



CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Office of the Vice-President

October 12, 2009

Dear CSA member,

I am inviting you to consider joining a (Vice-)Presidential Task Force. As one of the initiatives during my CSA Presidency in 2010-2011, I would like to upgrade the association's membership management system. In fact, I am thinking of a fully-interactive, secure, online membership management system, which would in future allow our members to apply for, extend or cancel their membership, manage their membership (contact) information, and possibly more. To achieve this, we may have to either acquire or license a piece of software, or subscribe to an already existing online service.

The Taskforce would explore the options that are available, make a systematic comparison, and give a recommendation report to me and the CSA Executive Council. The ultimate goal is to work towards a fully approved new system to be rolled out before or at the Annual Conference in 2011, and an interim report to be presented at the next conference in Barbados. Obviously, most of the Task Force's communication and research would have to be done via remote communication, but hopefully there will be an opportunity to meet in person in Barbados, and certainly at the CSA Annual Conference in 2011.

At this point, I am inviting interested CSA members to submit an informal letter of interest (email is OK), with a current CV attached. There is a clear expectation regarding the deliverables which will be part of my charge to this Task Force, and consequently participation in it will require a commitment of chunks of time. There will also be a tangible expression of my appreciation at the end of the process, based on the understanding that work and outcomes were accomplished by it.

I look forward to hearing from (some of) you.

With kind regards,

Holger Henke