

Meet the CRA Team!

				
Name:	Sharon Brinkos	Virginia Hopkins	Claire McGowan	Christine Witlox
Role at the CRA:	Membership Engagement coordinator	Research & Technology coordinator	Project coordinator	Operations coordinator
Can you describe your role at the CRA?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working to break down CRA membership by segments so we can address specific needs of our members. Sponsors – staff contact person for our Industry Sponsors. 	I am responsible for the Research Committee; managing the CIORA Grant Competition and Abstracts; and updating the website and mobile app.	I provide support for all Operational Committees, Sub-Committees and Program Committees* and am responsible for membership communications and surveys. *excluding CRA Research, Abstract Review and CIORA Grant Review Committees	Some of what my role entails is directing the CRA's Summer Student Program, coordinating events and managing logistics as well as guiding best practices with respect to the organization's policies and processes.
When should you contact me:	Anytime you have any questions or require additional information – I will gladly put you in touch with the appropriate staff member if it isn't me.	You should contact me if you have any questions about CIORA, Abstracts, the website, mobile app or anything research or technology related.	Please feel free to contact me regarding any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational Committee inquiries ASM, Residents' Pre-Course, FLIRT and NRRW programs Membership communications (e-Newsletter, e-Blast and/or website requests) Investigator-led surveys 	I am the main contact for anything involving the Summer Student Program or event-related issues, but my line is open to anyone. My overall goal is to help the CRA operate as smoothly and efficiently as possible, allowing it to serve its members in the best possible way, so if I can't help I will find the person who can!
How long have you been at the CRA?	5 years as of June 2018.	6 ½ years	3 ½ years	I am a brand-new addition to the team, having started in March of 2018.
What do you love most about working for the CRA?	Working from home and my co-workers – we have a great team!	Everything! I really enjoy my job, working from home, my co-workers and the members.	The people I work with, both internally and externally . . . such an exceptionally dedicated and inspiring group of individuals.	I love the people that make up the CRA – from our Board Members to our operational staff. Everyone on the CRA team is so passionate about what they do, helpful and welcoming.
What is your favourite CRA memory to date?	I don't really have a favourite – great memories always come out of every ASM!	My favourite memory is spending the day after the ASM in Lake Louise with Sharon and Claire. We went for a horse-drawn sleigh ride along the lakeside trail and skating on the lake. It was the perfect way to end a very long and exhausting week!	A favourite recurring memory is the legendary dance floor at the ASM . . . always so much fun to watch everyone bust a move!	Hmm, I don't think I've been here long enough to have a favourite memory – I look forward to making many though!
If you could travel to any place in the world, where would you go?	Take an Alaskan cruise.	I've travelled to several breathtaking locations, but I still have Australia on my bucket list!	Nepal, it's my favourite place on the planet.	Italy and the Greek Isles one day – but in the meantime I'll take Disney World with my family in a heartbeat!!
If you had an extra hour in the day how would you spend it?	Cooking.	I'd like to do more volunteering.	Enjoying time at home with the people who matter most.	If I'm being honest – probably folding laundry! If I was daydreaming, definitely curled up with a good book.
All-time favourite quote:	"Don't do anything to anyone that you wouldn't want done to yourself."	"Reach for the moon and at least you'll land somewhere among the stars."	"When things don't go right, go left."	"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it." – Henry Ford