Over the past 60 years, a new expression has gained currency in Canadian scholarly circles: the public intellectual. While the epithet has a long history in Europe, its meaning has, for me at least, been obscure. I have never been certain exactly what a public intellectual is or what a public intellectual does. What does the adjective “public” add? And what pretension does the noun “intellectual” mask?

This summer presented an occasion to ponder the inquiry more closely. In late June, the Government of Canada announced its intention to eliminate the mandatory long-form census for 2011. Immediately, a number of organizations – at last count over 200 think tanks, NGOs, university and research organizations, as well as business, labour and consumer groups – weighed in, expressing dismay with the decision. The Royal Society of Canada was asked to join as a signatory to several petitions then in circulation. In addition, more than three dozen Fellows, some claiming to represent other Fellows or groups of Fellows, wrote to me requesting that the Society express its opposition to the proposed elimination of the mandatory long-form census. Following a week of e-mail exchanges, the Council of the Society approved the text of a letter to be sent to the Hon. Tony Clement. This letter was also circulated to all Fellows and remains available on the Society’s website: www.rsc-src.ca

Implicit in these reactions and this decision by the Council is the belief that scientists and scholars have a duty to make public pronouncements on matters that fall within their particular field of expertise. This obligation extends not just to advising governments and policy-makers but also to communicating to citizens through popular media. A public intellectual and an association of public intellectuals such as the RSC seek to ensure that policy decisions by governments are based on the best available evidence, as opposed to being grounded in anecdote or ideology.

Of course, all evidence is open to interpretation, and in democratic states, governments are entitled, having considered the evidence, to take whatever decisions they believe appropriate. So too, in a free and democratic society, individual scholars may well come to divergent conclusions on matters of public policy. Indeed, over the few weeks following transmission of the letter to the government, five Fellows expressed their disagreement with the decision of the RSC Council. Four registered support for the Minister and for the principles said to underlie the decision. Two also expressed concern that the decision was taken without a vote of the Fellowship.

I take seriously all comments from Fellows. The next section of this newsletter, “Our Mission and Mandate”, discusses the role of the Society as intervener in key issues of public policy and the substantive issues raised by the Council’s letter to the Minister. In this President’s Message I should like to respond to the procedural issue.

Should a vote of the membership have been taken prior to the letter’s being sent? The by-laws of the RSC provide that the Council is the executive arm of the Society and is empowered to act on behalf of the Society between annual business meetings. Nonetheless, because the Society has not yet developed a comprehensive policy concerning the taking of public positions on matters of importance to the Fellowship, the Council determined that the President’s letter should be sent on its behalf rather than on behalf of the Society and the Fellowship as a whole. The letter opened with the following statement: “I write on behalf of the Council of the Royal Society of Canada, which has asked me to convey its concern about the proposed cancellation of the mandatory long-form census for 2011.”

May I make two other observations. First, recognizing that Fellows might well take a contrary view of the suggestion in the letter that the Minister undertake a public consultation before confirming the decision to cancel the mandatory long-form census, in the covering memo to Fellows forwarding the letter to them, I urged those with strong views about this decision of Council (whether because the letter was insufficiently strident or because they disagreed with its recommendation) to write to the Minister.

Second, the proposed cancellation of the mandatory long-form census became an occasion for the Council to debate whether and how the Society should intervene corporately in matters of public debate. The Council decided to strike a task force to prepare a draft policy for circulation and comment from the Fellowship. Once Fellows approve such a policy, it will be posted on the Society’s website. If you wish to be considered for nomination to this task force, please let me know at your earliest convenience. I look forward to hearing from you.

For the moment, I wish to thank all those Fellows who took the trouble to write me about the census decision and about the letter I forwarded to the Hon. Tony Clement on behalf of the Council. I am convinced that we will soon have a detailed protocol in place governing how the Society can best fulfil its role as a fellowship of public intellectuals.
OUR MISSION AND MANDATE

The three central components of the mandate of the Royal Society of Canada – to recognize, to promote, and to advise - signal the Society’s special role in Canadian intellectual life. Over the next three bi-annual newsletters one of these will be featured in the section devoted to exploring our vision. Given events of this past summer as outlined in the Message from the President, it is appropriate to lead off this series by highlighting the role of the Society as adviser.

INTRODUCTION: THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA AS ADVISER

Among the many public-service roles of national academies around the world, one of the most important is the provision of expert advice on matters of national interest to governments, NGOs and other civil society groups. What exactly does this role consist of? How can the RSC fulfill its mandate without, at the same time, becoming an officious intermeddler? For some years, the Society has co-sponsored events in which key issues of science and technology are presented to parliamentarians and science journalists. Beginning in 2010, the Society also aims to produce occasional briefs on matters of public interest to Members of Parliament, House of Commons and Senate Committees, executive agencies and commissions of inquiry. To date, like national academies in other countries, the Society has pursued this aspect of its mission primarily by responding to requests from government to provide guidance as to how best to pursue a policy mandate or to provide expert assessments of issues of public importance.

EXPERT PANELS

From its origins until the 1990s the Society performed the former role. Its most recent endeavour of this sort was the proposal to examine the place of women in science, prepared in 1989, and the activities consequent thereupon. The 1989 Report and the Symposium on Women in Scholarship of 1990 were landmarks. In the latter half of the decade, the Society sponsored Expert Panel Reports on, for example, Asbestos, the Primate Colony, Radiofrequency Fields, Genetically Modified Foods, Air Quality Models, and B.C. Offshore Oil Drilling, many of which are still informing policy.

Recently, the Society re-established its expert panel process and has undertaken four separate studies – on End-of-Life Decision Making; Canada’s Marine Biodiversity; Tar Sands; and Early Childhood Development. As Canada’s National Academy, The Royal Society of Canada aims to avoid taking positions on political questions, but rather focuses on promoting the creation and diffusion of knowledge. Expert panel assessments are meant to provide governments and Canadians with objective, comprehensive and up-to-date information about the state of knowledge in particular fields of inquiry.

INTERVENTION IN PUBLIC DEBATE ON ISSUES OF NATIONAL SCHOLARLY CONCERN

There is, however, another significant dimension to the Society’s advisory role. Occasionally, governments, or even private-sector actors, will propose certain projects or launch certain initiatives that have a direct bearing on the capacity of Canadian or foreign scholars to undertake their research or to advance knowledge in their disciplines. In the past, the RSC has not hesitated to defend scholarship and free inquiry worldwide. So, for example, its International Affairs Committee has joined with other academies as signatory to letters forwarded to foreign governments that are imprisoning dissident scholars.

To date, happily, the Society has not been required to be active in this way domestically. Nonetheless, the defence of independent science and scholarship is a core mission of the RSC. Should, implausibly, the government propose the outright abolition of the three granting Councils – NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC – the impact on scholarly research would be significant. Were actions such as this to be proposed, the Society would have a duty to register its concern and to explain why such a policy is inappropriate.

AN ILLUSTRATION: THE MANDATORY LONG-FORM CENSUS

This summer, a somewhat analogous situation arose. In late June, the Government of Canada announced its intention to eliminate the mandatory long-form census for 2011. Many scholarly organizations and think tanks and dozens of Fellows took the position that the long-form census is a key element in maintaining the conditions propitious for robust social research and that a voluntary questionnaire would be inadequate for research purposes.

After considerable deliberation, the Council of the Society approved the text of a letter of concern to be sent to the Minister of Industry, Tony Clement. Why did the Council decide to take such a step? Did the Society have a policy to govern public interventions of this type? And, especially given its
commitment to evidence-based decision-making, did the Society actually have data in hand that would enable it to credibly assert the deleterious consequences of the elimination of the long-form census for social research? These are important questions, and the letter sent to the Minister was crafted to reflect the Council's concern that it not make unfounded assertions in support of a claim that public policy should be based on solid evidence.

**INTERVENING APPROPRIATELY IN PUBLIC DEBATE**

The circumstances in which the cancellation of the mandatory long-form census was announced, and the need for an immediate reaction from the scholarly community counselled caution in drafting a public response. The letter forwarded to the Minister consequently focused on four essentially procedural points.

First, the letter observed that, as Canada's national academy, the RSC is dedicated to advancing knowledge in the sciences, humanities and arts and to promoting evidence-based decision-making. Through its expert panels, among other activities, the Society aims to provide Canadians and their governments with comprehensive assessments of the state of knowledge on key issues of public policy. The RSC does not make policy positions on these questions. In a democracy, after all, decisions of policy are the resort of elected governments. The letter to the Hon. Tony Clement made clear that the decision about the mandatory long-form census was, ultimately, the government's to make.

Second, the letter stated that in a knowledge-based economy, reliable information is essential for evidence-based public-policy making. The Council was aware that other organizations were writing with substantive information about the importance of the mandatory long-form census to their work and about the impact of this decision on their capacity to undertake comparative and longitudinal research. The letter explicitly stated that the Council did not have at hand comparable information about research being undertaken by Fellows. It offered to collect such information from Fellows engaged in social research using census data and forward this to the Minister's office.

Third, the letter opened the question of privacy. It observed that the privacy regime applicable to Statistics Canada is among the most highly regarded in the world. While the Privacy Commissioner stated that almost no complaints about the census have been received, the Minister indicated that many Canadians have expressed concern about privacy issues. The Council observed that the manner in which the discussion about privacy was being framed reveals the importance of good social research to public policy-making. Without accurate information about the real nature and extent of the concerns being expressed and about whether the cancellation of the mandatory long-form census satisfies these concerns, Council noted, it would be difficult to formulate an appropriate policy response.

Finally, the letter emphasized the Society's commitment to the principle that good public policy depends on good data. Just as it is important to gauge the true nature and extent of public concern about the long-form questionnaire, it is important to obtain accurate data from those who see negative consequences of the cancellation. The Council took the view that since the proposal to cancel the mandatory long-form census represents a major change in direction for the census and is at odds with the manner in which censuses are conducted in other G8 countries, no final decision should be taken without a thorough canvassing of the impact of the decision and a full public airing of the competing policies at issue.

**CONCLUSION: EFFECTIVE ADVICE DEPENDS ON MAKING CREDIBLE CLAIMS**

The letter sent to the Minister is consistent with the approach the Society has traditionally taken to its *advisory* role. The Society does not seek to usurp the government’s political role, and the letter makes no claims not supported by data. In this, the letter represents an appropriate response of a national academy committed to evidenced-based policy-making.

Recall how events unfolded: Fellows expressed concern about the impact of the cancellation on those who rely on census data for both research and policy-making purposes; the Council did not have the data at hand to affirm what appeared to some Fellows to be the serious, irreversible consequences of the decision; it therefore wrote the Minister, asking him to launch a broad public consultation prior to making his final decision; it offered to assist in collecting information from Fellows and to prepare a brief for presentation at public hearings.

As Fellows, our scholarly commitment to evidenced-based research in our everyday activities commands that we refrain from taking positions on matters of public policy until we have credible data in hand to support that position. This respect for the integrity of the *advisory* mandate of The Royal Society of Canada shaped the Council's response to the Minister and its offer to assist in generating credible data about the impact of cancelling the mandatory long-form census.
MARCH 2010
March 17-24, McGill University, Trent University, Carleton University and University of Calgary

WOMEN IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (WISET) EXCHANGE LECTURESHIP PROGRAM
Two outstanding women scientists from Japan, Maki Niihori and Yuko Oguri, visited Canada as part of the Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (WISET) Exchange Lectureship Program. Dr. Niihori (pictured) visited McGill University and Carleton University and Ms. Oguri visited Trent University and the University of Calgary.

March 26-27, Saint Mary’s University, Halifax, NS
RSC SYMPOSIUM: SHAPING AN AGENDA FOR ATLANTIC CANADA
The Atlantic Canada Committee of the RSC organized “Shaping an Agenda for Atlantic Canada,” a conference hosted by Saint Mary’s University.

Significant financial support for the event was provided by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), the Province of Nova Scotia, and l’Université de Moncton. The Society is grateful to conference co-chairs Donald Savoie and John Reid for their leadership in organizing the conference.

APRIL 2010
April 7-8, Ottawa, ON

ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES MEETING OF THE G8 COUNTRIES
The Royal Society of Canada submitted two statements to the Government of Canada in preparation for the G8 Summit in Muskoka on June 25-26. The two statements, examining themes identified as priorities by the Government, speak (1) to the health of women and children, and (2) to mobilizing innovation for development.

MAY 2010
May 30, Concordia University, Montreal, QC
NEITHER GLOBAL NOR NATIONAL: TERRITORY AUTHORITY AND RIGHTS
This standing room only lecture delivered by Saskia Sassen during the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Concordia University challenged established ideas pertaining to globalisation, and social and cultural challenges.

JUNE 2010
June 28-29, Dakar, Senegal
AQUACULTURE DURABLE EN AFRIQUE
A scientific delegation led by Jeremy McNeil, FRSC, participated in the workshop. Four Canadian scientists participated:

1. Cyr Couturier (Marine Institute of Memorial University of Newfoundland);
2. Roland Cusack (Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture);
3. Bryan Neff (Biology, The University of Western Ontario);
4. Grant Vandenberg (Animal Sciences, Université Laval).

The conference was an element of the bilateral relationship between L’Académie des Sciences et Techniques du Sénégal and The Royal Society of Canada. Significant financial support for the event was provided by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).
AUGUST 2010
August 26-28, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, ON
INTERAMERICAN NETWORK OF ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES (IANAS) CONFERENCE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
We were particularly pleased to host this meeting of 17 National Science Academies in North, Central and South America. Because IANAS represents the majority of countries of the Americas it possesses the capacity to be an effective agent for the promotion of science and science-based state policy formation across the entire region.

OCTOBER 2010
October 15, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gatineau, QC
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM: IMMIGRATING TO CANADA: WHO COMES? WHO STAYS? WHO DECIDES?
A diverse programme of Canadian experts and researchers explores issues such as government jurisdiction, the labour market, and cultural integration. Fellows present their findings alongside policy experts and other distinguished participants such as the Pier 21 Foundation Chair, Ruth Goldbloom. A new partnership with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada has enabled the participation of exceptional graduate students as presenters in this year’s program.

October 21, National Research Council Canada, Ottawa, ON
RUTHERFORD LECTURE: HOW ENERGY IS CONVERTED IN BIOLOGY
Prof. Sir John E. Walker

October 25, University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, AB
RSC GOVERNOR GENERAL LECTURE SERIES
Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella, FRSC

October 26, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, ON
RSC GOVERNOR GENERAL LECTURE SERIES
Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella, FRSC

NOVEMBER 2010
November 24-26 – Cape Town, South Africa
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: THE FUTURE OF THE HUMANITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND IN CANADA
In collaboration with the Academy of Science of South Africa, the Society has organized an international conference on the future of the Humanities. The Canadian co-chair is Ted Chamberlain. The Society is grateful for the support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

November 26-28, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: NEW FELLOW PRESENTATIONS, INDUCTION & AWARDS CEREMONY AND BANQUET
This year the AGM will include programming highlights such as divisional academy meetings, the return of academy new Fellow presentations, and even a tour of the National Gallery. Make sure to mark your calendars and join us as we induct the 2010 class of new Fellows and conduct the business of the Society.

November 29, The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom
RUTHERFORD LECTURE: THE COSMIC GIFT OF NEUTRON STARS
Prof. Victoria Kaspi, FRSC
As noted earlier in this newsletter, the Expert Panel process is a central component of the Society’s role in providing advice to governments and organizations about matters of contemporary scientific importance. Under the leadership of Bill Liess for more than a decade, the programme has earned a reputation for the high quality of its expert panel reports. Three factors sustain this reputation: integrity, independence and scholarly rigor.

The process has been designed to ensure that the members of the Committee on Expert Panels and the members of individual panels are the top scientists in their fields. The exceptional work of panel members, university faculty and others, all of whom are undertaking a volunteer activity despite overfull schedules is a testament to the dedication of leading researchers to making a permanent contribution to public policy formation in Canada.

In this context panel chairs or co-chairs take on extra duties, without which panel projects simply could not function, especially in keeping a strong focus on project completion and in assisting the Society with administrative matters and budget oversight. Over the years, truly outstanding scientific leaders have accepted to chair panel projects. The five current panel chairs, who maintain this tradition of excellence, are the subject of short profiles here.

**Expert Panel Chairs**

**Steve E. Hrudey, FRSC (Chair, Panel on Environmental and Health Impacts of Canada’s Oil Sands Industry)**

Steve E. Hrudey is an internationally-recognized authority in the fields of drinking water safety and environmental health risk assessment and management. His pioneering research on cyanobacterial toxins was a major impetus for Canada’s drinking water guideline on microcystin, and he was an architect of the restructured Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

**Udo Schuklenk, Ph.D. (Chair, Panel on End-of-Life Decision Making)**

Udo Schuklenk has taught at universities in Germany, Australia, the UK and South Africa before coming to Queen’s. He has written or co-edited five books and authored or co-authored more than 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals and anthologies. Udo’s main research interests are in the areas of public health issues and infectious disease control.

**Jeffrey A. Hutchings (Chair, Panel on Sustaining Canada’s Marine Biodiversity: Responding to the Challenges Posed by Climate Changes, Fisheries, and Aquaculture.)**

Jeffrey Hutchings’s research centres on questions pertaining to the life history, evolution, behavioural ecology, population dynamics, and conservation biology of marine and anadromous fishes, particularly Atlantic cod (Gadus morhua), Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar), and brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis).

**Michel Boivin, FRSC, Ph.D. (Co-chair, Panel on Early Childhood Development)**

Michel Boivin is an internationally recognized researcher known for his work on the bio-psycho-social aspects of early childhood development. His research program breaks new ground along interdisciplinary, longitudinal and population lines. His work, which includes a study of twins, explores child development from birth in large population cohorts in order to understand the complex interactions between genetic and environmental factors in many areas of educational adaptation.

**Clyde Hertzman, MD, M.Sc., FRSC (Co-chair, Panel on Early Childhood Development)**

Clyde Hertzman is one of the world’s leading health researchers. His major focus is to understand how societal and biological matters converge to determine the health of populations. His work has been extremely influential, not only within the research community but also at a policy level both nationally and internationally.
PARTNERSHIPS, REPRESENTATION, INNOVATION

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC) is a Fellowship of outstanding scholars and artists. Most are affiliated with universities in Canada, although many are members of independent research institutions, or associated with foreign universities. In 2004, the Society established an Institutional Members Programme to acknowledge the significance of Canadian institutions of higher learning to the pursuit of the Society’s key goals. The Programme is intended to increase the profile of the Society on campuses across Canada, to enable the Society to offer its programmes from coast-to-coast and to encourage active engagement with the Society by scholars in as broad a spectrum of universities and colleges as possible. Today 48 such partners support the RSC as Institutional Members.

One of the central features of the Royal Society as Canada’s national academy is broad representativity of its Fellowship. Fellows are drawn from 128 institutions of higher education in Canada, from all regions of the country and a wide variety of intellectual disciplines. Nonetheless, nomination and election to the Society has traditionally flowed from the initiative of Fellows themselves. Several years ago it became clear that a number of impressive scholars and scientists – especially from universities that did not belong to the G12 -- were simply not being nominated by their colleagues for election. The Council of the Society decided that its Institutional Members could play a key role in generating nominations to the Fellowship. In 2004, it established a mechanism to enable universities and key research institutions to submit nominations directly for Fellowship and for RSC awards. The “Class of 2010” illustrates the success of this initiative. This year’s class of Fellows includes at least one new Fellow from each Division of each Academy whose nomination was a result of the initiative of the President's Office of the university. In all, 16 new Fellows who have been elected in 2010 result from Institutional Member Nominations from 11 universities of all scopes and sizes in six provinces.

In the past, the Society conducted its Annual Induction and Awards Ceremony in connection with the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in the late spring. Over the years, a number of universities hosted this Ceremony as part of the Congress. In the mid-1990s, the Society moved its ceremony and its annual symposium to the fall. While these two events are typically held in Ottawa, the Society has now established a programme to partner with Institutional Members as occasional hosts of the Society’s Annual General Meeting. In 2007, the Annual General Meeting of the Society was hosted by the University of Alberta, and the Society has received an invitation for 2012.

The Society continues to maintain an active presence at the Congress of Humanities and Social Sciences, sponsoring symposia, events and special lectures. In recent years, the Society has developed symposia at UBC, in 2008, and a day long programme at Carleton in 2009. In 2010 in conjunction with the Congress at Concordia University, the Society sponsored a special lecture by world-renowned sociologist, Saskia Sassen. For the Programme of 2011 at the University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University, the Society will partner with Fulbright Canada in presenting a lecture in the “Big Thinking” series. As this aspect of its programming develops the Society will become involved in other events, notably in connection with its outreach to graduate students and young scholars, at the Annual Congress.
Institutional Members are also crucial partners in the governance and strategic direction of the Society. When the IM programme was created, the Council of the Society created two new positions on Council for representatives of Institutional Members. In addition, one of these representatives also serves on the Executive Committee of the Council. Over the years, Peter George, Peter McKinnon and Tom Williams have served as IM representatives. One of the Society’s two current Institutional Member Representatives is Sean Riley of St. Francis Xavier University, while the other Representative will be named at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting of the Society.

One of the key features of the Society’s annual programme is the RSC Governor General’s Lecture Series. Each year an outstanding Canadian scholar or artist presents a series of lectures at four or more campuses of RSC institutional members. Eighteen institutional members have hosted the RSC Governor General’s Lecture Series over the past five years. During the 2007-2008 academic year Roch Carrier delivered Lectures at the University of Toronto, The University of British Columbia, the University of Calgary, l’Université du Québec à Montréal, Concordia University, and Dalhousie University. In the fall of 2009, Madame Justice Rosalie Abella delivered “Culture and Justice: A Love Story” at Emily Carr University of Art & Design. This fall and winter, Madam Justice Abella will lecture at the University of Lethbridge, Wilfrid Laurier University and Memorial University of Newfoundland. In 2011 Clyde Hertzman will be delivering the lecture series at 4-6 universities throughout Canada.

For many years, the Society has also co-sponsored lectures and symposia on topics of significant local or national interest. The Society’s Taboo Topic Forums programme has been administered with over 20 members, including: l’Université de Sherbrooke, HEC Montréal, the University of Guelph and The University of Western Ontario. The most recent iteration of this programme was on March 31 of this year, when the University of Manitoba hosted “Human Wrongs: Making Things Right”.

Additionally, the Society undertakes the organization of ad hoc symposia and conferences of concern to regions of Canada. These events are organized through the Society’s developing Regional Chapters Programme. Most recently, in March 2010, the Atlantic Chapter of the Society organized “Shaping an Agenda for Atlantic Canada” in partnership with Saint Mary’s University, as well as the support from university presidents throughout the region, five of whom formally participated in the conference. Additionally, a number of exceptional lectures by Fellows of the Society have been organized in cooperation with Atlantic Canadian Institutional Members.

A number of events celebrating Nobel Prize winners have also been administered in partnership with Institutional Members. Universities that have hosted Nobel Prize Lectures in collaboration with the Society include the University of Ottawa, McGill University and l’Université de Montréal. The Society’s Women in Science, Engineering, and Technology programme, which invites promising young scholars from the UK and Japan to present in Canada, have also been hosted by our institutional members at Carleton University, McGill University, Trent University, York University and University of Calgary.

To date, 15 Institutional Members are represented in the membership of Expert Panels commissioned by The Royal Society of Canada. Panel members are not necessarily Fellows of the Society; they are selected on the basis their contribution to the science in question.

The Society keenly anticipates the development of new partnerships with Institutional Members in service of our shared objectives.
The recognition of the intellectual accomplishments and achievements of Canadian scholars and artists is a core mission of the Society. The diversity of our Fellowship, and the diversity of the Canadian scholarly community, is once again in evidence among the laureates of the Society’s 2010 awards programme.

Fellows are aware that the Society administers a portfolio of over twenty awards. This year nearly 100 Fellows devoted countless hours to reviewing, deliberating upon and ranking the nominations received for these awards. Dozens of others, and institutional members also contributed to the programme’s success through the care they expended in preparing outstanding nominations.

At this time last year, when the 2009 laureates were announced, Fellows were asked to reflect on ways in which the Society could increase the visibility of its awards and medals programme. The amount and quality of feedback received prompted the Council of the Society to strike a Task Force on Awards and Recognition under the leadership of Carleton University President Roseann Runte to undertake a comprehensive review of the awards and medals programme. The Task Force is charged with examining six issues: (1) the significant imbalance in the number of awards presented by each Academy, (2) the highly differentiated prestige associated with individual awards, (3) whether the cycle of presentation of awards should be rationalized on a yearly basis, (4) whether unfunded awards should be discontinued, (5) whether the terms of reference for some awards should be broadened so as to encourage nominations and, (6) how to increase the number of nominations of women and francophones for the Society’s various awards.

While the Council’s Task Force on Awards and Recognition will develop recommendations for the existing awards portfolio, it has been given a wider mandate. It has been charged with developing an integrated process and programme for administering the awards and scholarships for young scholars created as a result of the Extending Excellence capital campaign. The Task Force will be working to develop partnerships and mechanisms through which these powerful vehicles for promoting outstanding work among the next generation of intellectuals and artists can be targeted to best support deserving young scholars.

At the initiative of the Honorary Secretary, Robert Major, and through the dedication of Professor Andrew Donskov, FRSC, the Society has been working with Sarah Pouliot of the Secretariat to eliminate the backlog of unpublished obituaries of Fellows. In providing this permanent record of the career accomplishments of Fellows, the Society helps to ensure the continuity of Canada’s intellectual legacy. Through their efforts over the past six months, more than a third of the backlog has been cleared. We anticipate that before too long we will be able to produce a CD-ROM of all obituaries dating back to the 19th century.

You may consult this year’s award winners, future scholarships of the Society, and the obituaries of deceased Fellows, on the Society’s website: www.rsc-src.ca. As announced earlier this year, the website also has a new page for Fellows to record recent “Accolades and Publications”. The membership and mandate of the Awards and Recognition Task Force is also posted on the Society’s website.
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<tr>
<th>Medal Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>THE J.B. TYRRELL HISTORICAL MEDAL</td>
<td>For outstanding work in the history of Canada.</td>
<td>Robert Bothwell, Munk Center for International Studies, University of Toronto</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE RUTHERFORD MEMORIAL MEDAL IN PHYSICS</td>
<td>For outstanding research in physics.</td>
<td>Kari Dalnoki-Veress, Department of Physics and Astronomy, McMaster University</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE LORNE PIERCE MEDAL</td>
<td>For an achievement of special significance and conspicuous merit in imaginative or critical literature written in either French or English.</td>
<td>Sherrill Grace, Department of English, The University of British Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE BANCROFT AWARD</td>
<td>For publication, instruction and research in the earth sciences that have conspicuously contributed to public understanding and appreciation of the subject.</td>
<td>Frank C. Hawthorne, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Manitoba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE MIOSLAWS ROMANOWSKI MEDAL</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Donald Mackay, Centre for Environmental Modeling and Chemistry, Trent University</td>
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<tr>
<td>THE MCLAUGHLIN MEDAL</td>
<td>For important research of sustained excellence in any branch of medical sciences.</td>
<td>Mona Nemer, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa</td>
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<td>THE FLAVELLE MEDAL</td>
<td>For an outstanding contribution to biological science during the preceding ten years or for significant additions to a previous outstanding contribution to biological science.</td>
<td>Kenneth B. Storey, Department of Biology and Department of Chemistry, Carleton University</td>
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<td>THE AWARD IN GENDER STUDIES</td>
<td>For significant contributions by a Canadian scholar in the humanities and social sciences to furthering our understanding of issues concerning gender.</td>
<td>Shahrzad Mojab, Department of Adult Education and Counselling Psychology, University of Toronto</td>
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<td>THE MCNEIL MEDAL</td>
<td>For outstanding ability to promote and communicate science to students and to the public within Canada.</td>
<td>Doug Welch, Department of Physics and Astronomy, McMaster University</td>
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<td>THE RUTHERFORD MEMORIAL MEDAL IN CHEMISTRY</td>
<td>For outstanding research in chemistry.</td>
<td>Andrei Yudin, Department of Chemistry, University of Toronto</td>
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<td>THE PIERRE CHAUVENAU MEDAL</td>
<td>For a distinguished contribution to knowledge in the humanities other than Canadian literature and Canadian history.</td>
<td>John Peter Oleson, Department of Greek and Roman Studies, University of Victoria</td>
</tr>
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<td>THE ALICE WILSON AWARD</td>
<td>For outstanding academic qualifications of a woman who is entering a career in scholarship or research at the postdoctoral level.</td>
<td>Dawn Cooper, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, The University of British Columbia</td>
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The Fellowship of the Society comprises distinguished men and women from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and sciences, as well as in Canadian public life. Today the Fellowship comprises four categories: Honorary Fellows, Regularly Elected Fellows, Specially Elected Fellows and Foreign Fellows. This year a total of 81 scholars, artists and scientists have been offered election to the Society.

**HONORARY FELLOW**

**JOHNSTON, David** - President - University of Waterloo

**THE ACADEMY OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES - ACADEMY I**

**Division of Humanities**

**BRAUN, Marta** - Art / History Photography - Ryerson University

**COOK, Terry** - History of archives and of recorded information - University of Manitoba

**EMBLETON, Sheila** - Linguistics - York University

**FOSTER, John Wilson** - Literature - The University of British Columbia

**GODARD, Barbara** - English Literature and Cultural Studies - York University

**GRANT, Barry Keith** - Film/Cultural Studies - Brock University

**MATUS, Jill** - Literature - University of Toronto

**RIPSTEIN, Arthur** - Law and Philosophy - University of Toronto

**ROSS, Christine** - Art History - McGill University

**WERSTINE, Paul** - English Literature - The University of Western Ontario

**WHITE, Lydia** - Linguistics - McGill University

**YATES, Robin** - History - McGill University

**Division des lettres et sciences humaines**

**CASTILLO DURANTE, Daniel** - Literature - University of Ottawa

**DESROSIERS-BONIN, Diane** - Literature - McGill University

**JAREMA, Gonia** - Linguistics - Université de Montréal

**PARÉ, François** - French Studies - University of Waterloo

**Arts Division / Division des arts**

**CHIASSON, Herménégilde** - Arts

**KERR, Mary** - Fine Arts - University of Victoria

**MAGOR, Liz** - Arts

**SAVAGE, Candace** - Creative Writing

**TOLES, George** - Arts - University of Manitoba

**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES - ACADEMY II**

**Division of Social Sciences**

**CHAPMAN, Colin A.** - Anthropology - McGill University

**CRUIKSHANK, Julie** - Anthropology - The University of British Columbia

**DAVIDSON, Russell** - Economics - McGill University

**DOWNIE, Jocelyn** - Law - Dalhousie University

**EATON, B. Curtis** - Economics - University of Calgary

**HAMPSON, Fen Osler** - Political Science (International Affairs) - Carleton University

**HARRIS, Richard** - Geography - McMaster University

**MCGARRY, John** - Political Studies - Queen's University

**MCNEIL, Kent** - Law - York University

**RENOUF, M.A. Priscilla** - Archaeology - Memorial University of Newfoundland

**Division des sciences sociales**

**LANGLEY, Ann** - Administration / Management - HEC Montréal

**LEMIEUX, Thomas** - Economics - the University of British Columbia

**LIPPEL, Katherine** - Law - University of Ottawa

**PINSONNEAULT, Alain** - Management (Information Technology) - McGill University

**TARDIF, Maurice** - Education - Université de Montréal

**We regret to share with you the sad news that Professor Godard passed away during the electoral process. She will be inducted as a Fellow in November.**
THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE - ACADEMY III

Division of Applied Sciences and Engineering
AILCHISON, J. Stewart - Engineering - University of Toronto
ALTINTAS, Yusuf - Mechanical Engineering - The University of British Columbia
GHANNOUCHI, Fadhel - Engineering - University of Calgary
LE-NGOC, Tho - Engineering - McGill University
RUDA, Harry - Applied Science - University of Toronto
VENETSANOPoulos, Anastasios - Electrical & Computer Engineering - Ryerson University
YOVANOvICH, Michael - Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering - University of Waterloo

Division of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences
DINGWELL, Donald Bruce - Experimental Geosciences - University of Munich - LMU
GIESY, John P. - Earth Science - University of Saskatchewan
NARBONNE, Guy - Earth Science - Queen's University

Division of Life Sciences
ANISMAN, Hymie - Medical Science - Carleton University
ARMSTRONG, Paul Wayne - Medical Science - University of Alberta
BERGERON, Yves - Forest Biology - Université du Québec à Montréal and Université du Québec en Abitibi-Temiscamingue
BRINDLEY, David N. - Biochemistry - University of Alberta
CRESPI, Bernard Joseph - Animal biology - Simon Fraser University
DESJARDINS, Michel - Microbiology and Biochemistry - Université de Montréal
DOSMAN, James - Medical Sciences - University of Saskatchewan
HEKIMI, Siegfried - Molecular Biology and Genetic - McGill University
JONES, Barbara E. - Medical Sciences - McGill University
LEES-MILLER, Susan P. - Medical Sciences - University of Calgary
LOREAU, Michel - Animal and Plant Biology - McGill University
O'BYRNE, Paul Myles - Medical Sciences - McMaster University
PITTMAN, Quentin J. - Medical Sciences - University of Calgary
RIESEBERG, Loren H. - Plant Biology - The University of British Columbia
ROBERTSON, Harold Arthur - Medical Sciences - Dalhousie University
RODER, John Carling - Life Sciences - University of Toronto - Mount Sinai Hospital
ROOS, Leslie - Medical Sciences - University of Manitoba
ROZEN, Rima - Medical Sciences - McGill University

Division of Mathematical and Physical Sciences
CLEVE, Richard - Mathematical and Computer Sciences - University of Waterloo
GAULIN, Bruce - Physics - McMaster University
GOULDEN, Ian - Mathematics and Computer Sciences - University of Waterloo
LE, Chris - Chemistry - University of Alberta
ORVIG, Chris - Chemistry - The University of British Columbia
PAWLISZYN, Janusz - Chemistry - University of Waterloo
SMOLIN, Lee - Physics - Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics
SUTTON, Mark - Physics - McGill University
THOMSON, David - Mathematics and Computer Sciences - Queen's University
TSOTSOS, John K. - Computer Sciences and Engineering - York University
YEE, Howard - Astronomical Sciences - University of Toronto

FOREIGN FELLOWS
CASKEY, C. Thomas - Medical Sciences - The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
COX, David - Mathematical and Computer Sciences - Oxford University
HOWELLS, Coral Ann - Literary Studies - University of Reading / University of London

SPECIALY ELECTED FELLOWS
CHAMBERLAIN, Savvas - Engineering - DALSA
CORBO, Claude - Political Science - Université du Québec à Montréal
SUSTAINING THE FELLOWSHIP

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC) is a registered charitable organization. Since its founding the Society has sought to ensure its independence by maintaining a diversity of sources of funding. Unlike many other national academies, the Society receives no block base funding from government. Much of the overhead and indirect costs of running the RSC are covered by volunteer service and annual dues from the Fellowship and from Institutional Members. The Society also receives ad hoc funding for specific projects and programs from the private sector, granting and research councils, charitable foundations, and governmental agencies.

The global economic downturn has led not-for-profit national academies throughout the world to “turn inward” in the funding of new programmes and to seek additional financial support from their Fellows. A recent example of this kind of mobilization was seen at The British Academy for the Humanities and Social Sciences; within a month of an initial call for support from its president, Adam Roberts, The British Academy received contributions from 131 Fellows averaging £1,000 per gift. These funds have enabled Academy to refurbish its facilities at Carlton House Terrace.

Like the British Academy, The Royal Society of Canada has been the beneficiary of significant support from fellows in the quest to establish its first permanent home. A major campaign in the 1990s raised $750,000 for the Development Fund. Most recently, William Leiss, former President of the Society, pledged $500,000 to support the Society in acquiring a permanent address for the Secretariat. This pledge complements the successful Extending Excellence capital campaign, co-chaired by the Chair of the President’s Advisory Council, Sandra Irving, and Laurent Beaudoin. Moreover, through targeted foundation grants, the advisory capacity of the Society has been enhanced and four expert panels have been launched.

While the Society has established partnerships with nearly 50 universities as Institutional Members and has succeeded in attracting significant private sector support, financial contributions from Fellows have always been and continue to be the largest component of the Society’s revenue stream. In recent years, this support takes the form of membership dues, annual and periodic donations, and testamentary gifts, including annuities, and gifts of the residual interests in property, publicly traded securities, and life insurance benefits.

Today, as the Fellowship grows to almost 2000 members, and the number of projects and activities increases, the Society finds itself faced with a structural deficit of more than six figures. In 2011 we plan to initiate a major fund-raising campaign intended to ensure that the Society’s core programmes can continue to develop free from the constraints that often accompany block grants from government and specific substantively-targeted gifts from other donors. Over the next three years, we hope to raise an average of $500 per Fellow for a total of $1,000,000 by means of additional voluntary contributions made at the time of Fellowship renewal.

We have prepared a short brochure outlining the specific objectives of fundraising campaign and opportunities for planned giving, and would be pleased to send you a copy. Please write to the Executive Director, Darren Gilmour, dgilmour@rsc-src.ca
The success of a Fellowship-based association like The Royal Society of Canada depends on an effective partnership between part-time volunteer Executive Officers and a full-time professional Secretariat. The National Secretariat of the RSC serves, under the overall supervision of the Honorary Secretary, Robert Major, as the administrative arm of the Society, its Academies and their Divisions. The role of the Secretariat is to maintain the records of the Society, to provide logistical support for Society, Academy and Division programmes and activities, and to ensure the effective functioning of the Council, the various Society Committees and the Regional Chapters. While some national academies have upwards of 200 full-time employees, currently the RSC Secretariat comprises eight positions.

The Executive Director, Darren Gilmour, is the chief administrative officer of the Society and is responsible for all operations of the head office. The Executive Director works most closely with Society President, Roderick A. Macdonald, and the Honorary Secretary, Robert Major.

The Manager of Services and Administration, Louise Joly, is responsible for overseeing the Society’s Departments of Finance, Member Services, and Recognition. The Manager of Services and Administration works most closely with the Honorary Secretary, Robert Major.

The Manager of External Relations, Anna Buczek, is responsible for overseeing the Society’s Departments of Events and Communications. As the Society expands its advisory capacity, the Manager of External Relations will work closely with the Expert Panel Secretary, William Leiss.

The Comptroller of Finance and Accounting, Tina Skerlj, takes charge of managing the day-to-day finances of the Society and its investments. The Comptroller works closely with the Honorary Treasurer, Danial D. Wayner.

The Officer of Member Services, Marie-Lyne Renaud, oversees the process leading to the election of Fellows, and coordinates all member services activities. The Officer of Member Services works closely with the three Academy Presidents: Patrick Imbert, Marc Renaud and Graham Bell.

The Officer of Recognition, Sarah Pouliot, oversees the collection and publication of obituaries, and works with several Society committees in developing scholarship and outreach programmes. The Officer of Awards and Recognition works closely with Society Interim Honorary Editor, Andrew Donskov, as well as the Chair of the Society Awards and Recognition Committee, Roseann Runte.

The Officer of National and International Events, Amelia Zaglul, has the general responsibility for the planning and logistics for over 30 events a year, including the Society’s Annual General Meeting. The Officer of National and International Events works closely with the Foreign Secretary, Howard Alper.

The Officer of Communications and Marketing, Erika Kujawski, is responsible for marketing, communications and Society publications, including the biannual newsletter, the eNews, and the Society website. The Officer of Communications works closely with Society Honorary Editor, Ronald Rompkey.

This full-time staff is assisted, as the need arises, by an Assistant of National and International Events and Assistant of Communications and Marketing.
Election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) is the highest honour for Canadian artists and scholars in all disciplines.

Our past is a valuable legacy for the country as a whole, and the achievements of those Fellows who have left us are too important not to be memorialized and shared with colleagues in disciplines other than their own, as well as to future generations of scholars and a discerning public at large. For this reason Council decided to bring up to date the obituary files on deceased members, an activity which regrettably has recently fallen somewhat behind.

Professor Donskov has accepted to spearhead this project, and is ably assisted by Sarah Pouliot, the Society’s new Officer of Recognition. With the appointment of an Honorary Editor, Ronald Rompkey, this November, the Society is now in a position to clear the backlog of obituaries and produce a comprehensive record of the obituaries of all deceased Fellows, dating back to the Society’s inception in 1883. However, given the immediacy of the situation will be placement of obituary notices, directly they become available, on the RSC website. Streamlining the process of information-gathering, has enabled the preparation and posting of 140 obituaries to date. See: http://www.rsc-src.ca/obit.php

Fellows have an important role to play in assisting Professor Donskov and Sarah with their work. Please continue to inform the Society of the death of any Fellow that comes to your attention, as well as your ability and desire to prepare an obituary notice, or the names of anyone the Society might contact with a request to compose an obituary notice. A template and guidelines have been prepared to assist in drafting obituaries. These may be found of the website.

Pleadedonothesitatetoofferbothcriticism and suggestions for further improvement of obituaries as the Society moves towards publication of a comprehensive record of the contributions of deceased Fellows.

Peacefully at the Ottawa General Hospital, aged 75, after a courageous battle against cancer, Dr. Jean-Pierre Wallot, Ph.D., OC, FRSC, ALQ, son of the late Albert Wallot and the late Adrienne Thibodeau, passed away on Monday the 30th of August. He leaves his wife Denise Caron, his mother-in-law Francoise Caron, his children Normand, Robert and Sylvie, his sisters and brothers Marie-Josee (late Douglas McKenna), Andre (Sylvia Bouchard), Albert (Candide Charest), Richard, Hubert, Claude (late Rachel Roberge), Francine, Raymond (Sylvie Bussire) and many grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Historian, author, Officer of the Order of Canada, he taught at a number of universities including Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Concordia. He served in numerous administrative posts at the Universite de Montreal (1973-1985) and notably as Vice-Rector of Academic Affairs. Named national Archivist in 1985 till 1997, he served as chair of many Canadian and international organizations including The Royal Society of Canada and of UNESCO’s Memory of the World program in 1999.

**THE ACADEMY OF THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

J.M. Careless, elected in 1962, died on April 6, 2009

Hans Eichner, elected in 1967, died on April 8, 2009

Barbara Goddard, elected in 2010, died on May 16, 2010

Jacques Hétu, elected in 1989, died on February 9, 2010

Margaret Wade Labarge, elected in 1988, died on August 31, 2009

Émilien Lamirande, elected in 1983, died March 27, 2007

Clément Moisan, elected in 1980, died on April 12, 2010

P.K. Page Irwin, elected in 2006, died on January 14, 2010

Jean-Pierre Wallot, elected in 1978, died on August 30, 2010

John W.M. Wevers, elected in 1976, died on July 23, 2010

**THE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Jean-Paul Brodeur, elected in 1997, died on April 26, 2010

Nathan Keyfitz, elected in 1959, died on April 9, 2010

Myron J. Gordon, elected in 1993, died on July 5, 2010

Margo Wilson, elected in 1998, died on September 24, 2009

**THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE**

David T. Canvin, elected in 1977, died on March 16, 2010

Dr. Dennis H. Chitty, elected in 1969, died on February 3, 2010

Jacques de Champlain, elected in 1993, died on July 19, 2009

Henry E. Duckworth, elected in 1954, died on December 18, 2008

G.M. Furnival, elected in 1947, died on May 18, 2010

Nicolas D. Georganas, elected in 1997, died on July 22, 2010

Hans Jorg Hofmann, elected in 2002, died on May 19, 2010

Rose Mamelak Johnstone, elected in 1987, died on July 3, 2009

Gerald W. King, elected in 1972, died on October 30, 2009

Alexander Jerry Kresge, elected in 2010, died on May 16, 2010

Barbara Goddard, elected in 1974, died on December 13, 2008

Leonard H. Shebeski, elected in 1989, died on July 18, 2010

Edward Piers, elected in 1999, died on June 18, 2010

Arthur Porter, elected in 1970, died on February 26, 2010

Hans Eichner, elected in 1967, died on April 8, 2009

Nathan Keyfitz, elected in 1959, died on April 9, 2010

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Samuel Solomon, elected in 1974, died on December 13, 2008

Boris P. Stoicheff, elected in 1965, died on April 15, 2010

George H. Tomlinson, elected in 1975, died on March 16, 2010

H.D. B. Wilson, elected in 1960, died on July 4, 2009