

**ACADEMY I**  
**DIVISION OF HUMANITIES**  
**DIVISION COMMITTEE FOR THE SELECTION OF NEW FELLOWS**  
**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE - 2022**

**Date: March 15, 2022**

**1. Members on the Committee**

- Cheryl Krasnick Warsh, Chair
- John Archibald, University of Victoria
- Bernard Linsky, University of Alberta
- Ruth Panofsky, Ryerson University
- Gary Waite, University of New Brunswick
- David Wright, McGill University

**2. Number of files reviewed by the committee: 26**

**3. List of candidates recommended for election:**

<b>Recommended Nominee</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Chun, Wendy Hui Kyong	Simon Fraser University
Schabas, Margaret	University of British Columbia
Siemens, Raymond	University of Victoria
Marks, Laura	Simon Fraser University
Nelson, Charmaine	Nova Scotia School of Art & Design
Steiner, Wendy	University of Pennsylvania
Harris, Randy	University of Waterloo
Rak, Julie	University of Alberta
Jones, Esyllt	University of Manitoba
Sypnowich, Christine	Queen's University
Taboada, Maite	Simon Fraser University
Milton, Cynthia	University of Victoria
Farfan, Penelope	University of Calgary
Kraay, Hendrik	University of Calgary
Crowley, John	Dalhousie University
Arthur, Richard	McMaster University
Sugars, Cynthia	University of Ottawa
Hepburn, Allan	McGill University

Note: Four (4) nominations for Digital Music, Communications and Urban Planning candidates were moved to Academy of Social Sciences.

#### **4. Suggestions/Comments regarding the nomination process:**

The Committee received nominations for individuals whose contributions and records of achievement were extremely impressive. We thank Christopher Dragan and the RSC for the excellent support we have received throughout the process.

There were several matters that arose in our discussions and which we would like to bring to the attention of the RSC. We are approaching these matters from the position of properly fulfilling the Committee's mandate of inclusivity, diversity and equity.

##### *4.1. Nominees who are current members of the New College.*

As raised in last year's report, the Committee (as is the case in other Divisions and Academies) has an increasing number of present New College members who are seeking to move into the New Fellows category before their College term has ended. While these candidates are certainly worthy of promotion, and we have so nominated two of them, we note that there are several possible issues that should be considered.

1. There may be the appearance of bias if a series of College members immediately move to Fellows status. College members would have the inherent advantage of having been successfully vetted by a previous RSC committee.
2. If the purpose of the College was to expand the scope of RSC membership, successful early applications could have the opposite effect if they become, or are seen to have become, an inside track to becoming full Fellows. That is, some individuals and nominating institutions might be discouraged from nominating additional candidates to be Fellows.
3. If many or most College members immediately apply for Fellows status upon the completion of, or during their terms, it could double the workload for the Committee, which would have to deal with internal as well as external applications.

Therefore, the Committee would like to present the following Motion to the Executive:

“Members of the College will be eligible to be nominated as Fellows once they have completed their College terms.”

#### *4.2. International Candidates*

The Committee was presented with a Nomination, which was successful, for a Candidate who was born in Canada but obtained all of their post-graduate education, professional employment, engagement and achievements in the United States. The sole Canadian component was the nomination (not the references) by Canadian scholars. While this was a very worthy candidate, there remains structural advantages, such as prestige, access to funding and professional opportunities to be working in our much larger neighbor, or as one of our Committee members termed it, “in the big leagues.”

In previous years, the Committee has dealt with non-Canadian applicants who had spent many years working in Canadian universities, but who were considered International applicants and were successful at becoming International Fellows.

Therefore, the Committee proposes that when such applications are submitted, there is a process whereby the Nominators can be requested to change the status to an International application. In this way, another seat in the regular pool can be available for a worthy Canadian candidate, in keeping with the goal of inclusivity.

#### *4.3 Special Categories of Candidates*

The Committee once again was faced with the dilemma of properly ranking lifetime achievements and non-academic historians. Ageism is another equity issue, and we would appreciate more discussion on the value of accomplishments over a lifetime, even if those accomplishments took place years earlier.

Also, non-academic scholars, such as librarians and independent scholars, may make contributions that are not as easily quantifiable as a line in a Published Articles list on a curriculum vitae. Given the shrinkage of academic appointments in the Humanities over the last generation, these individuals increasingly are a significant component of doctorates. Furthermore, this generation is the most diverse, and any barriers would work against the goal of promoting diversity in membership.

## ***ADDITIONAL INFORMATION***

*Table 1. RSC Humanities Division recommendations by gender*

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Not recommended</b>	<b>Total Nominations</b>
Female	12	2	14
Male	6	6	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>

*Table 2. RSC Humanities Division recommendations by province*

<b>Province</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Not recommended</b>	<b>Total Nominations</b>
Alberta	3	0	3
BC	6	1	7
NS	2	0	2
Ontario	4	6	10
Québec	1	0	3
Manitoba	1	1	2
United States	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>

*Table 3. RSC Humanities Division recommendations by discipline*

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Not recommended</b>	<b>Total</b>
Art History	1	1	2
Classics/Humanities	0	1	1
Creative & Performing Arts	1	0	1
English	3	1	4
English Literature	2	1	3
History	4	2	6
History & Philosophy of Science	0	1	1
Humanities	2	0	2
Linguistics	2	0	2
Philosophy	2	0	2
Philosophy/Ethics	1	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>