

**Student Development Working Group
Executive Board Meeting: Meeting Minutes
27 February 2013, 4:00pm MST**

PRESENT

Kent Fricke, *Chair*, Andy Little, *Chair-Elect*, Ashley Gramza, *Past-Chair*, Matt Gould, *Secretary*.

ABSENT

Michel Kohl, *Treasurer*.

CALL TO ORDER

Fricke called the February executive board meeting of the Student Development Working Group to order at 4:01pm MST.

Agenda for this month's meeting as well as the minutes from last month's meeting were accepted by the SDWG executive board members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Fricke, in the absence of Kohl, delivered a report on the SDWG bank account. There is \$804.47 in the account. Kohl will deposit a check collected from dues worth \$116 bringing the SDWG bank account to approximately \$920.47.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Newsletter: The SDWG executive board members are in the process of obtaining articles for our newsletter, "The Student Chronicles." If you have any article ideas, please submit them to a SDWG executive board member as soon as possible. We would like to publish the newsletter by late April or early May.

Student Activities Committee (SAC) update and discussion: The SAC is currently developing a field trip for the annual conference, and they have asked for comments and ideas from the SDWG. Gramza has offered her help and will collaborate with the SAC. The SAC has also reserved a room for the Student/Professional Mixer. The SDWG executive board members are helping plan the night's activities. If you have any ideas for a field trip or the Student/Professional Mixer please contact a SDWG executive board member.

Symposium and workshop proposals update: The SDWG has sponsored or co-sponsored three proposals including a discussion panel, symposium, and workshop at the annual conference. All three proposals were accepted by TWS, and the executive board members, along with other participating working groups, are moving forward in organizing and preparing for the events. The SDWG has also been approached by Kelly Millenbah from the College and University Wildlife Education Working Group for input on a proposal they submitted and had accepted. The workshop, "Building successful transferable skills for students and early career wildlife educators," will focus on the necessary skills for a successful career in academia.

- **Submitted and Accepted (any changes required by 22 April):**

- **Discussion Panel: *Uncertainty of an Undergrad: Navigating the maze of employment and career opportunities***
 The discussion panel will be comprised of a variety of speakers including those employed as field technicians, graduate students, state and federal biologists, and professors. The goal is to provide undergraduates the opportunity to ask questions to help relieve some of their uncertainty as they prepare for their next step in life. The SDWG executive board members are currently identifying speakers for the discussion panel.
- **Symposium: *Professional Development within The Wildlife Society: Are we doing enough?***
 This symposium will focus on TWS's role in professional development for students and early career professionals. Fricke will be the lead for the SDWG.
- **Workshop: *Behind the scenes of scientific publication and critical review***
 The Student Development and Early Career Professional Working Groups will again host and co-sponsor the workshop at the 2013 TWS Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI. Gramza will be the lead for the SDWG with the rest of the executive board members participating in the planning and organization of the event. The executive board members will be meeting outside of scheduled meetings with other parties in order to discuss the direction in which the SDWG feels is best for the workshop. The SDWG executive board members will hold impromptu meetings as needed and shortly before each formal workshop meeting.

Working group liaisons: Little has finished a description detailing the goals and duties of a working group liaison. The SDWG executive board members have identified the Wildlife and Habitat Restoration Working Group, the Early Career Professional Working Group, and the International Development Working Group as working groups to which the liaison description will be sent. The executive board members are hoping that these working groups, with which the SDWG has a solid working relationship, will review and critique the description. Once their suggestions have been incorporated, the SDWG executive board members will initiate a working group liaison pilot program with those working groups.

Student Travel Award: The SDWG will be offering a student travel award for the 2013 TWS Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI. The executive board members have agreed to wait until after 22 April, which is the deadline for changes to discussion panel, symposium, and workshop proposals, to determine how much money will be allocated to those events and will be available for this year's student travel award. The deadline to apply for the award will be determined in March's executive board meeting. At that time, the SDWG executive board members will also decide on application qualifications and review the grading system for determining award winners.

ACTION ITEM (Gould): Gould will lead the Student Travel Award Committee.

Council / Student Liaison update: Dr. Katie Edwards has been hired as the new Professional Development Coordinator for TWS. She is replacing Shannon Pederson who will be pursuing her Ph.D. We wish them both good luck in their new positions, and we look forward to working with Katie.

- **Upcoming spring meeting: 24-25 March, Arlington, VA**
Fricke will be attending the TWS Spring Council meeting in March. This will be our first opportunity to meet the new TWS Executive Director, Dr. Byron Kenneth (Ken) Williams. If you have any ideas you would like to be brought up at the meeting, please contact our chair, Kent Fricke. Because this will be Ken William's first meeting as Executive Director, the review of the TWS Strategic Action Plan will be moved to the 2013 TWS Annual Conference in Milwaukee, WI.

NEW BUSINESS

New website, Drupal: The Wildlife Society is transitioning into the new website format, Drupal. As a result, our website committee is in the process of updating the website. If you have any ideas as to what should or shouldn't be included on the website, please contact our website committee chair, Jerod Merkle (jerod.merkle.1@ulaval.ca), or a SDWG officer as soon as possible.

Report to Council due 04 March 2013: Fricke and Gould drafted a report detailing all SDWG activities since the 2012 TWS Annual Conference in Portland, OR. This report was then submitted to Yanin Walker (Operations Manager/Production Editor, The Wildlifer) and Winifred Kessler (President, The Wildlife Society). This report will then be circulated to the TWS Council along with reports from all TWS working groups. The SDWG is in a unique position in having a voice within the TWS council as well as their support. If you have any ideas that you would like to see pursued by the SDWG, such as a workshop or symposium, please feel free to submit your ideas to a SDWG executive board member.

REMINDERS

Please post and participate on the OSCN. If you have ideas or proposals you'd like to see us develop or implement, or an article idea for the newsletter please submit them to a SDWG executive board member.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm MST.