

July, 2015

Dear Fellow ACSUS Members,

I’d like to take this opportunity to update you on several items of interest.

First, preparations for the ***23rd ACSUS Biennial to be held Oct. 14-17, 2015*** at the Tuscany Suites and Casino, Las Vegas, NV, are proceeding very well and a preliminary program listing over 200 presentations is available on our website under the ‘conferences’ tab ([www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org)) . Kindly let me know ([info@acsus.org](mailto:info@acsus.org)) if you find any errors or omissions in the program and we will correct it before the final version goes to print in September.

As you know, our theme this year is “New Directions in Canadian Studies” and we will feature a panel taking stock of the state of the field in different parts of the world. We are fortunate in having several leading literary figures from the Province of Quebec speaking in plenary sessions at the meeting. Also featured will be a panel on the Canadian federal election that is expected to be held on October 19th. Our keynote speaker for the conference will be Professor Kevin Page, Canada’s first parliamentary budget officer and currently Jean-Luc Pepin Research Chair in the School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa. We are also organizing a superb daily suite of plenary sessions on the eight *Cirque du Soleil* productions that will be locally available in Las Vegas. We expect to have between 250 and 300 participants from all over the world, and exhibits from leading publishing houses and programs in the field of Canadian Studies.

***An important reminder that ALL confirmed conference presenters must be ACSUS members*** in good standing, so please renew your membership as soon as possible at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org). So if you haven’t done so, take out or renew your membership as soon as possible. Please bear in mind that our new memberships are for two years but the fee is the same as we have charged in the past for one year (so effectively we have cut the costs of membership in half).

It is also important to remember that ALL (non-invited) participants ***must preregister for the conference by August 30th*** or their names will be removed from the final conference program.

We will be meeting at the Tuscany Suites and Casino, a delightful, intimate off-strip resort hotel that features three in-house restaurants (with many more within easy walking distance), large suites and wonderful amenities. The ***Tuscany*** is holding a block of rooms for conference participants – ***please reserve your room as soon as possible, and by September 14th*** ***at the latest***, in order to guarantee access to our very favorable conference rates. After that date, any unbooked rooms in our block will be released. Details are available under the “Conferences” tab at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org).

For those joining us in Las Vegas, **Delta Airlines** is the official air carrier for the conference and is offering discounts on conference travel to Las Vegas. Instructions on booking are available under the “Travel Information” tab in the ‘Conference’ section of our website.

Additionally, please forward nominations for the ***ACSUS Dissertation*** and the ***Jean Kissner awards*** to me ([info@acsus.org](mailto:info@acsus.org)) as soon as possible, and no later than August 1st. Further information on these awards is available under the “Programs” tab at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org). Each nomination should be accompanied by a copy of the dissertation, a dissertation abstract not to exceed 500 words (typed, double-spaced), and a one-page resume of the nominee. These materials should be submitted electronically to info@acsus.org by August 1, 2015.

Finally, I would like to issue a final call for ***nominations for the three open places on the Executive Council of ACSUS, and for the position of Vice-President***. Details on these positions, and the nomination process, are available under the “Governance” and “By-Laws” tabs at [www.acsus.org](http://www.acsus.org). We will accept nominations until July 15, 2015.

We at ACSUS wish you a productive and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to seeing many of you in Las Vegas this fall.

With best wishes,

Munroe Eagles

ACSUS Vice-President and 23rd Biennial Program Chair