

**Student Development Working Group  
Executive Board Meeting: Meeting Minutes  
06 December 2013**

**Present**

Andy Little, *Chair*, Matt Gould, *Chair-Elect*, Kent Fricke, *Past-Chair*, Krysten Zummo, *Treasurer*, Ben Olsen, *Secretary*.

**Call to order**

Little called the December executive board meeting of the Student Development Working Group to order at 9:29a.m. EST.

Agenda for this month's meeting was accepted by the SDWG executive board members.

**Treasurer's report** (Krysten)

Krysten is getting the treasurer's information from Michel within the next couple of weeks.

General info and DropBox explained to Ben and general responsibilities of being secretary

**Unfinished Business**

**Annual conference wrap-up:** Improvements for next year (e.g., undergraduate mixer, student research in progress poster session)

- **JUDGING:** The executive board discussed the pros and cons of the current judging system for the student research in progress poster session and student oral presentations. We discussed the possibility of having more judges and the challenges of the timing for selecting judges. We also discussed making the role of judging clear for volunteer judges. If you have any ideas or comments please contact a board member.

**ACTION ITEMS:** All board members: brainstorm about alternative ways to conduct general presentation and poster judging. **ANDY:** contact Kris Boyd about WG liaison group and marketing for judging and different ideas for responsibilities

- **Behind the Scenes of Scientific Publication and Critical Review:** The executive board discussed the pros and cons of continuing the workshop including the possibility of taking a year off in order to reorganize the structure.
- **Undergrad Panel Discussion:** Kent will resubmit the proposal from last year.
- **Professional Development in the Wildlife Profession:** The executive board wants to brainstorm different ideas to bring more professional development to the students at the annual conference.

**Newsletter:** The newsletter is coming together. Krysten will be collecting final articles from Andy and Kent. After all the articles are collected the newsletter will be drafted and sent out to board members for final comments and edits. The board also discussed the idea of finding a simpler way to construct newsletters, primarily the possibility of utilizing MailChimp.

**ACTION ITEMS:** Andy will send his article to Krysten by Wednesday (Dec 11), Kent will send his article to Krysten ASAP

**Symposium and workshop proposals - 29 January 2014 deadline:** Krysten is working on a proposal for a workshop for student chapters. The workshop will be directed toward student chapter officers with the intent to help overcome common obstacles and challenges faced by student chapters. Topics may include fundraising, member recruitment and retention, and developing chapter activities. Kent will also be resubmitting the undergrad discussion panel proposal from last year. The executive board discussed the Behind the Scenes of Scientific Publication and Critical Review workshop. They talked about trying to get more students involved with this workshop. One idea is to work with the editorial staff of JWM and WSB, to increase participation and feedback to student reviewers of submitted manuscripts. An idea

was also brought up about possibly give the workshop some time to get reorganized for a year before conducting the workshop again.

**Working group liaisons:** Dr. Heath Hagy- has proposed writing an article for the Wildlife Professional describing the Working Group Meeting for Working Group officers. The article would focus on the intent of the working groups to increase communication and collaboration through various activities such as symposiums and student related programs.

**Council Update:** Council is currently running a member vote on changes to the TWS bylaws, including the manner in which elections are held. TWS is now looking for a new Director of Membership Services.

**Increase SDWG fees—\$5 to \$7:** During the SDWG meeting at the TWS Annual Conference, members in attendance felt that as long as long as the dues were less than \$10 the increase would be acceptable. The next step will be to draft the proposed changes. Andy will prepare the draft and pass along the draft to the board members for comments. Afterwards an email will be sent to the members of the working group explaining the proposed changes and a membership vote will be held.

**OSCN—plans for the future:** The executive board tabled action, but discussed future options, and usefulness as a mode of communication and good use of funds. Activity on the OSCN has been extremely low during the past year, and costs approximately \$200 each year.

## New Business

### **SDWG Marketing**

- The executive board discussed ways to improve our connectivity to student, state, section chapters, and other working groups.

### **Committees and committee chair assignments (plans for the future)**

- Awards: The awards from the conference have been sent out. Ben will help Krysten with the arrangements for next year.
- International: Matt discussed some opportunities; please pass along funding opportunities that may be useful.
- Newsletter: Andy will help Krysten; try to move over to Mail Chimp platform

**Article shortfall for Wildlife Professional:** The executive board will brainstorm ideas for an article in the Wildlife Professional.

*Adjournment (10:40am EST)*