An important part of the role of the President of the RSC is to represent the Society at scholarly events and activities across Canada sponsored by post-secondary institutions, think tanks, NGOs, learned societies and citizen groups. On each of these occasions I come away impressed by the engagement of Canadians with key issues in the artistic and intellectual life of the country.

In last October’s E-News, I had occasion to mention the creation of five Society task forces. The scope of their several mandates testifies to the emphasis that the RSC Council places on all three components of the Society’s mission. I would like to briefly note the significance of one of these components, which is discussed at length in the section of this issue entitled “Our Mission and Mandate”.

The RSC, like national academies throughout the world, seeks to promote a culture of scholarly and cultural excellence. Historically, this has been achieved through joint ventures with research think tanks and universities, the sponsorship of symposia and conferences aimed at the general public and news media, and the dissemination of research and commentary on key topics in both the scientific and the popular media. More recently the Society has developed programmes to reach out to high school students and university undergraduates.

Let me briefly comment on how each of these five task forces, as part of its larger mission, aims to promote a culture of scholarly and cultural excellence. Principal Daniel R. Woolf of Queen’s University chairs a task force on Institutional Members. A key collaboration of the Society with post-secondary institutions across Canada involves organizing high profile public lectures such as the RSC Governor General Lecture Series. Principal Woolf’s task force will explore other ways in which the RSC and its Institutional Members can work together to advance the dissemination of research and scholarship to students and to the general public.

President Roseann O’Reilly Runte of Carleton University chairs a task force on Awards and Recognition aimed at rationalizing and enhancing the impact of the awards, fellowships and scholarships programme of the Society. The mandate includes fine tuning new scholarships established through the Extending Excellence Campaign and aimed particularly at mentoring high-school students and enabling them and undergraduates to attend Society symposia and programmes.

Dr. Chad Gaffield, President of the SSHRC, chairs a task force on how the Society could best reach out to the younger generation of scholars and researchers and bring them into the mainstream of Society activities. The task force will explore various models, including the possible establishment of a “Young Academy”, as a mechanism for promoting and supporting excellence among the cohort of young scholars, and mentoring undergraduates to pursue graduate degrees in all disciplines.

Professor Irving Abella of York University chairs a task force on Intervention in Matters of Public Importance. The mandate is to determine whether and how the Society should intervene corporately in matters of public debate. This mandate relates to the promotion of a culture of research excellence because, as the events of last summer show, there can be matters relating to public policy formation where the Society has a disinterested role to play in promoting evidence-based decision making. The task force has already written to Fellows for comment about its mission, modus operandi and possible ideas for inclusion in its report.

Dr. Constance Backhouse of the University of Ottawa chairs a task force on Diversity in the Fellowship. The socio-demographics of Canada’s research community are changing rapidly, as outstanding scholars and scientists from around the world are attracted to Canada and the children of recent immigrants complete doctoral studies. Recognizing these outstanding scholars and enabling them to mentor younger members is a key feature of the mandate of this task force.

The role of the Society in promoting a culture of scholarly and artistic excellence cannot be understated. I am grateful to the more than two dozen Fellows who have accepted to serve as members of these task forces. May I also thank in anticipation all Fellows who will respond to surveys and invitations from these task forces to contribute to their deliberations. I am convinced that, under the inspired leadership of our five chairs, we will soon have a detailed series of protocols and procedures in place to enable the Society to fulfill more effectively its role as a fellowship of scholars committed to promoting a culture of knowledge, artistic achievement, scientific advancement and evidence-based public policy.
In the Fall 2010 newsletter, the Message from the President and this section highlighted the central components of the mandate of the Royal Society of Canada focused on the Society’s mission to advise – to provide expert advice on matters of national interest to governments, NGOs, other civil society groups and the general public. In this Newsletter we outline how the RSC is fulfilling a second of the three components of its mandate – its mission to promote a culture of knowledge, artistic achievement, scholarly and scientific advancement and evidence-based public policy.

**INTRODUCTION: THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA AS PROMOTER OF SCHOLARLY AND ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE**

Today we see the mandate of the RSC to promote scholarly and artistic excellence as comprising two elements. One is to sponsor, either by itself or in joint ventures with research think tanks, universities, learned societies and other organizations, activities that aim to enhance public awareness of the importance of scholarly and scientific research to Canada. The other is to support and mentor students (especially from disadvantaged backgrounds) who seek to pursue, or who are pursuing higher education.

While promoting scholarly and artistic excellence should probably be the Society’s most visible public role, it is today the facet of the RSC mission that is least known both within the Fellowship and among Canadians generally. How exactly does the Society go about fulfilling this mandate in such a way that neither simply replicates activities undertaken by other organizations nor prodigally or frivolously dissipates the Society’s limited resources?

**INSTITUTIONAL COLLABORATION**

For several decades, the RSC has pursued its mission to promote both domestically and abroad. Internationally, the Society frequently joins with other Academies in multilateral agencies (G8, IANAS, UNESCO, IAP), and exchange lectureships. Domestically, the Society undertakes joint ventures with research think tanks and universities, sponsors symposia and conferences aimed at the general public and the news media, and disseminates research and commentary on key topics in both the scientific and popular media. For many years the RSC has also co-sponsored regional events with Institutional Members.

More recently the Society has added other dimensions to its promotional activities. Following the Extending Excellence campaign, the Society developed programmes to reach out to high school students and university undergraduates. It has also joined with the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences to sponsor keynote lectures at the annual Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Last year it joined with universities in Atlantic Canada to organize, through its Atlantic Regional Chapter, a multi-university symposium at Saint Mary’s University.

**THE SOCIETY’S ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM**

The organization of the Annual Symposium rotates among the three academies. Each year the symposium features distinguished lecturers who present their research via presentations, discussions and panels. These interdisciplinary symposia are open to the public, and through its High School Outreach and Scholarship Programmes, many secondary school and university students from across Canada are able to attend.

Topics for the Annual Symposium are chosen for their salience for Canadian public policy. In 2008 the symposium was entitled “The Cultures of War and Peace” and was organized by the Academy of Arts and the Humanities (Academy I). The Academy of Science (Academy III) presented the 2009 Symposium on the theme “The Universe and Our Place in It”. In 2010 the Academy of Social Sciences (Academy II) organized the Annual Symposium, focusing on “Immigrating to Canada: Who Comes? Who Stays? Who Decides?”. This Fall the Academy of Arts and Humanities will present “Literacy and Citizenship in the 21st century.”
REGIONAL AND ACADEMY ACTIVITIES

The organization of regional symposia is undertaken by regional chapters of the Society. Regional symposia afford the Society the opportunity to engage in local issues from a regional as well as a national perspective. The 2010 symposium on the future of Atlantic Canada attracted over 200 participants, including 50 university and high-school students from every Atlantic province. A number of activities are also organized each year by the three Academies. For example, the Academy of Science hosted the Conference and General Assembly for the Interamerican Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS).

CONGRESS OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Every year, the Canadian Federation for Humanities and Social Sciences (FedCan) organizes a Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences (the event formerly known as “The Learneds”). Academies I and II work with FedCan to host one or more public lectures and panels during this Congress. In past years, the Society has sponsored lectures by Saskia Sassen in (May 2010) and will be hosting Kwame Anthony Appiah in May 2011.

ACTIVITIES CO-SPONSORED WITH INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

The Society partners with its 47 Institutional Members to organize events of interest to the university community and the broader local public. Recurring annual events include the RSC Governor General Lecture Series, held annually at four different campuses across Canada, and Taboo Topics Forums meant to raise public awareness of issues that are sometimes considered too controversial to be discussed in other fora. In addition, the Society partners with Institutional Members to co-host regional meetings and public lectures to promote expert panel reports where a professor from that university has been a member of the panel or review.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND SYMPOSIA

The Society hosts a variety of lectureship programmes throughout the year to strengthen links with other national academies and research institutions. Examples of these programmes are the UK-Canada Rutherford Lecture Series and the Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (WISE) programme co-sponsored with the National Academy of Japan.

The Society is a member of the Global Network of Academies (IAP) and of the InterAmerican Network of Academies of Science (IANAS). In 2010, the Society hosted the annual symposium and meeting of IANAS, attended by representatives of 17 InterAmerican Academies. Moreover, since Canada was co-host of the G8 last year, the Society was also responsible for organizing the preparation of the Statements of G8 Academies for submission to the 2010 Summit in Huntsville.

International symposia are organized in partnership with other academies. For example, the 2009 symposium on Genetically Modified Organisms was organized in partnership with the l’Académie des sciences, Institut de France. In November 2010 the Society participated in a symposium entitled “Canadian-South African Dialogue on the Humanities”, hosted by the Academy of Science of South Africa in Cape Town.

CONCLUSION: EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY FOR SCIENCE AND SCHOLARSHIP

Becoming an effective advocate for science and scholarship and promoting a culture of knowledge, artistic achievement, scholarly and scientific advancement and evidence-based public policy among the Canadian public is a central aspiration of the Society. Doing so in a manner that does not overtax the limited resources of the RSC is an ongoing challenge. We have been fortunate over the years to benefit from the energy and generosity of Fellows who have devoted countless hours to sharing their insights with colleagues and the general public.

We have been especially lucky to have received considerable funding from corporate sponsors through the Extending Excellence campaign to enable us to bring young students to our annual Symposium, and to establish Fellowships for post-secondary students from disadvantaged groups. With the reports of our five task forces due later this year, we will be well positioned to enhance and fine-tune Society programmes to promote a culture of knowledge and artistic achievement. These reports will also enable us seek targeted private sector support so that the Society can become an even more effective advocate for science and scholarship among the Canadian public in the coming years.
A NOMADIC SECRETARIAT
For 127 years the Royal Society of Canada has rented space for its head office and secretariat. Unlike its closest analogues, the Royal Society in the UK and the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., the Society was long reliant on the Government of Canada to provide facilities for its operations. In 2006, however, this support from the Ministry of Industry was terminated and the RSC was obliged to locate and to find resources to pay rent for a new head office. For several years prior to that time Presidents of the Society ruminated about whether and how the Society could acquire a permanent home. With the withdrawal of government, the need to pay significant rental and the currently inadequate space at 170 Waller Street, this option became more attractive and the idea gained favour among the RSC leadership and Fellows.

The biggest impediment to acquiring a permanent home for the Fellowship was the Society’s lack of a capital sum for a down payment.

NOT A LOCATION, BUT A “HOME” -- ENTER WILLIAM LEISS
This past year the Society had an epiphany in its quest for a permanent home for the Fellowship. William Leiss, President of the Society from 1999-2001 and currently chair of the Committee on Expert Panels, capped his decades of continuing service to the RSC with a commitment of $500,000 to be applied to the financing of a permanent home for the Fellowship. With news of this extraordinary commitment, late last year, the Council authorized a search for a permanent home.

We are now in a position to acquire such a home at 282 Somerset West. We have already conducted the necessary engineering, environmental and assessment studies and, subject to obtaining a minor variance in the current zoning by-law, we will be in a position to close the purchase by September. Our hope is that the fitting up and minor upgrading of the house can be completed within six months after closing, which would enable President Yolande Grisé to officially dedicate our new home by March 2012.

FINANCING THE ACQUISITION OF “WALTER HOUSE”
The total cost of acquisition (purchase price, engineering and environmental assessments, legal costs, applicable taxes, insurance, fit-up, and financing) will be about $1.9 million, of which $500,000 in addition to the down payment will have to be paid prior to our occupancy of Walter House. By borrowing from our endowment funds we have been able to develop a budget that will cover the 2011-2012 up-front costs of acquisition.

Nonetheless, the sum borrowed must be repaid to our endowment, and we do not want to finance the mortgage carrying charges of acquisition from the annual operating budget of the Society. With the assistance of our accountants in calculating the exact costs of acquisition, we are now in a position to advance a plan to ensure the acquisition of our home but also sustain the continued growth of RSC programs and activities such as expert panels.

We have been most fortunate to receive pro-bono professional guidance and counsel in developing a fundraising strategy that will accomplish these two goals. This strategy builds on a key recent initiative taken by RSC leadership: the Extending Excellence Campaign, chaired by Sandra Irving and Laurent Beaudoin. We are confident that Fellows will join this effort and become champions of a new fundraising campaign to ensure the future of the Society.

The funding plan for Walter House – our new home – is a five-year $2,500,000 pledge program that will include, and therefore leverage, William Leiss’ leadership gift of $500,000. It will incorporate strategies for 2-3 contributions of $250,000 – among them a fall fundraising dinner. We also have plans to raise $500,000 through capital pledge leadership gifts of $100,000, $50,000 and $25,000 from Fellows and friends of the RSC. We will
be asking for these special gifts in “top down” sequence, with an opportunity for donors of larger sums to name specific rooms and facilities of Walter House. Already, Society President Rod Macdonald has committed to a two-stage donation of $50,000, and we are confident of being able to identify matching leadership gifts.

A CHALLENGE FOR THE ENTIRE FELLOWSHIP
Our challenge now is to reach the campaign goal of $2,500,000 with a general solicitation of individual gifts from Fellows. This will enable the Society to acquire a permanent home while maintaining and expanding its current programs. The overall target is to raise $750,000 in this way over the next five years. All contributions to the Walter House Fund will be acknowledged on a donor’s wall at the front entrance. Later this spring we will be formally launching a fundraising campaign with an appeal to the Fellowship outlining various ways in which everyone can help the Society retire the financing debt incurred to acquire Walter House. We are certain that when you visit the Society’s new home you will feel, as the Council does, that the Society has experienced a transformational moment. Your support is a key to enabling the Royal Society of Canada to seize that moment.

COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

A SOCIETY ON THE MOVE
As a collegium of scholars a National Academy has a privileged place in the intellectual life of a country. Among national academies, the Royal Society of Canada is almost unique in the manner in which it is organized, managed and financed. Today the Society receives no block funding from any government; its operations are almost entirely financed by the fellowship and Institutional Members. Moreover, while some academies have large secretariats (some numbering in the hundreds of employees) the Secretariat of the RSC comprises 8 full-time employees. Finally, in some national academies the top executive positions are remunerated. In Canada, there are no paid statutory executive positions.

It is, of course, not just the elected leadership of the Society that is voluntary. Every one of the standing and ad hoc committees of the RSC is chaired by and constituted of Fellows who volunteer their time to ensure that the Society fulfills its mission. Moreover, this past year the Council created three new committees and five task forces to move forward with its agenda. In all, over 250 Fellows are active participants in the Division, Academy and Society committees and task forces.

THE CHALLENGES AHEAD
To meet the challenges of an increasingly large and engaged fellowship the Council created three new standing committees – a Committee on Expert Panels (chaired by William Leiss), a Committee on International Affairs (Chaired by Jeremy McNeill), and a Communications Committee (chaired by Ronald Rompkey) – to complete the organizational picture provided by the New Fellow Selection Committees, the Nomination Committees, the Committee on Awards and Recognition (chaired by Roseann O’Reilly Runte), and the Committee on the Advancement of Women in Scholarship (chaired by Constance Backhouse). Later this year a Finance and Investment Committee (chaired by Danial D. Wayner) and an Audit Committee will also be established. Each of these committees will ensure that the operations of the Society are well-managed and financially accountable.

In addition, as outlined in the Message from the President, the work of five Society task forces is well underway. These task forces are: a task force on Institutional Members, a task force on Awards and Recognition, a task force on a “Young Academy”, a task force on Intervention in Matters of Public Importance, and a task force on Diversity in the Fellowship.

A FELLOWSHIP OF ENGAGED SCHOLARS
The success of the RSC in achieving its mission and mandate has depended on the continuing engagement of Fellows in the governance of the Society. For over a century Fellows have volunteered to assume executive positions within the Society, its academies and its divisions. Under the leadership of thirteen chairs, the five score members of these bodies will ensure that the Society fulfills most effectively its role as a Fellowship of scholars committed to promoting a culture of knowledge, artistic achievement, scientific advancement and evidence-based public policy.
Within 24 hours of the report launch, over 2,500 people visited the Society’s website with 87% of those being absolute unique visitors. From December 1, 2010 to February 11, 2011 a total of 340 stories were written on the report.

**EXPERT PANELS**

**PANEL REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH IMPACTS OF CANADA’S OIL SANDS INDUSTRY**

*The Globe and Mail* Dec. 15, 2010

“Cutting through rhetoric that so often dominates debate over Canada’s oil sands, a new report by a prominent academic group is a comprehensive snapshot of the failings and successes of all the industry’s stakeholders and raises hope for a new era of oversight… The report says repeatedly that science must not take a back seat to rhetoric.”

*The Economist – Jan. 20, 2011*

“In December a report by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) dismissed other complaints. Claims that the tar sands were the “most environmentally destructive project on Earth” were “not accurate”, it said... The RSC added that “no credible evidence supported worries about elevated human cancer rates downstream of the developments.”

*The National Post – Dec. 16, 2010*

“On Wednesday, the impartial Royal Society of Canada released an exhaustive new study on Alberta’s oil sands. It says that while the “sands” may be creating more environmental harm than they need to, the energy mega-projects are not the disasters environmentalists claim.”

**UPCOMING PANEL REPORTS**

RSC Expert Panel

End-of-Life Decision Making

Fall 2011

Groupe d’experts de la SRC

Prise de décisions en fin de vie

automne 2011

RSC Expert Panel

Utilizing Canada’s Maritime Biodiversity: Responding to the Challenges Posed by Climate Change, Fishing, and Aquaculture

Fall 2011

Groupe d’experts de la SRC

Le maintien de la biodiversité marine au Canada : relever les défis posés par les changements climatiques, la pêche et l’aquaculture

automne 2011

RSC Expert Panel

Early Childhood Development

Spring 2012

Groupe d’experts de la SRC

Le développement des jeunes enfants

printemps 2012
Throughout the year, Institutional Members of the Society deliver a variety of programming “on campus”. This is some of the feedback we have received recently.

“As a longstanding Institutional Member of the Royal Society of Canada, Saint Mary’s University was proud to host a regional conference of the RSC just over one year ago. Shaping An Agenda For Atlantic Canada regrouped Fellows of the Society, leading scholars, and university presidents from throughout the region to debate matters of importance to Atlantic Canadians and our future. We keenly look forward to organizing future events in partnership with the RSC.”

- President Colin Dodds

“On March 21, Dr Clyde Hertzman, a member of the Royal Society of Canada, led a discussion at the Centre de formation médicale du Nouveau-Brunswick during his visit in Moncton for a Governor General Lecture. Both the lecture and the discussion session were well attended. I want to thank the Royal Society of Canada for having made this activity possible.”

- Mathieu Bélanger, Director of Research, Centre de formation médicale Nouveau-Brunswick

“Dr. Clyde Hertzman’s visit to Lakehead University was a wonderful opportunity for a wide array of practitioners, researchers, students, and community members interested in early childhood development to come together for a dynamic, passionate, and provocative presentation. As an added benefit, his presence in Thunder Bay allowed many early childhood organizations, both on and off campus, to meet and learn from his long experience and pioneering work in the field of early childhood development.”

- Dr. Edward Rawana, Director, Centre of Excellence for Children & Adolescents with Special Needs

“The University of Saskatchewan was so fortunate to host Dr. Clyde Hertzman as part of the RSC’s Governor General Lecture Series. His lecture at the U of S was co-sponsored by the CBC and we were able to attract a broad audience and some great media coverage. We were also able to hold a policy forum with more than 20 community stakeholders that may well start to lay the groundwork for change in early childhood education in Saskatchewan. Dr. Hertzman’s visit was an extremely valuable opportunity for our institution and we are grateful to the RSC for making it happen.”

- Karen Chad, Ph.D., Vice-President Research

“The Kingston meeting of Fellows of the Royal Society was founded by Alec Stewart and John Meisel in 1991. The format is that of four talks, two from the sciences and two from the humanities and social sciences and a Principal’s luncheon. Under Michael Sayer and Pierre du Prey the meeting has evolved to serve the wider interests of the Royal Society. Invitations are extended to Eastern Ontario Fellows, primarily in Kingston (Queen’s), Peterborough (Trent) and Ottawa (Ottawa, Carleton and NRC), to speak and attend. The 2011 meeting was held on April 9, with presentations in Physics, Political Studies, and Architectural History. Once again, the support of Principal Daniel Woolf and the attendance of Society President Roderick A. Macdonald added to the dynamic of the programme.”

- Michael Sayer, FRSC
FEBRUARY 2011

February 24-27, Mexico City, Mexico
IANAS: WOMEN FOR SCIENCE FOCAL POINTS MEETING
Frances Henry, FRSC, was selected as the representative of the Society for the first meeting of the focal points of the IANAS Women for Science Working Group. The purpose of this gathering was to promote a landscape analysis, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each of the IANAS countries as to the participation of women in Science and Technology.

MARCH 2011

GOVERNOR GENERAL LECTURE SERIES 2011 – CLYDE HERTZMAN
March 21, Université de Moncton, Moncton, NB
Governor General Lecture Series: Are we the people we need to be? Early human development and the challenges of the 21st century

March 22, In Partnership with CIFAR, Ottawa, ON
Governor General Lecture Series: New insights into the importance of the early years

March 23, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, ON
Governor General Lecture Series: Are we the people we need to be? Early human development and the challenges of the 21st century

March 25, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK
Governor General Lecture Series: Are we the people we need to be? Early human development and the challenges of the 21st century

March 24-25, L’Académie des sciences, Institut de France, Paris, France
ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES MEETING OF THE G8 COUNTRIES
L’Académie des sciences, Institut de France hosted the 2011 meeting of the G8 Academies of Sciences, which resulted in two statements that will be submitted to the French government in preparation for the G8 summit in May in Deauville, France. The two statements resulting from the meeting spoke to themes identified as priorities by the French government: (1) Water, Health, and Agriculture, and (2) Education for a science-based global development.

APRIL 2011

April 9, Queen’s University, Kingston, ON
EASTERN ONTARIO REGIONAL SEMINAR
Once again this year, the Eastern Ontario Regional Seminar was organized with aplomb by co-chairs Michael Sayer, FRSC and Pierre du Prey, FRSC. The interdisciplinary symposium programming was complemented by a gracious lunch invitation from Queen’s Principal Daniel R. Woolf, FRSC.

MAY 2011

May 28, University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University, Fredericton, NB
BIG THINKING SERIES – SOCIETY MATTERS: WHY SHOULD WE VALUE THE HUMANITIES?
The Royal Society of Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences, will present world-renowned philosopher Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah as part of the Big Thinking Series. Dr. Appiah will explore how universities today exist in a complex and sometimes uncertain environment based on a new narrative about the civic, cultural and social value of their work.

OCTOBER 2011

October 14, National Library and Archives of Canada, Ottawa, ON
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM: LITERACY AND CITIZENSHIP IN THE 21ST CENTURY
The Academy of Arts and Humanities is organizing the 2011 Annual Symposium. The theme of the symposium implies that citizens from all backgrounds ought to be invited into this dialogue. Fellows will present research alongside emerging researchers, and other distinguished participants such as the CEO of Indigo Books, Heather Reisman. Online registration will begin in Summer 2011 at www.rsc-src.ca

For more information on RSC events visit the RSC website: www.rsc-src.ca or contact events@rsc-src.ca
The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Society was exceptional as a result of the turnout of Fellows, as well as the presence and participation of His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, David Lloyd Johnston. Having graciously accepted to serve as Patron of the Society, His Excellency also consented to deliver the keynote address at the annual banquet. The emphasis of his remarks were “in line” with the mission of the Society:

“…Finally, we must foster an appreciation for the arts, humanities and social sciences. I believe that imagination and shared understanding are key to crossing disciplines and furthering our knowledge of ourselves and our societies.”

A second facet of His Excellency’s involvement in the affairs of the Society merits celebration. In recognition of his outstanding career of service to Canada’s intellectual culture, David Johnston was inducted as an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

See page 12 for details on AGM 2011.

“The program was diverse and yet cohesive, and the organizers did a commendable job of weaving together various perspectives on immigration. I was particularly impressed with the calibre of discussion and the thoughtfulness of the questions, and I was grateful to make contact with others who work on immigration issues. This was an extremely positive experience, and I feel fortunate to have been asked to participate. I thank the RSC for spearheading this project and SSHRC for providing the means necessary to execute it.”

– Erin Tolley, Ph.D. candidate, Queen’s University

The Society is indebted to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for its logistical, moral and financial support for the 2010 Symposium. This partnership with SSHRC allowed us to incorporate some of Canada’s top emerging scholars, whose presentations complemented the scientific programme consisting of presentations by Fellows.

“I was impressed with the diverse backgrounds of the participants. I initially thought that the participants would be limited to the social sciences but was pleasantly surprised to hear about the research of those in the humanities and those in the policy arena. It is rewarding to learn that my own research isn’t just an esoteric undertaking but has pertinence for a research agenda spanning multiple disciplines.”

– Jessica Yiu, Ph.D. student, Princeton University

The Society is delighted to announce that the partnership with SSHRC is continuing in 2011. SSHRC’s commitment to «la relève» fits squarely with the Society’s mission to promote a culture of knowledge and innovation in Canada.
The central mechanisms used by The Royal Society of Canada to recognize outstanding scholarly achievement is through election to the Fellowship and through the presentation of awards. Every year, a number of Society honours are bestowed upon Canadians for outstanding achievements in a variety of disciplines.

Nominations are now being sought for the awards that will be presented in 2012. The deadline for nominations is December 1, 2011. All information related to these awards – such as those being offered this year, the nomination forms, and deadlines – are available on the website of the Society: [www.rsc-src.ca/awards.php](http://www.rsc-src.ca/awards.php)

The following medals and awards will be presented in 2012:

**THE FLAVELLE MEDAL**
For an outstanding contribution to biological science during the preceding ten years or for significant additions to a previous outstanding contribution to biological science.

**THE J.B. TYRRELL HISTORICAL MEDAL**
For outstanding work in Canadian History.

**THE ALICE WILSON AWARD**
For outstanding academic qualifications of a woman who is entering a career in scholarship or research at the postdoctoral level.

**THE LORNE PIERCE MEDAL**
For an achievement of special significance and conspicuous merit in imaginative or critical literature written in either English or French.

**THE MCLAUGHLIN MEDAL**
For important research of sustained excellence in any branch of medical sciences.

**THE BANCROFT AWARD**
For publication, instruction, and research in the earth sciences that have conspicuously contributed to public understanding and appreciation of the subject.

**THE MCNEIL MEDAL**
For an outstanding ability to promote and communicate science to students and the public within Canada.

**THE MIROSLAW ROMANOWSKI MEDAL**
For significant contributions to the resolution of scientific aspects of environmental problems or for important improvements to the quality of an ecosystem in all aspects - terrestrial, atmospheric and aqueous - brought about by scientific means.

**THE AWARD IN GENDER STUDIES**
For significant contributions by a Canadian scholar in the humanities and social sciences to furthering our understanding of issues concerning gender.

**THE RUTHERFORD MEMORIAL MEDAL IN PHYSICS**
For outstanding research in any branch of physics.

**THE RUTHERFORD MEMORIAL MEDAL IN CHEMISTRY**
For outstanding research in any branch of chemistry.

**THE KONRAD ADENAUER RESEARCH AWARD**
For the promotion of academic collaboration between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany, presented to honour the scholar’s entire academic record.
OBITUARIES

Last Spring the RSC undertook to complete obituaries for more than 300 Fellows whose obituaries had not yet been recorded by the Society. Professor Andrew Donskov, FRSC, assisted by Sarah Pouliot of the Secretariat, has devoted literally hundreds of hours to ensuring the preparation of tributes to deceased Fellows and their publication on the Society’s website. At the time of printing, fewer than 40 obituaries remain to be composed. We hope to complete this project by the end of the summer.

Most of these new obituaries have been written and signed by Fellows. Some, however, have been drawn or adapted from obituaries published in newspapers and similar sources. Where this is the case the obituaries are unsigned. These obituaries are frequently less comprehensive than obituaries prepared by Fellows.

We know that Fellows will be interested in reading these tributes to deceased colleagues, especially colleagues known personally. If, when reading unsigned obituaries, you notice that important features of a deceased Fellow’s career have been neglected, we would be pleased to hear from you. A simple sentence or two noting these contributions and sent to spouliot@rsc-src.ca would enable us to enrich these unsigned obituaries, and in so doing further honour our former colleagues. We look forward to hearing from you.

DECEASED FELLOWS

It is with much regret that we record the deaths of the following Fellows:

THE ACADEMY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Susan Dick, elected in 1989, died on December 11, 2010
Arnold L. McAllister, elected in 1967, died on November 16, 2010

THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Seymour Martin Lipset, elected in 2003, died on December 31, 2006

THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE
Alan Arthur Boulton, elected in 1993, died on November 13, 2010
John J. Hodgson, elected in 1958, died on January 8, 2011
David R. Jones, elected in 1984, died on November 19, 2010
Howard Roy Krouse, elected in 1994, died on March 2, 2010
Jerrold E. Marsden, elected in 1991, died on September 21, 2010
Ernest Armstrong McCulloch, elected in 1974, died on January 19, 2011
E.T. Tozer, elected in 1966, died on December 26, 2010
Lawrence Young, elected in 1977, died on September 22, 2010

2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 2011
November 25-27, Ottawa Convention Centre, Ottawa, ON
RSC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: INDUCTION & AWARDS CEREMONY & BANQUET
The 2011 AGM will be a unique celebration. The weekend’s activities will be among the first events to be held at the new Ottawa Convention Centre. Foremost in this year’s programming is the enhancement to scholarly facets of the weekend. On Friday afternoon, a symposium providing interdisciplinary perspectives on two of the Society’s Expert Panel reports will be held. Representatives from all three Academies will discuss and debate the results of the report on oil sands, as well as the report on End-of-Life Decision Making. For full details of this symposium and for full details of the expanded AGM scheduled, please see www.rsc-src.ca.
Online registration will begin in Summer 2011.