

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting—Education Section  
2010 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society  
September 12, 5-7 pm, Allegheny Room, Westin Hotel, Pittsburgh.

- I. **Call to Order**—Meeting was called to order by President Steve Chipps at 5:20 pm.
- II. **Introduction of Guests**—Chipps recognized current officers of the Education Section, including the immediate Past-President, Tom Kwak; President-Elect, Mike Quist; and the Secretary-Treasurer, Craig Paukert. Chipps then recognized Past-Presidents of the Education Section in attendance, including Tom Kwak, Brian Murphy, Donna Parrish, Joe Margraf, and Wayne Hubert.
- III. **Determination of Quorum**—A quorum (10% of membership) was present and confirmed by Paukert.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda**—Chipps introduced agenda. Joe Gerken moved to approve the agenda as written; Jim Long seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- V. **Approval of Minutes from 2009 Business Meeting**—Christine Moffitt moved to approve the minutes from the 2009 Education Section meeting as written; Mike Colvin seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- VI. **President’s Comments**—Chipps mentioned the recent emphasis in AFS on education and indicated that several papers from the symposium at the 2009 AFS meeting in Nashville are being published in *Fisheries* as a special section. Chipps encouraged the members to read these articles that will be published over the next year. Chipps then indicated that the Section has several book projects (that will be described later in the meeting) and indicated the Section supported Student Colloquia for the Western Division (Colorado State University) and the North Central Division (Kansas State University) and will support another Western Division Symposium (University of Idaho) this year. In addition, the Section also supported the Equal Opportunities Section travel awards again this year. Chipps finished his remarks by discussing that the Education Section will receive increased AFS visibility over the next few years because of the education emphasis by AFS President-elect Wayne Hubert. Chipps also challenged the membership to think about new book projects. The Section has been very active in participating and supporting book projects, but many of them have been revisions to previous editions.
- VII. **Treasurer’s report**—Paukert presented the Treasurer’s report. Total assets of the Section as of August 31, 2010 were \$190,288.59. The balance forward from August 30, 2009, was \$185,028.01, income from the previous year was \$21,149.20, and expenditures were \$15,888.62. Paukert also noted that the Education Section has contributed \$38,570 to the Skinner Memorial Fund as part of the Incredible Skinner Challenge. In addition, 2 chapters, 9 sections, 2 divisions, 6 individuals, and 1 private organization have also contributed \$13,570 to the Skinner Funds for a total of \$52,140 donated as part of the Incredible Skinner Challenge. Paukert then noted that the Education Section has 535 members; 278 (52%) of those members are students and 34 are young professionals.
- VIII. **Report by AFS officer**—AFS President-elect Wayne Hubert mentioned that his upcoming presidency will focus on fisheries education. His emphasis for the AFS presidency will be based on workforce needs in the future. This emphasis started with the governing board retreat where educators and agency representative discussed the future workforce needs and the role of graduate and undergraduate education to meet those needs. President-elect Hubert then mentioned that there will soon be a topic-oriented meeting related to education that will be sponsored by the Coalition of Natural Resources Societies, which includes AFS, The Wildlife Society, Society of American Foresters, and the Society for Range Management. Finally, President-elect Hubert indicated an additional goal to improve the AFS website and that the Governing Board has already approved \$25,000 for this effort.

## IX. Committee Reports

Newsletter: Newsletter co-editor Joe Gerken spoke on behalf of himself and the other co-editor, Jesse Fischer. Gerken thanked those who have contributed to the newsletter and mentioned there was a change in the timing of the delivery of the newsletter. The newsletter will now be distributed in summer prior to the AFS meeting (June or July) and about six months later in January. Gerken commented that the hardest component of serving on the committee is obtaining submissions and asked that anyone with something to contribute please contact him or Fischer.

Web page: Webmaster Steve Ranney could not make the meeting. Chipps encouraged members to contact him if there were any questions or comments.

Excellence in Fisheries Education: Jason Vokoun described the award and nomination procedure and thanked committee members for their service. He noted that committee members serve a three-year term and that a PhD student and a representative from the North Central Division (NCD) are needed for the committee next year. Vokoun announced that the recipient of the Award this year was Dr. Thomas P. Quinn from the University of Washington. Dr. Quinn was in Russia and could not make the meeting. Vokoun summarized Dr. Quinn's accomplishments.

Skinner Committee: Joseph Hightower thanked those who served on the 2010 John E. Skinner Memorial Award Committee. The Committee received 46 applications and was able to provide 10 Skinner Awards and five Honorable Mentions.

The 2010 Award winners were: Elissa Buttermore (North Carolina State University), Michael Colvin (Iowa State University), Devin DeMario (Penn State University), Michael Gatlin (Oklahoma State University), Zachary Penney (University of Idaho), Joshua Perkin (Kansas State University), Joshua Raabe (North Carolina State University), Kenneth Riley (East Carolina University), Patrick Shirey (University of Notre Dame), and Kelly Stockton (University of Idaho). Honorable mentions were: Corey DeBoom (University of Illinois), David Janetski (University of Notre Dame), Bonnie Mulligan (Southern Illinois University), Catherine Murphy (Louisiana State University), and Stephanie Shaw (South Dakota State University).

Student posters/papers 2009: Jim Long presented the results from last year's student judging efforts. One best student paper (Stacy Beharry and two honorable mentions (Duncan Elkins and Ryan Utz) were awarded at the 2009 meeting. One best student poster (Justin VanDeHey) and one honorable mention (Clint Lloyd) were also awarded.

Program committee: Quist discussed the Governing Board retreat which had a focus of fisheries education. The retreat included presentations from state and federal agencies and academics about the challenges of educating young professionals for the future, and how AFS can help in that role. The Education Section will be on the forefront of this endeavor and the next 3 years or so Education Section members will have opportunities to contribute to this mission.

Membership committee: Chipps presented on behalf the membership committee co-chairs, Mark Fincel and Kristal Schneider. The Education Section would like to continue to promote its relatively new logo. Can cozies with the logo were created for the meeting and everyone at the Section meeting received one. The remaining cozies were provided at the registration desk for other attendees at no cost.

Nominating committee: Kwak noted that the Section voted for the Northeastern (NED) and NCD representatives. Steve Cooke was elected the NCD representative; Lisa Kerr was elected the NED representative. Tracy Galarowicz (NCD) and Andy Danylchuk (NED) were thanked for also running for Division representatives and Kwak noted that both were willing to serve the Education Section in some capacity. Kwak also noted that next year elections will be held for the Section officer positions and encouraged the Section to strive for diversity in its leadership. The Section also produced a t-shirt that will be raffled off at the end of the meeting. David Willis was randomly chosen to receive a t-shirt from a list of all people that voted for division representatives.

## **X. Ad hoc committee & Special projects**

Catfish 2010: The Education Section supported this symposium which was held in June 2010 in St. Louis. Over 200 people attended (including 21 students) and there were over 100 oral and poster presentations from 32 states and 5 countries. The Section was instrumental in ensuring that there was reduced registration for students, and two students (Steve Midway and Rebecca Krogman [formerly Burch]) received free registration on behalf of the Section.

Standard Methods for Sampling North American Freshwater Fishes. Norm Mercado Silva updated the Section on a proposal to provide an online database that summarizes common fishery indices (e.g., cpue, *Wr*). The purpose of the database is to provide a resource where managers can compare their data with regional standards. Norm asked for feedback on the utility of this idea, and asked for the Section to contribute funding to providing this online webpage. Steve Chipps mentioned that the Section has a formal online process for funding requests and encouraged Norm to submit the request through this process.

Fisheries Techniques (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Donna Parrish told the Section that the book is making progress. The goal is to have all the chapters submitted to the editors by December 31, 2010, and to have the book published and available by the next AFS meeting in fall 2011.

Inland Fisheries Management in North America (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Quist and Hubert are serving as editors for the third edition. Quist provided a brief history of the process of the book which started 2-3 years ago. He emphasized that this book has substantial new information compared to previous editions and is virtually a new book. He also mentioned that students were a part of the review process and each chapter was reviewed by a student. The book is currently being indexed and will be published in October 2010. Quist understands that academics may want to use this book for their classes, so contact him if you would like chapters in advance. Finally, Quist thanked all who contributed to the book and reminded the Section that the book was *under* budget. The Section allocated \$5,000 for graphic design, but the final cost was only \$1,880.

Scientific Communication book. Bruce Vondracek reminded the Section that this book is fairly broad and focused on scientific writing and not necessarily fisheries. However, the majority of authors have a fisheries background. There are 13 chapters; two are not yet completed. Nine chapters have been reviewed and are in the process of technical editing. The goal is to have the book available by next AFS meeting in fall 2011.

New Initiatives Committee. Committee Chair Derek Aday mentioned that the idea behind this committee was to generate ideas for new Education Section initiatives. The Section has the resources to develop new initiatives, but needs ideas. Some items being considered include building an online database for all continuing education courses (including regional and local courses), have an Education Section liaison on the continuing education committee, and have an Education Section liaison or link to the board of professional certification. Aday encouraged those with other ideas to contact him.

## **XI. Additional Reports**

Student Subsection: President Colvin reported that the Subsection remains active and highlighted several activities. First, there were two regional colloquia this year (Colorado State University and Kansas State University) with a planned colloquium at the University of Idaho this fall. The Subsection also put forth a motion to the Governing Board to make all students members of the Subsection. This would have increased student membership by \$3.00 with the proceeds going directly to the Subsection. The motion failed primarily because there was concern over increasing costs of membership, and that the motion forced students to belong to a particular group (the Student Subsection). Colvin indicated they were going to continue to work with the Education Section and develop more ideas to increase Student Subsection membership. The Subsection also will host the student symposium on Thursday at the AFS meeting. This is the largest symposium hosted by the Subsection and includes presentations from academics and agency biologists. Finally, the Student Subsection updated its webpage.

Hutton program update: Katherine Winkler discussed the summer mentoring program for high-school students and thanked the Education Section for its past support of the program through the R.F. Hutton endowment. Since many agencies cannot support endowments, the support of the Education Section to the endowment is particularly important. In 2010, there were 24 students in 16 states as part of the Hutton Program. About half of these students are minorities and two thirds are female. Winkler highlighted Elisha Sunflower Wildon, a Hutton student from 2008-2009 that recently received a full scholarship to the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Winkler also highlighted the renewed partnership for the US Forest Service and the Hutton Program, and requested a donation of \$5,000 from the Education Section for the Hutton Endowment. Chipps reminded Winkler that the Section has a formal online process for funding requests and encouraged her to submit the request through this process. Kwak asked the membership if there was preference to contribute to the endowment or directly to the Hutton Program. The membership preferred to contribute to the endowment.

## **XII. Awards and Recognition**

Chipps presented numerous certificates of appreciation: Randy Jackson (NED representative), Mark Pegg (NCD representative; Mark was unable to attend); Stave Ranney and Mike Meeuwig (both for the website; both were unable to attend); Fischer and Gerken (newsletter editors).

## **XIII. Old Business**

None

## **XIV. New Business and Announcements**

Steve McMullin reminded the Section of a survey of introductory fish and wildlife students. The goal of this survey is to determine career interests of students. Steve still needs a larger sample size of universities so contact him if you want to participate.

Brian Murphy mentioned a recent book project that includes 32 case studies related to fisheries conservation and management. The book also has an instructor guide. Both the book and instructor guide are available through AFS.

Finally, a raffle was conducted for Education Section t-shirts. Garret Staines and Elissa Buttermore each received a t-shirt.

## **XV. Adjournment**

Colvin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Vondracek. Motion carried at 6:50 pm

*Respectfully submitted by Craig P. Paukert, Secretary-Treasurer.*