revised to more accurately represent the actual responsibilities and activities of each role. The Communications Coordinator and Technology Coordinator roles have been amalgamated due to the overlap of these roles.
- To be eligible for the role of President the requirement has been added that members must have experience with the SC-CÉ as either an executive, student representative, or committee member (exceptions may be made to this requirement by unanimous agreement of the SC-CÉ Executive Committee).
- The order of business for Executive Meetings has been revised to allow for more flexibility.
- The detailed description of the Student Representative role has been removed as this information is now maintained in the Student Representative Handbook. The bylaws have been revised to allow more than 2 student representatives on a campus.

- The election process has been updated to: a) remove the requirement for nominees to submit a letter confirming their nomination; and b) clarify that elections are held on an as-needed basis and the nominating committee is formed on an as-needed basis.
- The wording of bylaws 6.4.1, 6.10, 6.12, and 11.2 have been reorganized and updated for greater clarity.

Website: We provided a student with an honorarium to refresh our webpages on the CAG website. Tasks completed included: updating the content, reorganizing our webpages, and improving the visual appeal, readability and ease of navigation.

Student Survey: For 2019/20 we have identified student engagement as an important priority for the CAG SC-CÉ. After the conference, we plan to conduct a survey soliciting feedback from our membership in order to identify opportunities for engagement and improvement.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Kadowaki
CAG SC-CÉ President