

RhetCanada Webmaster's Report AGM 2018

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The following is the webmaster's report for 2017-18. It describes activity over the past year and forecasts activities that will be undertaken during the coming year. I would like to thank Tania Smith for her assistance as I've become oriented to my new role as webmaster.

2017-18

Over the past year I have been familiarizing myself with my tasks as webmaster after taking over from Tania. Activity on the site has been limited to posting entries and regular site maintenance.

2018-19

A number of changes will take place over the following year:

Domain Name Change

In line with the new organizational title we approved last year, we will be changing our domain name from cssr-scer.ca to rhetcanada.org. Our present domain name, aside from the hyphen, is the same as that of the Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, which has created confusion in the past. A .org site is less expensive to maintain than a .ca site and opens up more hosting options. The old domain would be kept alive so users could be automatically re-directed to the new domain.

New Hosting Company

We will be switching from our present hosting company, iPage, to a new company in September because service has been inadequate and the price of hosting has increased. We are currently investigating hosting companies that would meet our needs. While a decision has not been made, we are at present investigating HostGator.

Site Appearance and Structure

Over the next year I will be considering new WordPress themes for the site, reviewing the present information that is on the site, and re-visiting the site's structure. I would like to modernize the site's aesthetics to better reflect the varied interests of RhetCanada members, to ensure that information is easy to find, and to support recruitment efforts.

Social Media

In association with our social media coordinator, I will be conducting a general review of our social media practices with a view to supporting recruitment efforts and better connecting and serving present members.

I would welcome any suggestions from members on how to improve and enrich our online presence.