

Report: Minutes of the Preliminary ESA SysEB Business Meeting November 14, 2011 in Reno

Officers present: Kelly Miller (Vice President), Christiane Weirauch (Vice President Elect), Alma Solis (Treasurer), John Heraty (Governing Board Representative); absent: Jason Cryan (President)

SysEB section vice-president Kelly Miller called the preliminary business meeting to order at 1:40PM. About 120 meeting attendees were present.

Miller presented the meeting agenda:

- 1) National Science Foundation report**
- 2) Travel award recipients and talks**
- 3) Discussion on fundraising drive to establish student research endowment**
- 4) Committee Reports**
- 5) President's report**
- 6) Treasurer's report**
- 7) New business**

1) National Science Foundation Report (Branham)

Branham, rotating Program Officer at the National Science Foundation, reported to the membership on

- 1) Changes to set-up of clusters that funds systematics projects; took effect January 2011 (new cluster structure to remove overlap); and
- 2) Changes that will start in January 2012 (single submission cycle; pre-proposal application process).

The presentation was followed by a question and answer session.

2) Travel award recipients, talks and discussion

Miller announced the recipients of the SysEB Travel Awardees for 2011.

The SysEB Travel Award Recipients out of 24 applications were:

- Elizabeth Murray - Museum travel British Museum
- John Leavengood - Museum travel British Museum
- Bernice DeMarco - Field work eastern US
- Ryan Bracewell - Museum travel Smithsonian
- Isabelle Veal - Museum travel Smithsonian

John Leavengood and Bernice DeMarco presented talks on their research and museum/field travel.

Minutes of the Final Business Meeting on December 15, 2010 in San Diego were read and approved as corrected (corrections recorded in the text of that meeting).

3) Discussion on fundraising drive to establish student research endowment

Heraty proposed to set up an endowment for Student Travel Grants to increase number of grants made each year and in addition to the ~\$7,500 (depending on meeting attendance) ESA gives to SysEB each year. The goal would be to raise ~\$100,000 in the first year. Heraty called for discussion on 1) need of such an endowment and 2) how to proceed if deemed valuable.

Oswald supported the idea of an endowment and proposed to get procedures in place. Solis asked if endowment can be established with less than \$100,000. Heraty confirmed that this is possible, but pointed out that it should not be less than \$25,000.

Weller moved to put together small committee to be charged with developing strategy for fund drive. K. Miller seconded.

Ivie motioned friendly amendment to form committee charged with rising \$100,000. Motion seconded.

Discussion focused on speeding up process to make things happen as soon as possible (Oswald, Heraty, K. Miller).

Heraty motioned to charge section leadership to set up committee to raise an endowment for a SysEB Student Research Award in 2012.

Weller called the question. Motion was voted on as amended: In favor: all but one; opposed: none; abstain: one. The motion was passed by K. Miller.

4) Committee Reports

a) Governing Board Meeting 2011 report (Heraty)

- GB meeting in June & Nov (Reno) and conference calls
- Strategic initiatives in international growth and ICE bid for 2016
- Investments still growing; just under 5 million in reserves
- Potential dip into reserves of ~\$400,000 (investments in above and change this year to staff structure for meetings)
 - Meeting ap, wi-fi access, virtual posters, etc.
- Payments to sections (\$40K) maintained for 2012
- Increase in membership (1.4%) and meeting (to \$400) for TN
- John Oswald (TAMU) is the incoming GB representative
 - joswald@ag.tamu.edu; 979-862-3507

McPherson asked about change from in-house meeting organizer to outside contractor. Heraty elaborated on rational for this decision as brought forward by CEO Gammel.

b) Annals of the Entomological Society of America Report (Oswald)

Page number is up (~1,400 so far in 2011). Oswald encouraged members without insufficient funds to apply to Governing Board and Alexander fund that may help to reduce or waive page charges.

c) Thomas Say Report (Thayer)

One publication is finalized to appear in 2012 and one additional is coming along. There was also some movement with additional manuscripts in earlier stages.

No report from Entomological Collections Network, Membership Committee due to absence of representatives. Other committees have not met yet and reports were postponed to Wednesday.

5) Presidents Report (K. Miller)

Miller highlighted that attendance for this meeting was good with 7 student poster sessions and 105 presentations; 5 student poster sessions and 54 posters; 6 section symposia with 68 talks; 5 sessions of Ten Minute Presentations and 82 presentations; and 2 sessions for regular posters with 67 posters.

Miller reported that the number of regular talks and posters has decreased somewhat compared to previous years.

Miller thanked the moderators and judges for their efforts.

6) Treasurer's Report (Solis)

Expenses though 12/31/2010 amounted to \$13,458. The carryover from 2010 was \$6,142. The 2011 allocation amounted to \$7,560. The YTD expenses for 2011 were \$5,094. The current fund amounts to \$8,608.

7) New Business.

a) Miller informed that an Intelligent Design group asked for space to organize a non-ESA function at ESA. Program committee ultimately denied request after communication of Intelligent Design group with Norton (Program Chair) and Delfosse (ESA President). Organization is currently still listed as non-ESA Network. Heraty asked for sense to take to Governing Board. All members raised hand to indicate that they feel that the Intelligent Design Network should be removed.

b) Nominations needed for:

- American Entomologist Editorial Board (Currently Riley Nelson)
- Books and Media Review Editorial Board (Currently James Whitfield)
- Environmental Entomology Editorial Board (Currently Nathan Schiff)
- Journal of Medical Entomology Editorial Board (Currently Quentin Fang)
- Publications Council (Currently John Oswald -> Governing Board)
- Judging panels
- Incoming executive

c) Other new business

Brown asked if there could be incentive for student judges. Weirauch and Ivie responded that this is community effort and that none of the ESA positions (e.g., President) include incentives.

Heraty asked for appointment of member to Nominations and Award Committee and pointed out that this may be a way of ensuring nominations for awards including the Snodgrass Award that was not awarded in 2011.

Schmidt asked about possibility to set aside rooms for informal meetings to review presentations.

It was noted that Jim Whitfield received the Thomas Say in 2011.

O'Brien commented on lack of organization of program book.

Motion to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded, and meeting adjourned at 3:40PM.