Webmaster's Report 2019

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There have been a number of developments on our digital platforms over the past year. The contract with iPage, our former hosting service, came an end and so we moved our hosting to HostGator, who were offering us better terms and service. As we were making major changes online in any case it seemed like a good time to update the CSSR site so that it had a more contemporary WordPress theme, a more organized structure, and branding that better reflected our new name, RhetCanada. Accordingly, in October 2018 a new RhetCanada site was launched and a redirect was put in place for people visiting the old site. There were and still are some bugs to be worked out, but overall the new site seems to be functioning well.

Since the main site branding was being revised, it also seemed to be a good time to review our social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, and Google+) so that their branding was consistent with our new identity. Google+ was shut down for business and consumer use in April, so that account was terminated. A new Twitter account (@rhetcan) was created and currently has 168 followers, and our Facebook page and group have been revised so that they now include RhetCanada as an identifying name.

Thanks to those on the social media team (M. Shivaun Corry, Devon Moriarty, Brandon Katzir, and Ryan McGuckin), who have continued to pitch in to keep the accounts active, and to Tania for her many posts, her technical guidance, and her snazzy graphics for the new Facebook page and group, which will shortly make their way onto the web site.

Over the next year I would like to further develop our digital profile and use our media more strategically, especially to support the work of the recruitment committee. There are some questions we continue to explore, such as the possibility of a RhetCanada Reddit account. Any suggestions on how to continue improving our online profile are always welcome.