

## SUMMARY OF THE MEETING 2002

The 82nd annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) was held at the Westin Crown Center, Kansas City, Missouri from 3--8 July 2002, in conjunction with the 17th annual meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society (AES), The 49th annual meeting of the Herpetologists' League (HL), and the 43rd annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR). This meeting was the first to be organized by the newly formed ASIH Meetings Management Committee and Meetings Planning Committee. Ed Wiley, University of Kansas, served as the chair of the Local Committee.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING: 3 JULY 2001

The meeting of the ASIH Board of Governors (BOG) was called to order by President David C. Cannatella at 1600 h in the Liberty Room of the Westin Crown Center. Fifty-one governors and 14 members were in attendance as indicated by the responses on the signature sheets provided during the sign-in process.

Three late reports were distributed by Secretary Maureen Donnelly. All reports to the BOG will be posted to the ASIH web page ([www.asih.org](http://www.asih.org), follow the links to the 2002 meeting) will be posted by the end of the calendar year.

Secretary Donnelly conveyed messages of regret from Governors Arnold Grobman, James Hanken, Karen Lips, Edie Marsh-Matthews, Amy McCune, Jay Orr, and Kentwood Wells. Secretary Donnelly received a message of regret from Governor Carl Ferraris after the BOG meeting.

Secretary Donnelly announced the passing of former members Frank Cross, Bill Gosline, Dennis King, Joe Slowinski, and Boyd Walker. Governor Margaret Stewart previously informed Secretary Donnelly that Karen Anderson passed away in January 2002. Governor Stewart announced that Max Hecht passed away in March 2002. The ASIH sends best wishes to Hulda Grobman, one of the first ASIH employees, as she recovers from a broken hip and fractured vertebrae.

The minutes as published in *Copeia* 2001, number 4, pages 1182--1193 were unanimously accepted by the board.

President Cannatella announced that the Resolutions Committee for 2002 is chaired by Karsten Hartel. Lee Fitzgerald, William Matthews, and Jim McGuire will also serve on the committee. President Cannatella announced that the Stoye and Storer judges were selected and their names would be announced during the annual banquet.

### FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

President Cannatella called on Labbish Chao and Dick Vogt to describe the 2003 Manaus meeting. Dick Vogt announced that a slide show describing the venue will be shown during the annual business meeting. A booth, staffed by

personnel from Varig, was in the poster-viewing area. Varig has a \$1300 package from Miami that includes roundtrip airfare, transportation to and from the hotel, and six nights in the hotel (double occupancy). The meeting will run from 26 June to 1 July 2002. Field trips and other activities will be arranged.

Governors Laurie Vitt and Bill Matthews presented information on the 2004 meeting that will be held in Norman Oklahoma from 27 May to 2 June. The meeting will be held in the Marriott Conference/Postal Training Center. The facility has 900 rooms with double beds. The rooms will cost approximately \$79 per night and the room price includes breakfast. Lunch (\$6.00/day) will be included in the registration price. The Marriott does not allow children under 18; additional hotels that accept children will be located near the Marriott. Dorm rooms on the University of Oklahoma campus will be available. A social will be held at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History.

Governor Robert Cashner, chair of the Meetings Management Committee, described planning for the 2005 meeting in Tampa, Florida. The University of South Florida will host a hotel/conference center meeting. The 2006 meetings, hosted by Hank Bart and Robert Cashner, will be held in New Orleans. Currently talks are underway with representatives from Cornell University, the University of Victoria, and San Diego. Governor Cashner predicts that we will secure venues through 2010 by our next meeting in Manaus.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Cannatella called on Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes from the Executive Committee (EXEC) meeting held earlier on 3 July 2002. The meeting covered items not covered in the reports distributed to the BOG. First, our membership in the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) allows us to run one advertisement in *BioScience*. The Long Range Planning and Policy Committee will work with the Special Publications Committee to develop an advertisement for AIBS that describes our society, our journal *Copeia*, and our Special Publications. Second, EXEC voted to support the costs associated with having our AIBS representative attend the annual AIBS council meeting. Third, EXEC charged the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee to investigate the need for and costs of liability insurance. Fourth, EXEC unanimously accepted the Henry S. Fitch Award committee description. Fifth, EXEC unanimously accepted the Meetings Management Committee description. Sixth, EXEC unanimously accepted the Meetings Planning Committee description, the policy on the number of presentations given at annual meetings, and the symposium proposal process.

Seventh, some EXEC members visited Allen Press and Management (APM) on 2 July 2002 to meet with various APM personnel. We discussed the Allen Track system, the electronic abstract submission system, and other issues. Eighth, The Ichthyological and Herpetological Collections Committee made EXEC aware of problems with the website. If any members have suggestions for improvement of the website, please contact Secretary Donnelly (asih@fiu.edu). Ninth, Sabrina

Mowry and Martha Chapin from Allen Marketing and Management (AMM) gave a presentation on the new management software system that handles membership databases. Tenth, EXEC discussed editorial policy concerning review of manuscripts. Editor Douglas confers with Sectional Editors regarding the suitability of papers for review. When the Sectional Editor and Editor Douglas agree that a manuscript is not appropriate for review, the manuscript is returned to the author. The EXEC supports this editorial policy. Eleventh, EXEC is concerned about the high workload of sectional editors and Editor Douglas discussed the workload issue during the Editorial Policy committee that followed the EXEC meeting. Twelveth, EXEC received a request for funds from the World Congress of Herpetology (WCH). President Cannatella will ask WCH Treasurer, W. Ron Heyer, to provide a detailed plan for how the funds will be used.

Secretary Donnelly turned the podium back to President Cannatella so he could describe the final item acted on by the EXEC. Treasurer Neighbors walked EXEC through the budget. Financially the society is doing well, but we are doing less well since the stock market has struggled over the last several months. The ASIH now needs to consider new requests for funds carefully given the status of the economy. In spite of the financial constraints, the society needs to move forward with certain activities and EXEC authorized expenses associated with planning the annual meetings. EXEC authorized the purchase of the full Allen Press abstract submission system (Meeting ASSYSTant). Because the Secretary has assumed an additional role associated with meeting planning, EXEC voted to increase the part-time employee (the ASIH Business Office Manager) to full-time status and will provide one month of release compensation for Secretary Donnelly.

President Cannatella indicated that EXEC is discussing a dues increase and Governor Alan Savitzky noted that our recent modest dues increase provided an important source of funds in a weak financial environment.

Governor Ed Wiley commented on an editorial decision that affected one of his submissions. Governor Wiley emphasized that it would be helpful to know what types of papers the Editors of *Copeia* consider for publication.

#### REPORTS TO THE BOARD

President Cannatella called for a motion of blanket approval of all reports to the BOFG except any that had been removed by the EXEC and any others that any individual governor might wish to exclude for discussion. The EXEC exempted the following reports: Henry S. Fitch Award Committee (HSFC), Meetings Management Committee (MMGT), Meetings Planning Committee (MPLN), and the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Awards. No additional reports were exempted by the governors.

Governor Steve Beaupre described the activities of the HSFC. The committee developed a policy statement that will become part of the ASIH Policy and Procedures manual. The policy statement developed by HSFC was based on the statement for the Gibbs Award Committee. The policy developed by HSFC

was unanimously approved by the governors.

The policy statement for the MGMT was developed during the 2002 meeting planning meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. The policy was unanimously approved by the BOG.

The Meetings Planning Committee, chaired by Governor Deanna Stouder, developed a policy statement for the committee to be included in the Policy and Procedures manual. The committee also brought forward three proposals: the first was a policy regarding the number of presentations (one paper and one poster) given at the annual meeting; the second was a cancellation policy (if one fails to cancel by the posted deadline one will not be allowed to present the following year), and a policy for support of symposia (ASIH endowment funds will sponsor up to two proposals annually).

Discussion ensued regarding the 15-month lead time for symposium preparation. President Cannatella and Secretary Donnelly pointed out that this policy was similar to that used by other societies. Governor Stouder explained that this policy provided funds that could be matched by other agencies. Questions regarding the cancellation policy were raised. The committee recognizes that emergencies arise and those will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The policy statement and all proposals from the Meetings Planning Committee were unanimously approved.

President Cannatella called on Past-President Burr to describe the Ad Hoc Committee report on professional awards. The report described eight awards that could be given to members of the society that make important contributions to the fields of herpetology and ichthyology. Four of the eight awards would be decided by existing ASIH committees. Policies for those awards would be drafted by the committee. Governors agreed that it was appropriate for the President of the ASIH to recognize meritorious activity but worried that it might dilute existing awards. The governors will consider this issue next year.

#### OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

President Cannatella then called for any items of old Business, hearing none, he turned to new business.

President Cannatella expressed concern regarding the high editorial work load. He is concerned that our sectional editors leave the position prematurely because of the high demands of this critical service (up to 60 manuscripts/year). He also reported that no other society constrained the editorial office by constitutional mandate. Cannatella suggested that a constitutional change could remove the sectional editors as officers and allow the Editor to appoint the number of editors truly needed for the task. Governor Bradley Shaffer suggested that this might provide greater flexibility for the editorial office. Governor Richard Mayden agreed with Governor Shaffer and suggested that the current designation of five sectional editors was rigid. The recognition associated with being an editor for *Copeia* acknowledges excellence in the field and some governors expressed concern that the

lack of a title for the sectional editorship might diminish the prestige associated with this service.

The governors considered the ballot presented by the Nominating Committee (NOMC) and no additions were made to the ballot except that Governor Joseph Nelson was deleted as he is still in active service on the BOFG (class of 2002). The governors voted unanimously to close nominations.

The governors elected a new member to serve a three-year term on the Henry S. Fitch Award Committee. Of the two candidates proposed by the NOMC, Stanley Fox of Oklahoma State University, was elected.

The BOG then elected Lawrence Page to serve a three-year term on the Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award Committee.

President Cannatella called on Secretary Donnelly to make announcements. Secretary Donnelly announced that Governor James Hanken was appointed the Director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University on 1 July 2002; Secretary Donnelly was elected Vice-Chair of Education for the Organization for Tropical Studies in April 2002; Governor Savitzky received the *Gene W. Hirschfeld Faculty Award* from Old Dominion University.

Secretary Donnelly then announced that the 19th International Congress of Zoology in Beijing China (23-27 August 2004) organized by the China Zoological Society and the Institute of Zoology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences. In addition to the scientific program, a number of tours are part of the package. Fliers describing the meeting were distributed. The email address is:

icz2004Wpanda.ioz.ac.cn and the URL for the meeting website is:

<http://www.icz.ioz.ac.cn>. The Sixth Latin American Herpetology Congress will meet in Peru (19--23 January 2003). The meeting will be hosted by the Museo de

Historia Natural and the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos. Symposia will focus on marine turtles, bioacoustics, conservation, altitudinal transects and phylogeography. The meeting website is: <http://barioperu.terra.com.pe/VICLAH>.

The Twelveth International Conference of the Society for European Herpetology will be held in St. Petersburg, Russia in August 2003. The congress will emphasize the ecology and conservation of amphibians and reptiles and will be held during the 300th year celebration of the founding of St. Petersburg. Dr. Natalia Ananjeva (12SEH@zin.ru) is the contact person in St. Petersburg. Governor Aaron Bauer indicated that he could provide additional information regarding this meeting. The National Council for Science and the Environment is hosting the third national conference on science, policy, and the environment. The meeting will be held in Washington DC in January 2003. Fliers describing the meeting were distributed.

The email address for the meeting is: [conference@ncseonline.org](mailto:conference@ncseonline.org) and the URL for the website is: [www.ncseonline.org/conference](http://www.ncseonline.org/conference).

President Cannatella adjourned the BOFG meeting at 1742 h.

## **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING: 7 JULY 2002**

The meeting was called to order at 1606 h by President Cannatella in Century

C Ballroom of the Westin Crown Center. Bruce Collette pointed out that the annual business meeting was in conflict with an on-going poster session. President Cannatella charged the Meetings Planning Committee with ensuring that our business meeting and scientific sessions do not overlap.

President Cannatella called for a motion to approve the minutes of the annual business meeting held on 9 July 2001 at the Penn State Conference Center, State College Pennsylvania. These minutes were published in *Copeia* 2001:1182-1193 and are posted on the website ([www.asih.org](http://www.asih.org)). The minutes were unanimously accepted. President Cannatella called on Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes from the Board of Governor's meeting held on 3 July 2002. Cannatella called for a motion to approve the minutes and the motion carried. Prosanta Chakrabarty informed the membership that a memorial page had been set up for Bill Gosline: <http://umzm1.umzm.lsa.umich.edu/staff/pages/gosline.html>. Susan Jewett asked for clarification regarding a proposed dues increase. Secretary Donnelly explained that it was a 1.25 year process. President Cannatella explained that the proposed dues increase was in response to an uncertain economy.

President Cannatella called for announcements, hearing none he called on the Resolutions Committee Chair Karsten Hartel to read the substantive resolutions which are reproduced below. After discussion of each resolution, all of them were approved unanimously by the assembled members. The resolution concerning Galapagos elasmobranchs will be translated to Spanish before it is sent to the appropriate officials.

#### SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION FOR OUTGOING SECTIONAL EDITORS.--WHEREAS Robert E. Gatten (Physiology and Physiological Ecology), W. Linn Montgomery (Ecology and Ethology), and Scott A. Schaefer (General Ichthyology) have come to the end of their service, and

WHEREAS these editors have served the membership during their terms of service by donating their time to work on submissions to *Copeia*,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists wholeheartedly thanks them for their efforts and hard work.

RESOLUTION FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTIC SKATE CONSERVATION.--WHEREAS The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has conducted peer-reviewed assessments and determined that several stocks of northwest Atlantic skates to be overfished, thereby prompting management under the Sustainable Fisheries Act, and

WHEREAS a review in the journal of the American Fisheries Society has listed both barndoor (*Dipturus laevis*) and thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*) in this region as "vulnerable," meaning that they are at risk of becoming threatened or endangered with extinction in the near future, and

WHEREAS skate landings in the northeast United States are near record high levels and the level of skate bycatch has been estimated at two to three times that of landings, and

WHEREAS there are currently no limits on skate landings or skate bycatch in the United States northwest Atlantic, and

WHEREAS the lack of data collected on skate catches and bycatch stands to hinder more precise assessments, rebuilding estimates, and effective management, and

WHEREAS the New England Fishery Management Council has yet to submit the Skate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that was due under the law in March 2001, and

WHEREAS the Council's delayed draft FMP was so seriously flawed in terms of rebuilding measures that NMFS recently prevented its release for public hearing,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists calls upon the National Marine Fisheries Service to immediately take over Northwest Atlantic skate management and implement a secretarial skate fishery management plan that dramatically improves skate data collection at the species level, is consistent with the bycatch and overfishing provisions of the Sustainable Fisheries Act, and ensures timely rebuilding of overfished skate species.

#### RESOLUTION ON ATLANTIC SPINY DOGFISH CONSERVATION.--

WHEREAS the northwest Atlantic population of spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) is overfished, the targeted mature females are depleted, and recruitment failure has persisted for six straight years, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has implemented a Federal Atlantic Spiny Dogfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) developed by the regional fishery management councils to rebuild the spawning stock over ten to twenty years, and

WHEREAS complementary measures in state waters are essential to the success of the federal dogfish management plan, and

WHEREAS excessive state landings and lax state controls have led to serious quota overages and unsustainable fishing mortality, and

WHEREAS inconsistent measures stand to undermine the federal dogfish plan and risk further damage to the declining spiny dogfish population, and

WHEREAS the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) is currently soliciting public comment on a coast-wide state plan for the northwestern Atlantic spiny dogfish, and

WHEREAS fishing industry representatives and state officials are still pushing for continuation of the directed fishery that targets depleted females;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the ASMFC to adopt and maintain spiny dogfish limits and measures that are at least as stringent as those applied in federal

waters including an end to directed fishing as consistent with the federal fishery management plan.

**RESOLUTION ON SAWFISH CONSERVATION.--**WHEREAS smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*) are among the most endangered elasmobranchs in the world, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has completed a comprehensive status review of smalltooth sawfish in United States waters and has determined that a distinct segment of this population is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service proposed listing the smalltooth sawfish as "endangered" under the United States Endangered Species Act (ESA) in April 2001 and a final decision on this proposal was due in April 2002, and

WHEREAS there are no federal protective measures for sawfish and existing state measures are inadequate to rebuild the smalltooth sawfish population, and

WHEREAS listing under the ESA would prompt not only prohibition on possession but important investigation into habitat requirements and bycatch of sawfish as well as much needed public awareness of the species' population status, and

WHEREAS there have been significant delays in the ESA review and listing process since the petition to list was filed in 1999, and

WHEREAS the United States has previously acknowledged the precarious status of the species by proposing it's listing under the Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the United States National Marine Fisheries Service to finalize their overdue proposal to list and protect the smalltooth sawfish (*Pristis pectinata*) under the Endangered Species Act as a matter of priority.

**RESOLUTION ON THORNY SKATE CONSERVATION.--**WHEREAS The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) is responsible for international management of fish stocks (other than highly migratory species and sedentary species of the continental shelf) in the northwest Atlantic Ocean, and

WHEREAS directed fisheries for thorny skate (*Amblyraja radiata*) as well as bycatch of exceptionally vulnerable deepwater such as black dogfish (*Centroscyllium fabricii*) occur unregulated in the NAFO regulatory area, and

WHEREAS the NAFO scientific council reported a decline in thorny skate abundance and biomass in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and

WHEREAS NAFO has recognized the vulnerability and special management needs of elasmobranchs by hosting an upcoming symposium on elasmobranch sustainable use and biodiversity conservation, and

WHEREAS the United States is becoming increasingly active in NAFO policy development since ratifying the convention in 1995, and

WHEREAS United States scientists have played a leadership role within the

NAFO scientific council in promoting assessment of elasmobranch populations as well as the practical application of the precautionary approach, and

WHEREAS the United States NAFO commissioners have previously voiced concern over the need to consider NAFO skate quotas, and

WHEREAS the upcoming scientific symposium presents a rare opportunity to highlight elasmobranch conservation needs for fishery managers and policy makers from all 18 NAFO contracting parties,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologist and Herpetologists urges the United States Departments of State and Commerce as well as United States NAFO Commissioners to call for the establishment of NAFO skate quotas as well as initiatives to minimize bycatch of elasmobranch species in NAFO waters at the 2002 NAFO annual meeting.

RESOLUTION ON ELASMOBRANCH CONSERVATION.--WHEREAS sharks and rays are among the most vulnerable fishery resources in the world, and

WHEREAS their low productivity limits the capacity of shark and ray populations to sustain commercial exploitation without careful fisheries management, and

WHEREAS as many as 125 nations fish for or trade in shark products, and

WHEREAS there is no management for shark fisheries in international waters, and

WHEREAS the Food and Agriculture Organization's International Plan of Action-Sharks (IPOA) is strictly voluntary and therefore cannot ensure the conservation of vulnerable elasmobranch resources, and

WHEREAS the IPOA directed its member nations to develop a National Plan of Action (NPOA) assessing their shark fisheries and conservation needs by February 2001, and

WHEREAS to date only two countries have finalized their NPOAs, and only a handful more have a plan in draft, and

WHEREAS the growing demand for and international trade in shark fins is the driving force behind most commercial shark fisheries around the world,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges FAO to provide resources to and strongly encourage member nations to develop and implement their NPOA for elasmobranchs. The American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists also urges CITES to take action to ensure that international trade in sharks and rays is sustainable and does not threaten the functional existence of these vulnerable and overexploited resources.

RESOLUTION ON GALAPAGOS ELASMOBRANCH CONSERVATION.--

WHEREAS the Galapagos Islands are among the greatest biological treasures of the world, with high biodiversity, and the birthplace of evolutionary theory, and

WHEREAS the unique resources of the Galapagos Islands have been recognized as a World Heritage Site, and

WHEREAS the Galapagos Marine Resources Reserve is home to at least 27 species of sharks and rays, and

WHEREAS most sharks and rays are of low productivity and therefore even modest fishing pressure can quickly deplete or wipe out insular shark populations, and

WHEREAS bycatch on longline fishing gear is a major source of mortality for sharks and rays with bycatch often exceeding the targeted species catch, and

WHEREAS directed fishing for sharks is currently prohibited in the Galapagos Marine Resources Reserve to protect these vulnerable resources, and

WHEREAS the sharks of the Galapagos Islands currently provide a significant and renewable source of income to Ecuador and the local communities through dive tourism, and

WHEREAS the growing demand for shark fins has led to the illegal fishing for sharks within the Reserve,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the government of Ecuador to maintain the prohibition against commercial fishing for tunas and other pelagic fishes in Galapagos Marine Resources Reserve

RESOLUTION ON THE CANADIAN SPECIES AT RISK ACT.--WHEREAS the Canadian Species at Risk Act has recently passed the House of Commons and is currently before the Senate, and

WHEREAS upon proclamation of the bill in to law, 48 species of amphibians and reptiles and 78 species of fishes will receive protection as species at risk at the federal level in Canada,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the three herpetological societies (American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Herpetologists' League, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles) express its endorsement to the government of Canada for the passage of the Species at Risk Act.

RESOLUTION ON PHANTOM CAVE SPRING.--WHEREAS Phantom Cave Spring is inhabited by two federally-endangered species (*Gambusia nobilis*, Pecos gambusia and *Cyprinodon elegans*, Comanche Springs pupfish), and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Reclamation owns Phantom Cave Spring, and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Reclamation built an artificial refuge at Phantom Cave Spring to protect these fishes, and

WHEREAS declining spring flow has dried the canal and nearly eliminated the Phantom Cave Spring pool, and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Reclamation in response to falling water levels established an artificial refugium at Phantom Cave Spring, and

WHEREAS the pump and dam installed at Phantom Cave Spring has failed to stabilize water levels which have dropped to a depth of 300 centimeters, and

WHEREAS this has resulted in catastrophic declines in numbers of both endangered fishes of Phantom Cave Spring,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, a professional society of 3000 scientists concerned with the study and conservation of fishes, amphibians and reptiles, urges the Bureau of Reclamation to take immediate action to ensure steady flow of water into the Phantom Cave Spring pool and to stabilize water levels in the artificial refuge.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Cannatella then moved to the election of ASIH officers, including the President-elect, a *Copeia* General Ichthyology editor, new members of the Board of Governors, the Nominating Committee Chair, and members of the Nominating Committee. The slate of nominees as provided by the Nominating Committee and the BOG will be available on the website by the end of the year. Nominations from the floor were invited, there being none, it was moved that nominations be closed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Results of the elections were announced at the Banquet and are listed here (an asterisk [\*] denotes reelection of an incumbent officer): President-elect: Patrick T. Gregory; Secretary: Maureen A. Donnelly\*; Treasurer: Margaret A. Neighbors\*; Editor: Michael E. Douglas\*; General Ichthyology Editor: Donald G. Buth; General Herpetology Editor: Craig Guyer\*; Ecology and Ethology Editor: W. Linn Montgomery\* (note added in preparation: Editor Montgomery resigned his position at the 2002 meeting); Genetics, Development, and Morphology Editor: Robert M. Wood\*; Physiology and Physiological Ecology Editor: Stephen J. Beaupre\*; Index Coeditors: Subject Index, Frances M. Cashner\*, Taxonomic Index, James W. Orr\*; Book Review Editors: Herpetology, Kentwood D. Wells\*, Ichthyology, William D. Anderson\*; Board of Governors Class of 2007 Herpetology: Brad Hollingsworth, Fred Janzen, Chris Phillips, Javier Rodriguez, and Eric Wild; Board of Governors Class of 2007 Ichthyology: George Burgess, Susan Jewett, Frank Pezold, Eric Schultz, and Tom Turner. The chair of the Nominating Committee is Kathleen Cole and members of the nominating committee are David Cundall, Karen Lips, and Robert Cashner.

#### OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

As the ballots were being collected, President Cannatella said that the business meeting should not overlap other activities. Bruce Collette expressed his opinions about the issue which caused the assembled members to clap enthusiastically in support of his position.

President Cannatella then moved to new business. There was discussion regarding a potential dues increase. Increasing dues is not something we do without careful consideration and President Cannatella reported that EXEC is studying our financial position. President Cannatella worked with Long Range Planning and Policy Committee and the Endowment and Finance Committee to determine the time line for a dues increase.

President Cannatella then turned to the issue of sectional editors and their incredibly high work load. He polled the Herpetologists' League, the Society for Systematic Biology, the American Society of Naturalists, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles and discovered that the ASIH is the only society that encodes the sectional editors in the constitution. The constitutional mandate constrains the Editor as he tries to do the work required for publication of our journal *Copeia*. A workload of 60 manuscripts a year is onerous for sectional editors and we are looking to ways of reducing the work load so we can respond quickly and reasonably to changes in academic research.

President Cannatella then called for other items of new business. Issues concerning guidelines for presentations, both oral and posters, were discussed. Mark Peterson offered to provide guidelines for posters. President Cannatella will give the guidelines to the Meetings Planning Committee.

President Cannatella then called on Robert Cashner to describe future meeting venues. Labbish Chao came forward and presented a slide show regarding the 2003 meeting site in Manaus, Brazil. Labbish encouraged members to sign up for the Varig package offered during the meeting. Reservations need to be made by September and we lose the package deal if we do not make enough reservations. Contact Varig at 1-800-682-3333, extension 181. Ahroni is the agent handling the ASIH group. The ASIH website ([www.asih.org/meetings/meetings.html](http://www.asih.org/meetings/meetings.html)) will be updated regularly. The Brazilian Herpetological Society and the Brazilian Ichthyological Association will meet with the ASIH, AES, HL and SSAR. Bruce Thompson pointed out that he could not take advantage of the package because of governmental rules. Larry Page pointed out that the \$50 fee is refundable. It was pointed out that United States airlines do not fly into Manaus. Kassie Cole asked if there would be cheaper packages for students and Dick suggested that there might be a package going through for Venezuela for \$800 for students. There are several less expensive hotels downtown that would be available. Ed Wiley reminded members that we need to get visas for attending the meeting. Laurie Vitt described that the cost of the visa costs \$70.00 and they will not allow you to do it by mail from Houston. It was announced that the Neotropical Ichthyological Association is organizing a Bill Gosline symposium for 2003. Dick Vogt encouraged folks to visit the Varig booth during the meeting..

Cashner then called on Laurie Vitt to describe the visa requirements for the Oklahoma meeting in 2004. Laurie mentioned that you only need a visa if you are coming from Texas, and you only need shots if coming from Texas. The meeting will be held at the Marriott Postal Training Facility in Norman OK. There are several nice lecture rooms and all types of AV presentations will be accommodated. The meetings will be held from 27 May to 2 June. The rooms are smaller than the rooms in the Westin and each room has one double bed so you should select your roommate carefully. Hotels for those with children will be located. There will be at least one event at the new Sam Noble Museum of Natural History and passes to the museum will be provided. One can fly to Oklahoma City easily and the Marriott will arrange transport from the airport to the facility and to Norman. Vic Hutchison

mentioned that the Oklahoma Herp Society would organize a live exhibit for photographic purposes. Breakfast is provided and lunch will be part of registration.

Bob Cashner announced that the meeting will be in Tampa in 2005 and the meeting will be held in New Orleans in 2006.

The Annual Business Meeting adjourned at 1742 h.

### **ANNUAL BANQUET: 8 JULY 2002**

The banquet was called to order by emcee Larry Allen at 2004 h. The banquet was held in the Century Ballrooms at the Westin Crown Center. Larry noted that the last time he was the banquet emcee, we were in La Paz and he reminded us that after La Paz he promised he would not emcee again. An alignment of events including Tiger Woods winning the US Open, the Lakers winning again, a good audio system and great acoustics in the Westin, and no tequila on the tables brought Larry back to the banquet podium. Larry promised a rapid move through the evening. Larry introduced himself, the local chair Ed Wiley, and the dynamic duo from Kansas State Conference Services Sharon Brookshire and Jan Hudzicki.

Larry introduced those seated with him at the head tables. Merry Camhi (President), George Burgess and Greg Cailliet represented the American Elasmobranch Society ; David Cannatella (President), Larry Page (President-Elect), Maureen Donnelly (Secretary), Margaret Neighbors (Treasurer), Deanna Stouder (Meetings Planning Chair), Robert Cashner (Meetings Management Chair) and his wife Frances Cashner represented the ASIH; Ken Dodd (President) and Henry Mushinsky (President-Elect) represented the Herpetologists' League; David Green (President) represented the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Ed Wiley and his wife Karen were also seated at the head table.

A total of 1,043 registrants were present at the 2002 meeting and 44.2% of the participants are student members. The registered members represented the United States of America, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Belgium, Bermuda, Brazil, Colombia, Czech Republic, Germany, Guam, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Nicaragua, China, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, and Venezuela.

Larry Allen then acknowledged our distinguished colleagues that traveled long distances to participate in the Kansas City meeting: Garth Underwood (United Kingdom), Wolfgang Böehme (Germany), and Bob McDowell (New Zealand).

Larry then called on all Past-Presidents of the ASIH to stand and be recognized. He then called on all past-presidents of the AES, the HL, and the SSAR to stand and be recognized.

The committee on Graduate Student Participation raised \$2590 during the book raffle and the ASIH will provide a \$2000 match to bolster the student travel award.

Larry called Mo Donnelly to the podium to present certificates of appreciation to: Robert Gatten for his service as Sectional Editor for Physiology

and Physiological Ecology; to W. Linn Montgomery for his service as Sectional Editor for Ecology and Ethology; to Scott Schaefer for his service as Sectional Editor for Ichthyology; and to Brooks Burr for his service as President in 2001.

Larry returned to the podium and he called Mo back so she could announce the results of the election. Mo extended thanks to David Bickford, Cristina Ugarte, Emilie Verdon, Hardin Waddle, and James Watling, for their help with distribution and tallying of ballots. The election results were described previously in this report.

Emcee Allen then called on Keith Gido, chair of the Raney Award Committee, to read the names of the Raney Award winners for 2002. Keith served on the committee with John Friel and David Eisenhour. The 2002 winners each received \$1000.00 to support their research: **Martha Burford**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California: Genetic population structure and year-class formation in two nearshore species of rockfish (*Sebastes*); **Mark Dugo**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Southern Mississippi: Genetic structure of Gulf Sturgeon, *Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi*, in the Pascagoula River drainage of Mississippi; **Andrew Kinziger**, Department of Biology, Saint Louis University: Molecular systematics and historical biogeography of the Holarctic fish genus *Cottus* (Scorpaeniformes: Cottidae); **Ashley Seifert**, Department of Zoology, University of Florida: Metabolism across ontogeny in the African lungfish *Protopterus aethiopicus*; **Anna George**, Department of Biology, Saint Louis University: Phylogeography of the Northern Logperch, *Percina caprodes semifasciata*, with an examination of the status of *Percina nebulosa* (Haldeman 1842) and *P. manitou* (Jordan 1877).

Larry then called on Mo Donnelly to announce the winners of the Gaige Awards for 2002. The Gaige Committee was chaired by Joe Pechmann; Maureen Kearney and Robert Espinosa served on the committee. Each of Gaige winners received \$500 to support their research as follows: **Lynn M. Almlı**, University of Tennessee: An assessment of environmental enrichment on morphology and behavior of neonate *Elaphe alleghaniensis*; **Ronald M. Bonett** University of Texas at Arlington: Systematics, phylogeography, and evolution of morphology and metamorphosis in the *Eurycea multiplicata* complex (Caudata: Plethodontidae); **David Chapple**, Australian National University: Does color pattern polymorphism influence social behavior in White's skink, *Egernia whitii*?; **Alison M. Hamilton**, University of North Dakota: Contribution of small Pacific island populations to species-level genetic diversity; **Robyn Konvalinka**, Arkansas State University: Egg discrimination in the western slimy salamander, *Plethodon albagula*; **Kenneth H. Kozak**, Washington University: Ancient drainage history and diversification in eastern North American plethodontid salamanders: a comparative phylogeographic approach; **Day Ligon**, Oklahoma State University: Evaluating the effects of climate change and temperature-dependent sex determination in reptiles; **Melissa A. Pilgrim**, University of Arkansas. The effect of diet composition on the carbon and nitrogen isotope ratios of *Sistrurus miliarius* (pigmy rattlesnakes) scale tissue; **Chelsea Ward**, Auburn University: The effects of coal fly ash as a stressor of the southern toad (*Bufo terrestris*); **Heather Waye**, Oregon State University:

Reproductive behavior and chemical communication in the brown tree snake.

Larry then called on Tod Reeder, Chair of the Student Awards Committee to introduce the Stoye and Storer award chairs to present the Stoye and Storer awards for 2002. The chair of the Student Award Committee, Tod Reeder, and President-elect Larry Page assembled the following judges for the 2002 student competitions. Stoye Award in Conservation Biology: Carol Johnston (chair), Dawn Wilson and H. Bradley Shaffer; Stoye Award in Ecology and Ethology: Mark Peterson (chair), Jason Knouft, Gad Perry, Stan Trauth, Stuart Welsh; Stoye Award Genetics, Morphology and Development: Dan Meinhardt (chair), Jessie Maisano, Morgan Raley; Stoye Award General Herpetology: Brad Hollingsworth (chair), Maureen Kearney, Chris Parkinson; Stoye Award General Ichthyology: Jonathan Armbruster (chair), John Friel, Kyle Piller, Donald Stewart, Christine Thacker; Stoye Award Physiology and Physiological Ecology: Lynette Sievert (chair), Michael Angilletta, W. Linn Montgomery; Storer Award in Ichthyology: Michael Retzer (chair), Mark Pyron, Adam Summers; Storer Award in Herpetology: Chris Sheil (chair), David Cundall, Barbara Savitzky. Stoye and Storer award winners receive a certificate, a cash award, and all available back issues of the journal *Copeia*. The award winners for 2002 are: **Rita S. Mehta**, University of Tennessee, "The effects of diet on locomotion and defensive displays in neonate *Elaphe helena*" won the Storer Award in Herpetology. **Jason A. Moretz**, Ohio University, "Initiation of agonistic encounters by eventual contest losers: a study of contest dynamics in the northern swordtail fish, *Xiphophorus cortezi*" won the Storer Award in Ichthyology. **Oliver F. Berry**, Massey University, "Does the matrix matter? Molecular evidence that grand skinks show reduced dispersal in an agricultural landscape", won the Stoye Award in Conservation. **Mia S. Adreani**, California State University Northridge, "Reproductive behavior and mating system of the temperate wrasse, *Halichoeres semicinctus*" won the Stoye Award in Ecology and Ethology. **Sarah A. Smith**, Villanova University, "Phylogenetic affinities of *Oligosoma suteri*, New Zealand's only native egg-laying skink" won the Stoye Award in General Herpetology. **Nancy I. Holcroft**, University of Kansas, "A molecular study of the phylogenetic relationships of tetraodontiform fishes and their relationships to the other teleost fishes" won the Stoye Award for General Ichthyology. **Rebecca Thomas**, University of Chicago, "The ossification sequence of skull bones in *Chanoschanos* (Chanidae) with comparisons to other ostariophysan species" won the Stoye Award for Genetics, Development and Morphology. **Jill P. Zamzow**, University of Hawaii, "Fish sunscreen: UV absorbing compounds in the mucus of coral reef fishes" won the Stoye Award for Physiology and Physiological Ecology.

#### BANQUET RESOLUTIONS

Karsten Hartel came forward to read the banquet resolutions. Before he started, he reminded us of the manner in which Dan Cohen read resolutions by shouting WHEREAS!

RESOLUTION ON SLIDE PRESENTATIONS.--WHEREAS fish systematists in general, and Rick Mayden in particular, repeatedly distinguished themselves by presenting carefully prepared BUT absolutely unreadable slides, and

WHEREAS said systematists used the phrase "I know you can't really read this" no less than 247 times in one session,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT said systematists should stick to simple things like PCRs and Sequencers and leave slide preparation to their assistants.

RESOLUTION ON ARTWORK REPRODUCTION.--WHEREAS ASIH prides itself on the quality of its meeting logos, and

WHEREAS Kate Spenser's artwork for the these meetings is of the finest detail and quality, and

WHEREAS the rendition of her artwork on this meeting's t-shirts and tote-bags is of inferior quality

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the quality control officer for these meetings... i.e., Ed Wiley... be provided funds for laser eye surgery.

RESOLUTION ON FOURTH OF JULY EVENING FEEDING ATTEMPTS.--

WHEREAS Hundreds of hungry, cold-blooded biologists searched the bowels of the Crown Center and Union Station in hope finding at least one restaurant for a 4th of July meal, and

WHEREAS the lone employee at Original Pizza served at least 300 people, and

WHEREAS many others endured a two hour wait at the Brasserie, and

WHEREAS many more soles were found floundering on the early evening streets in search of a life sustaining meal,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT we applaud the amazing coordination and foresightedness that allowed the local restaurants to close and citizens of Kansas City to magically disappear from the streets on a national holiday, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if our societies ever meet again on the 4th of July that we do so in Canada or Mexico.

RESOLUTION ON USE OF SLIDE PROJECTORS.--WHEREAS the use of video technology, at these meetings, has shown a marked de-evolution, and

WHEREAS the 2002 ASIH meeting organizers did not support computer presentations because of multiple problems at Penn State and exorbitant potential costs at this meeting, and

WHEREAS ASIH participants have largely forgotten how to design slides for traditional projectors, and

WHEREAS the slide projectors, themselves, have NOT forgotten how to break down at critical moments, and

WHEREAS some projectionists seem unaware of how to focus slides  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT graduate students receive mandatory training in the history and use of slide projectors, including but not limited to, Focusing 101 and Slide carousel techniques 105... so that they can understand the context with which they now use PowerPoint, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all future meetings should only offer overheads and posters.

RESOLUTION ON EARLY MORNING MUSIC.--WHEREAS the hotel pool staff insists on playing the best of the 70s at full blast at 5:45 AM, and

WHEREAS the best of the 70s consists of Donna Summers, the Bee Gees, and the Eagles, and

WHEREAS ASIH will never be known as Kansas City's "Sunshine Band" before 6 AM,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ASIH should impose a strict AM noise ordinance at all future venues.

RESOLUTION ON THE PICNIC LINES.--WHEREAS meeting attendees were herded, like cattle at the railhead, into long serpentine lines at Union Station, and

WHEREAS upon first arrival at the beer lines, hundreds of thirsty ichthyologists and herpetologists were greeted by only two bartenders who had to be supplemented by host Ed Wiley, and

WHEREAS the noise in the vaulted hall of Union Station was so loud that it was almost impossible to hear, and

WHEREAS that noise prevented us hearing what might have been a very good band,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we humbly suggest that the Meeting Management Committee TRY to prevent us from being so barbecued at any future meetings.

RESOLUTION FOR MO DONNELLY.--WHEREAS preparation of the meeting program and abstracts for this 82nd ASIH meeting involved gathering, losing, regathering, and processing vast amounts of information... including responding to almost 17 hundred e-mails that were related to abstract submission, and

WHEREAS this required enormous amounts of time and brainpower devoted to computer science and management... rather than scholarly pursuits in herpetological research and teaching, and

WHEREAS said documents were critical to the proper functioning of this highly successful meeting, and

WHEREAS Mo Donnelly, Secretary of ASIH, completed this monumental task and had abstracts posted on the website by April 17,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT these societies concur with President Canatella's proclamation and unanimously bestow upon Mo the permanent title of SUPERWOMAN, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these joint meeting of AES, ASIH, HL and SSAR, hereby expresses their deep appreciation to Mo and her associates... THANKS Mo!

RESOLUTION FOR THE LOCAL COMMITTEE.--WHEREAS the Local Committee and the Meeting Management Committee have made these meetings come together, and

WHEREAS they somehow organized a joint meeting of AES, ASIH, HL, and SSAR in a confusing situation where we were hosted by KU, but run by KSU, in a town called Kansas City... which is in fact in Missouri, and

WHEREAS 25 students, recruited from Canada to Mexico, assisted at the sessions, and

WHEREAS 23 other students, including an undergraduate contingent from Avila College, assisted at registration,

THEREFORE SO BE IT RESOLVED THAT we gratefully thank them all, including the titular local committee consisting of: Ed Wiley, Dick Robins, Linda Trueb, Andy Bentley, Keith Gido, David Edds, and Bob Powell, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT none of this would have happened without the help of the K-State Conference Coordinators: Sharon Brookshire, Jan Hudzicki, Cara Davis, and Rebecca Frakes,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT we thank the following student volunteers who assisted with slide projection: Hugo Alamillo, Barbara Banbury, Andrew Campbell, Pingfu Chen, Anna Clarke, Drew Forster, David Gillette, Eli Greenbaum, Elisa Guayasamin, Juan Guayasamin, Nancy Holcroft, Mike Jorgensen, Jessica Kemp, Kris McNyset, Chad Montgomery, Andre Ngo, Kendra Pitman-Irwin, Jenny Pramuk, Stan Proboszcz, Kevin Tong, Ricardo Torres-Cervantes, James Watling, Justin Williams, and Matthew Williams. We also thank the members and students who worked the registrations desks: Teresa Alvaerdo, Catherine Bohnet, Lauren Chan, Jana Cobb, Jennifer Germano, Brian Green, Catherine Green, Bethany Harris, Valerie Johnson, Joshua Lindsay, Jeff Parmelee, Albert Poche, Bob Powell, Ashley Rall, Matt Salomon, Jennifer Simmons, Pam Simmons, John Steffen, Omar Torres, Cristina Ugarte, Emilie Verdon, Kate Williamson, and Dereck Yorkes.

RESOLUTION ON THE BANQUET.--WHEREAS tonight's meal was one of the best ASIH banquets ever, and

WHEREAS for the first time in recorded history we did not get at least one complementary glass of wine at said banquet, and

WHEREAS Labbish Chao notes that wine will flow free and freely in Manaus

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the we will hold the Manaus local committee to that promise, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT we look forward to 2003 in the steamy Amazon.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE FITCH AWARD

Steve Beaupre was called to the podium to present the 2002 Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology. While Steve thought it was time to finish his reading of the resolutions from the La Paz meeting, he instead introduced his fellow committee members Jay Savage and David Wake. Steve described Harry Greene's efforts to establish the Henry S. Fitch Award and the endowment to support the award. This year's awardee is the fourth recipient of the award (the Fitch Award has been given to: A. Stanley Rand, David Wake, and Jay Savage in previous years) and the first to be awarded by the official Fitch Award Committee. The Henry S. Fitch Award winner for 2002 authored over 130 scientific papers during his career, he sponsored 14 PhD students and 4 MS students from 5 different countries. He spent much of his life working in Borneo and his contributions to the herpetology of the region have been extremely important. The 2002 Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology goes to Robert F. Inger.

#### PRESENTATION OF THE GIBBS AWARD

Bruce Collette was called to the podium to present the Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award. Bill Anderson and Hank Bart also served on the committee in 2002. The Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Systematic Ichthyology is awarded for "an outstanding body of published work in systematic ichthyology" to a citizen of a Western Hemisphere nation who has not been a recipient of the award. Bruce described the history of the award and mentioned that the 2002 awardee is the author of *Fishes of the World*. The 2002 Gibbs awardee Joseph S. Nelson came forward to accept the award. Joe recounted some of his fond memories of Robert Gibbs. He remembered former ASIH members who have also passed on like Donn Rosen and Bill Gosline. Joe remarked that the annual ASIH meetings are great, in part, because of the age-spread of the participants. There are elder members, the current leaders, and plenty of fine young people that will be the leaders of the future. Joe mentioned that he heard some scary talks about snakeheads and snakes eating kids during our meeting. Professor Nelson noted that he was going away from this meeting with much more than the thought he would and he noted that this was a great meeting. As Joe left the podium, the assembled members stood to applaud him for receiving this prestigious award..

To conclude the banquet, Larry called on Dick Vogt who invited all of us to come to Manaus in 2003 and afterward the banquet was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen A. Donnelly  
ASIH Secretary