

SUMMARY OF THE MEETINGS 2004

The 84th annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) was held at the United States Postal Service National Center for Employee Development (NCED) and Marriott Conference Center in Norman, Oklahoma from 26--31 May 2004, in conjunction with the 20th annual meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society (AES), the 62nd annual meeting of the Herpetologists' League (HL), and the 47th annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR). Janalee Caldwell served as chair of the local committee.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING: 26 MAY 2004

The meeting of the ASIH Board of Governors (BOG) was called to order by President Patrick T. Gregory at 1700 h on 26 May 2004. Sixty-six governors and 2 guests were in attendance. Secretary Donnelly conveyed messages of regret from Governors Bailey, Grobman, Janzen, Lips, Pough, Rabb, Savage, Starnes, Stewart, Stouder, Warkentin and Wells.

Secretary Donnelly announced the passing of Walter Auffenberg, Roger Conant, Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer, Ed Crossman, Don de Sylva, William Gutzke, Henry Hildebrand, John Moore, David J. Morafka, Henry Seibert, Robert Shoop, and Richard Wallace.

The minutes as published in *Copeia* 2003 (4):930-940 and the agenda for the meeting were approved unanimously.

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS

President Gregory called on Governor Cashner, chair of the Meetings Management Committee, to describe future meetings. The meeting in 2005 will be held in Tampa from 6 - 11 July. In 2006, the meeting will be held in New Orleans from 12 - 17 July at the Sheraton Hotel on Canal Street. In 2007, the Joint Meeting will be held at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. We will meet in 2008 in Montreal in conjunction with the World Congress of Herpetology and in 2009 we will meet in Vancouver. Governor Cashner informed the Governors that several tourist bureaus and conference centers have contacted us. Governor Cashner is certain and we will be able to secure future venues in a variety of sites.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Gregory then called on Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes of the Executive Committee (EXEC) meeting that was held earlier on 26 May 2004. The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by President Gregory at 0900 h. President Gregory opened the meeting by thanking Mike Douglas for his 15 years of dedicated service as Editor of *Copeia*.

First, Treasurer Neighbors described the current state of the society's finances. While the society is in good financial condition overall, our expenses

exceed our operating revenues. The Board of Governors approved a dues increase for 2005 and this action will increase the operating budget for the coming year and should result in a budget surplus. The number of institutional subscriptions is lower than last year and the number of members has also decreased. Members of EXEC discussed the reasons for these declines and scenarios for increasing membership. The members of EXEC encourage all governors to become sustaining members or life members to help improve the financial situation of the society. We will have membership applications available during the meeting this year. In future years we plan to have a membership table at the meetings that could include web-based information about the society and the benefits of membership in the ASIH.

Second, Treasurer Neighbors informed the committee that 21 copies of Special Publication Number 5, the three volume set published by the FAO on *Living Resources of the Western Central Atlantic*, have been sold. The ASIH invested \$45,000 in the project and we need to sell these volumes to recover our investment. The Special Publications Committee has produced an order form that is available on the website. Copies of the order form will be available at the ASIH table at this meeting.

Third, President Gregory turned to the issues associated with the transition of the editorship of *Copeia* and other issues. President Gregory will form an *ad hoc* committee to review all issues associated with our journal including format, editorial policy, our relationship with Allen Press, the editorial structure, publication mode, and the committee will provide a report to the BOG for the 2005 meeting. The chair of the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee, Alan Savitzky, will serve as an *ex-officio* member of the committee.

Fourth, Al Savitzky briefly summarized his report on the BioOne meeting and described the Long Range Planning and Policy meeting that will take place on Friday to discuss the future of printed journals. Representatives from Allen Press, BioOne, the Herpetologists' League, the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, and the members of EXEC will attend this meeting. The representatives from Allen Press and BioOne will describe the financial impact of losing print subscriptions on our societies and this information will help us make plans for the future. An update will be provided during the Annual Business Meeting on Sunday 30 May 2004.

Fifth, Secretary Donnelly prepared an order form for the purchase of back issues. The current price per issue is \$25 for non-members, \$15 for regular members, and \$7 for student members. The back issue prices will be reduced to \$10 for regular members and \$5 for student members for issues prior to 2000. An order form with pricing will be posted to the website in the very near future.

Sixth, EXEC then voted unanimously to put back issues of *Copeia* on JSTOR. This requires destruction of the binding of all issues for scanning. Secretary Donnelly will donate her personal set of *Copeia* with the proviso that they be returned to her after the scanning is completed.

Seventh, the ASIH Historian, Meg Stewart, is resigning her position. President Gregory is working with President-Elect Parenti to find a replacement for this position.

Eighth, President-Elect Parenti will meet with the graduate students during their meeting on Monday 31 May to discuss the type of mentoring they would like to have during the annual meeting. The mentoring meeting scheduled for Thursday will be combined with the Monday meeting so please inform any of your students who are first-time meeting attendees that they can learn more about mentoring at that time.

Ninth, Past-President Page formed the Web Content and Management Committee last year and it is currently chaired by Morgan Raley. Page, Treasurer Neighbors, and Nelson Rios serve on the committee. President Gregory is seeking volunteers, especially herpetologists, to work with the existing committee members to improve the website.

Tenth, on the basis of information presented by Past-President Page regarding LINNE, President Gregory will ask the Ichthyological and Herpetological Collections Committee to do a survey of collections of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles in the United States. The survey will include information on holdings, funding priorities, and resources required to support these valuable resources. The last survey of collections was published by Poss and Collette in the early 1990s.

Eleventh, President-Elect Parenti announced that the American Museum of Natural History will sponsor a symposium 4 April 2005 on freshwater biodiversity. The ASIH is willing to serve as a sponsor and will offer modest financial support for the event. Parenti also described the status of the Systematic Ichthyology Newsletter which has been published annually for 25 years. The California Academy of Sciences has published the first 25 issues of the newsletter and needs to be relieved of the duty as they deal with moving during renovations. Lynne will take an active role in finding a new compiler for this important document.

Twelfth, Secretary Donnelly reported that Governor Gilbert had issues with the group photo. The issue was considered by the Meetings Planning and Meetings Management Committees and they decided during their February meeting that the group photo was under the purview of the local committee. Opinions regarding the group photo varied among members of EXEC and we would like input from the governors concerning the group photo.

Under old business, EXEC discussed the publication of the directory. The directory will be published as a PDF file after July 1. Please visit the website and make sure all of your information is correct by 30 June 2004.

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 1332 h.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

President Gregory called for blanket approval of reports except the report from the Herpetological Animal Care Committee. Governor Karsten Hartel exempted the report from the Special Publications Committee. All other reports were accepted unanimously by the Governors.

Governor Steve Beaupre, chair of the Herpetological Animal Care Committee, indicated that the version of the Guidelines that appear in the Board of Governors meeting book would be revised to correct minor mistakes. He asked for governors to send additional changes to him by 15 June. Governor Phillips moved

approval of the report, the motion was seconded by Governor Rosenblatt, and the motion carried unanimously.

Governor Hartel was concerned that Allen Press was unable to barcode the volumes and asked if it would be possible to barcode Special Publication number 5 and all others in print. Governor Carpenter wondered if more aggressive marketing would help sell the books. President Gregory informed the Governors that the advertisement for BioScience will be submitted to AIBS in the very near future. In order to recover our investment, we must sell 450 copies of Special Publication Number 5. Governor Tom Munroe suggested that we might be able to make a consignment arrangement with museum bookstores. It was also suggested that we should encourage libraries at our home institution to purchase the books. We should also solicit reviews of the volumes in appropriate journals. It was also suggested that we use the pages of *Copeia* to advertise our special publications. President Gregory charged the Special Publications Committee to investigate all of these issues. Chris Phillips moved acceptance of the Special Publications Committee Report; Governor Crother seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of old business.

President Gregory then called for other items of new business. Governor Bauer announced that the fifth World Congress of Herpetology would be held from 20-24 June 2005 in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Governor Collette announced that an art exhibit at the City Art Center in Oklahoma City had 70 paintings by Rudy Miller on display.

The Gibbs, Fitch, and Johnson committee ballots were approved and the Governors voted for new committee members. David Johnson reminded the Governors that the Gibbs ballot must include three candidates. David Greenfield was elected to a three-year term on the Gibbs Committee, Julian C. Lee was elected to a three-year term on the Fitch Committee, and Harvey B. Lillywhite was elected to a three-year term on the Johnson Committee. The ballot for the general election was also approved unanimously.

President Gregory adjourned the meeting at 17:45 h.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING: 30 MAY 2004

The Annual Business Meeting (ABM) was called to order at 1701 h by President Gregory in Room GHI of the NCED Training Center.

President Gregory called for a motion to approve the minutes of the annual business meeting held on 20 June 2003 at the Hotel Tropical, Manaus Brazil. The minutes were unanimously accepted. President Gregory called on Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes from the Board of Governor's meeting held on 26 May 2004. President Gregory called for a motion to approve the minutes of the BOG meeting; the motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

President Gregory called on Past-President Page to come forward and describe the LINNE initiative. The LINNE initiative will bring funds to NSF to

support collections at systematics-based institutions. The LINNE initiative and the NEON initiative both have strong support at NSF. Page asked all members to inform their colleagues about LINNE.

Aaron Bauer came forward to describe the Fifth World Congress of Herpetology that will be held 20-24 June 2005. The congress will be held at the Conservatorium of Music, Stellenbosch University, in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Aaron pointed out that South Africa has the highest reptile diversity on the continent and was a “hotspot” for tortoises, lizards, and snakes. Frog diversity is lower than reptile diversity, but endemism is high in the western Cape region. New species of amphibians and reptiles are discovered regularly. Stellenbosch is in the heart of the winelands and the average temperature during June is 53°F. Stellenbosch is a University town with a small town ambience. The Herpetological Association of Africa (www.wits.ac.za/haa/) is sponsoring the Congress. The estimated fee for the congress is \$425. Additional information can be obtained from conf@conferencesetal.co.za.

Morgan Raley, Chair of the Web Content and Management Committee, came forward to describe the Committee that currently includes 4 ichthyologists. Morgan called on herpetologists to serve on the committee. The website requires revision and if any member would like to be involved in this important society function, please contact Morgan (Morgan.Raley@ncmail.net). The website is our public face and we need assistance from the membership.

Jon Armbruster, Chair of the Special Publications Committee, came forward to announce the availability of ASIH publications. *The Fishes of Bermuda*, the volume on Collection Building, and the new FAO volume are available. The order form can be downloaded from the website and mailed to Allen Press. Jon announced that his committee was trying to do a better job of marketing the books. Rick Mayden suggested that we include an order form in every issue of Copeia. Richard Rosenblatt asked if University Presses could help market the books. Jim Williams suggested we talk with the American Fisheries Society for help with marketing.

President Gregory announced that Margaret Steward was stepping down as Historian and that David G. Smith has been appointed to be the new ASIH Historian.

In an effort to encourage ABM attendance and decrease the time devoted to presentations at the banquet, the EXEC moved the presentation of certificates of appreciation and the announcement of Gage and Raney award winners from the banquet to the ABM this year. President Gregory called on Robert Espinoza, Chair of the Gage Award Committee to come forward to announce the names of the 2004 winners of the award. Christopher Phillips and Kirsten Nicholson also served on the committee in 2004. The committee received 28 applications and 10 awards of \$500 were granted as follows: **Venetia S. Briggs**, University of Miami, Sexual selection and larval performance of Neotropical frogs of the Chiquibul Forest Reserve, Belize; **Alessandro Catenazzi**, Florida International University, Marine productivity and gecko populations in the Peruvian coastal desert: The importance of marine food subsidies as revealed by stable isotope and dietary analyses; **Kamelia Fallahpour**, California State University, Northridge. Effects of female breeding

coloration on the behavior and mate selection of male leopard lizards, *Gambelia wislizenii*; **Raymond A. Hernandez**, California State University, Northridge. Allometric engineering of the desert tortoise *Gopherus agassizii*: An empirical test of the minimum body size hypothesis [Awarded, but declined funds]; **Lesley T. Lancaster**, University of California, Santa Cruz, Evolutionary patterns of changing reaction norms and the evolution of complex specialization: Investigation of intrapopulational differences in endocrine maternal effect initiation and response plasticities in the side-blotched lizard *Uta stansburiana*; **Deborah I. Lutterschmidt**, Oregon State University. Comparative physiology of "time-keeping" mechanisms: Evolved or environmentally induced?; **Suzanne McGaugh**, Iowa State University. Ecological and genetic dynamics of invasive-endemic interactions; **Nancy M. Schoepner**, University of Pittsburgh. Understanding the effects of malathion on amphibian communities: A mechanistic approach; **C. Tristan Stayton**, University of Chicago. Patterns of functional and morphological convergence among herbivorous lizard skulls; **Daniel A. Warner**, Ph.D. expected 2006. University of Sydney. The adaptive significance of temperature-dependent sex determination: An experimental test using an Australian agamid lizard; and **Dennis K. Wasko**, Ph.D. expected 2007. University of Miami. Top-down effects of a tropical predator, *Bothrops asper*.

President Gregory called on David Eisenhouer to announce the winners of the 2004 Raney Award competition. Secretary Donnelly made the announcement for Dr. Eisenhouer. David Eisenhouer chaired the committee that included Cheryl Wilga and Andrew Simons. The committee received 40 meritorious proposals and made awards of \$1000 to: **Christen Bossou**, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, The effects of light environment on color divergence and species diversity in barcheck darters; **Brian Langerhans**, Washington University, Predator-driven adaptive diversification in an endemic livebearing fish; **Shannon Martin**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Reproductive strategies of coastal marine fishes: Testing the potential trade-offs due to sea level rise; **Aaron Rice**, University of Chicago and Field Museum of Natural History, Evolution of reef fish feeding: Coordination of feeding, visual, and locomotor behaviors in wrasses and parrotfishes (\$995.00); and **Jada-Simone White**, University of Florida, Long-term effects of variable recruitment - linking early and late life history stages in a reef fish.

President Gregory then called on David Green, Chair of the Resolutions committee to come forward to read three resolutions that were unanimously approved by the membership. Frank McCormick, Chair of the Conservation Committee, came forward to read five resolutions; three from AES and two from the Conservation Committee. After the resolutions were presented Frank described who the resolutions would be sent to; Bruce Collette moved and Richard Rosenblatt seconded approval of all resolutions which were approved unanimously by the membership.

SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION FOR BRUCE BADEN COLLETTE.--WHEREAS Bruce B. Collette has served the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists as a

member since 1954, as a Governor since 1962, Secretary from 1974 to 1978, and as President in 1981, and

WHEREAS the ASIH has benefited and grown due to his being Ichthyological Editor of *Copeia* from 1964-1968, and a member of the Nomenclature (1967-1973), Nominating (1985), Raney Award (1986-1987), National Plan for Ichthyology (1973-1976), Environmental Quality (1977-1982), and Executive (1974-1978 and 1980-1982) committees, and

WHEREAS Bruce Collette is a herpetologist and an ichthyologist, having won the ASIH Stoye Award in both Herpetology (1956, first prize) and Ichthyology (1958, first prize; 1959, second prize) and having published four of his first seven papers in herpetology; later followed with well over 200 papers in ichthyology, focused on but not limited to the systematics of darters, tunas, and halfbeaks, accomplishments recognized in his being the first recipient of the ASIH Gibbs Award for an outstanding body of published work in systematic ichthyology, and

WHEREAS Bruce taught summer courses in Ichthyology, advised numerous graduate and post-graduate students for over 35 years, and during that time taught us all the meaning of hard work and the finer points of great beers, and

WHEREAS the ASIH, its members, and uncounted colleagues have benefited from Bruce's frank opinions, critique, and advice, which are often given in a unique and forceful voice, with a firm pounding of the fist on any nearby surface,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, at the end of his seventh decade and beginning of his eighth, recognizes Bruce B. Collette's contributions to this society, to systematic Ichthyology, and to his efforts in fostering awareness of the importance of biodiversity.

RESOLUTION FOR *COPEIA* EDITOR MICHAEL DOUGLAS,--WHEREAS *Copeia* is the jewel in the crown of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, and

WHEREAS *Copeia* is the leading journal for publications in ichthyology and herpetology, and

WHEREAS editorial oversight and maintenance of the high quality of *Copeia* are demanding tasks, requiring absolute devotion to the journal and the society, and

WHEREAS Mike Douglas has faithfully served the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists as Editor of *Copeia* since 1990, and

WHEREAS Mike Douglas has scrupulously maintained the delicate balance of herpetological and ichthyological contributions in the journal, and

WHEREAS Mike Douglas has overseen the highly successful transition to online manuscript submission and has incorporated important cost-saving policies, to the benefit of the society and its members, and

WHEREAS Mike Douglas has, during this period, turned completely gray and acquired a thicker, scallier skin and more terrestrial habits, and

WHEREAS Mike Douglas is stepping down from his position as Editor of *Copeia*, effective the end of 2004

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists expresses its most profound appreciation to Mike

Douglas for his many years of selfless service to the society and to *Copeia*, and wishes him a most peaceful, well-deserved respite from these labors.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE EPA RULE ON MERCURY.--WHEREAS mercury is a toxic, persistent pollutant that accumulates in the food chain, particularly in aquatic, estuarine, and marine ecosystems, and

WHEREAS concentrations of methylmercury can build up in fish and animal tissues, and

WHEREAS coal-fired power plants are the largest remaining source of human-generated mercury emissions in the United States, and

WHEREAS a United Nations Environmental Programme report, compiled by an international team of experts, says that coal-fired power stations and waste incinerators now account for around 1,500 tons or 70% of new, quantified anthropogenic mercury emissions to the atmosphere, and

WHEREAS the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced water quality criteria for the maximum advisable levels for methylmercury in freshwater and estuarine fish and shellfish to protect human health because consumption of contaminated fish and shellfish is the primary route of human exposure to methylmercury, and

WHEREAS data published by the EPA's Office of Research and Development revealed extensive contamination of freshwater fish by methylmercury at levels that exceed concentrations expected to impair the health of terrestrial and aquatic organisms, and

WHEREAS the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed two alternatives for controlling mercury emissions from power plants, one that imposes strict caps on new sources and requires installation of the most advanced pollution abatement technologies and one that relies on market incentives to reduce emissions,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the oldest professional society in the United States concerned with the biology and conservation of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles and has a membership of over 3,000 practicing scientists and academic professionals supports the EPA alternative approach that would require power plants to install controls known as "maximum achievable control technology (MACT) under section 112 of the Clean Air Act that would reduce nationwide mercury by 14 tons or about 30 percent by early 2008.

RESOLUTION REGARDING SALMON.-- WHEREAS the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists is the oldest professional society in the United States concerned with the biology and conservation of fishes, amphibians, and reptiles and has a membership of over 3,000 practicing scientists and academic professionals, and

WHEREAS the ASIH, as a professional organization knowledgeable about the impacts of and interactions between hatchery- and naturally-reproducing fishes and other taxa, supports NOAA's stated goal of conservation of sustaining, naturally-spawning populations, and

WHEREAS we are encouraged by public statements by Undersecretary Lautenbacher recognizing the highly variable and often negative track record of salmon hatcheries as a conservation tool, and

WHEREAS continued historical declines of many salmon Distinct Population Segments (DPSs) and Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) – despite active hatchery programs – confirm the ineffectiveness and even counterproductive nature of such efforts, and

WHEREAS hatcheries succeed as a means of supporting fisheries, but have repeatedly failed as a tactic for conserving biodiversity (this failure being the combined result, in part, of:

- historical inattention to genetic differences between native and hatchery stocks;
- negative ecological interactions between native and hatchery stocks
- a lack of appreciation for and understanding of the adaptive genetic uniqueness of localized ESUs and DPSs and

• the artificial selection and domestication that occur in hatcheries, and
WHEREAS the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists is deeply concerned that adoption of an “equivalency” policy would establish a dangerous precedent with far-reaching consequences wherever artificial propagation is used as part of a strategy for species recovery, and

WHEREAS we view such a policy as promotion of artificial propagation in lieu of attention to and correction of actual, underlying causes of species declines,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists strongly opposes any decision that would include counts of hatchery-reared fish or other taxa with naturally-reproducing individuals in assessing population status. Our misgivings apply especially where an abundance of hatchery individuals can be used to justify delisting, downgrading, or delaying of decisions about the conservation status of a stock.

RESOLUTION REGARDING NAFO AND THORNY SKATES.-- 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*) 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 a symposium on elasmobranch sustainable use and biodiversity conservation, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service has prohibited possession of thorny skates in U.S. waters and have classified them as “species of concern,” and

WHEREAS the NAFO Scientific Council will provide further advice on skate status and quotas at the 2004 NAFO annual meeting,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce as well as U.S. NAFO Commissioners to raise the issue of NAFO skate quotas during upcoming bilateral meetings with Canada and the European Union and to enhance efforts to secure science-based NAFO quotas for thorny skates at the 2004 NAFO annual meeting.

RESOLUTION REGARDING U.N. BAN ON SHARK FINNING.-- WHEREAS the high commercial value of shark fins creates an incentive for “finning” -- slicing off a shark’s fins and discarding its carcass in the sea, and

WHEREAS this wasteful practice remains a driving force for unsustainable shark mortality in a wide array of fisheries, and

WHEREAS the United States led efforts in the fall of 2003 to secure a United Nations General Assembly (U.N.G.A.) Resolution that urges countries to consider measures to ensure the long-term sustainable use of sharks, including the banning of fisheries for shark fins, and

WHEREAS the 2003 U.N.G.A. Resolution called for waste reduction and spotlights fin fisheries, but stops short of calling for a halt to finning of sharks taken incidentally in other fisheries, and

WHEREAS little if any progress has been made under this Resolution or toward broader implementation of the U.N. International Plan of Action (IPOA) for Sharks, and

WHEREAS the U.S. Shark Finning Prohibition Act of 2000, which banned the practice in federal waters, directs the U.S. to work towards international finning restrictions, and

WHEREAS domestic finning bans in countries such as Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Oman and Palau are hampered by enforcement loopholes and could be enhanced by broader finning bans and stronger international cooperation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the U.S. Departments of State and Commerce to build upon the previous U.N. Resolution by proposing and working to secure an international ban on shark finning at this fall’s meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

RESOLUTION REGARDING WHITE SHARKS AND CITES.-- WHEREAS White Sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) are slow growing and highly migratory fish, and

WHEREAS these factors combined with natural rarity in the marine environment (as apex predators) makes this species exceptionally vulnerable to overexploitation, and

WHEREAS The IUCN (World Conservation Union) classified white sharks as “vulnerable” on the 2000 Red List of Threatened Species, and

WHEREAS developing regional assessments are expected to label some populations as “endangered” or even “critically endangered” later this year, and

WHEREAS the fins, teeth and jaws of this highly sought species are exceptionally valuable and enter international trade as trophies and curios, and

WHEREAS the U.S. is a major importer of white shark teeth and jaws and responsible for all of the five white shark recorded imports in 2002, and

WHEREAS there are few national protections for white sharks and no restrictions for this migratory species imposed by Regional Fishery Management Organizations, and

WHEREAS inclusion in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) would establish monitoring programs for trade in white shark parts and require Parties' Scientific Authorities to demonstrate legal capture and no detriment to the population from trade before exporting white shark parts, and

WHEREAS in April 2004, the Shark Working Group of the CITES Animals Committee reviewed the technical merits of Australia's white shark listing proposal and most members agreed that the species appears to meet the criteria for inclusion in Appendix II,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the United States and other Parties to CITES to strongly support listing of white sharks in CITES Appendix II at the 13th Conference of the Parties in October 2004.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

President Gregory called on Secretary Donnelly to come forward and present Certificates of Appreciation to Editor Michael E. Douglas, Historian Margaret M. Stewart, and Past-President Larry M. Page.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

The following constitutional changes, approved by the Board of Governors in the spring of 2004, were unanimously accepted by the membership. The ASIH constitution is posted on the ASIH website (<http://www.asih.org/info/about.html>). Secretary Donnelly presented the rationale for the changes prior to the vote.

The first change was to Article III of the Constitution. The categories of membership were changed to reflect current practice (there is no differentiation between Regular and Foreign members). We created a new category of Regular membership (no journal). This category was created to accommodate those who want to support the activities of the society without receiving a journal.

Article III: Membership - SECTION 2 -- OLD VERSION

Section 2. The membership of the Society shall consist of the following classes:

a. Active members who pay annual dues in the following categories: Student, Foreign, Regular, Associate, and Sustaining.

Article III: Membership - SECTION 2 -- NEW VERSION:

Section 2. The membership of the Society shall consist of the following classes:

a. Active members who pay annual dues in the following categories: Student, Regular, Associate, and Sustaining.

Secretary Donnelly described the second constitutional change proposed because of current practice. The Distinguished Fellows category was created several years ago but we do not have equal numbers of ichthyologists and herpetologists as mandated by the constitution. . Past-President Page suggested that this category of membership could be removed from the constitution to reflect current practice.

Article III: Membership - SECTION 4 -- OLD VERSION:

Section 4. Distinguished Fellows.

a. Distinguished Fellows shall be elected by the Board of Governors from among North American members of the Society who have attained distinction as investigators and/or have made noteworthy contributions to the Society.

b. Nominees for Distinguished Fellows shall have been a member of the Society for a period of 20 years or more.

c. The number of Distinguished Fellows shall not exceed 20 at any one time and not more than six shall be elected in any one year. They shall be equally divided among ichthyologists and herpetologists.

d. Distinguished Fellows shall be nominated by petition which shall be signed by ten or more members of the Society. This petition shall list the scientific achievements and services rendered by the nominee. The petition shall be addressed to the Secretary at least two months before the annual meeting.

e. Distinguished Fellows shall be listed on the inside front cover of COPEIA.

NEW VERSION: Article III: Membership - SECTION 4

Section 4. This section will be deleted.

The third constitutional change was generated by effect of the weak economy on society finances. The ASIH dues are among the lowest for professional scientific societies, however our dues have not kept pace with expenses. The members of EXEC realized that a dues increase required a constitutional change which requires one year. This slow response time is not a good practice. The new bylaw places the responsibility for the dues schedule on the Board of Governors. The change in the bylaws removes the amount of dues paid as follows:

BYLAWS - ARTICLE I, SECTION 3 -- OLD VERSION

Article I: Dues

Section 1. Annual dues shall be payable 1 January, in advance. COPEIA shall not be sent to those in arrears for dues. Upon payment of arrearage, plus a late fee calculated as 10% of the annual dues, the former member shall be reinstated.

Section 2. A service charge calculated by the Secretary to recover actual costs may be billed subscribers requiring special billing procedures.

Section 3. The following is the schedule for dues and subscriptions to be paid in United States dollars or equivalent: Student Members \$30.00 annually, Regular Members (domestic and foreign) \$60.00 annually, Associate Members \$10.00 annually, Institutional Subscribers \$100.00 annually, Sustaining members \$75.00 annually. Life Members: \$1500 in a single payment or in four equal consecutive annual payments of \$375.

BYLAWS - ARTICLE I, SECTION 3 -- NEW VERSION

Article I: Dues

Section 1. Annual dues shall be payable 1 January, in advance. COPEIA shall not be sent to those in arrears for dues. Upon payment of arrearage, plus a late fee calculated as 10% of the annual dues, the former member shall be reinstated.

Section 2. A service charge calculated by the Secretary to recover actual costs may be billed subscribers requiring special billing procedures.

Section 3. The schedule of dues will be estimated by the Treasurer, proposed by the Executive Committee, and approved by the Board of Governors to meet the financial needs of the society.

The final constitutional change was initiated to recognize Robert K. Johnson's service to the ASIH. Bob Johnson served the society in several ways including a stint as editor, the chair of the Long Rang Planning and Policy Committee, and as Secretary. This constitutional change adds the Robert K. Johnson Award Committee to the list of Standing Committees.

BYLAWS - ARTICLE VIII (Committees, SECTION 5) -- OLD VERSION

Article VIII. Committees

Section 5. Standing Committees are provided for separately in the CONSTITUTION and/or BYLAWS, and/or are those which must be renewed yearly to conduct society business. Standing Committees are as follows:

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| ANBM | Annual Business Meeting |
| BOFG | Board of Governors |
| EDBD | Editorial Board |
| EDPC | Editorial Policy Committee |
| ENFC | Endowment and Finance Committee |
| EXEC | Executive Committee |
| GFAC | Gaige Fund Award Committee |
| GSPC | Committee on Graduate Student Participation |

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| HSFC | Henry S. Fitch Award Committee |
| LOCL | Local Committee for the Annual Meeting |
| LRPP | Long Range Planning and Policy Committee |
| MMGT | Meetings Management Committee |
| MPLN | Meetings Planning Committee |
| NOMC | Nominating Committee |
| RFAC | Raney Fund Award Committee |
| RHGC | Robert H. Gibbs, Jr., Memorial Award Committee |
| STAC | Student Awards Committee |

NEW VERSION - BYLAWS - ARTICLE VIII (Committees, SECTION 5)

Article VIII. Committees

Section 5. Standing Committees are provided for separately in the CONSTITUTION and/or BYLAWS, and/or are those which must be renewed yearly to conduct society business. Standing Committees are as follows:

| | |
|------|--|
| ANBM | Annual Business Meeting |
| BOFG | Board of Governors |
| EDBD | Editorial Board |
| EDPC | Editorial Policy Committee |
| ENFC | Endowment and Finance Committee |
| EXEC | Executive Committee |
| GFAC | Gaige Fund Award Committee |
| GSPC | Committee on Graduate Student Participation |
| HSFC | Henry S. Fitch Award Committee |
| LOCL | Local Committee for the Annual Meeting |
| LRPP | Long Range Planning and Policy Committee |
| MMGT | Meetings Management Committee |
| MPLN | Meetings Planning Committee |
| NOMC | Nominating Committee |
| RFAC | Raney Fund Award Committee |
| RHGC | Robert H. Gibbs, Jr., Memorial Award Committee |
| RKJC | Robert K. Johnson Award Committee |
| STAC | Student Awards Committee |

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Gregory then moved to the election of ASIH officers, including the President-elect, Editor, new members of the Board of Governors (Class of 2009), 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 at the website (www.asih.org, click on annual meeting link). Nominations from the floor were invited, and G. David Johnson was nominated to be a Governor and his name was added to the ballot. It was moved to then close the nominations. The motion was seconded and

passed unanimously. Ralph Saporito, Emilie Verdon, James Watling, and Steven Whitfield distributed and tallied the ballots.

Results of the elections were announced at the banquet and are listed here (an asterisk [*] denotes reelection of an incumbent officer): President-elect: Darrel R. Frost; Secretary: Maureen A. Donnelly*; Treasurer: Margaret A. Neighbors*; Editor: Scott A. Schaefer; General Ichthyology Editor: Donald G. Buth*; General Ichthyology Editor: Jonathan W. Armbruster*; General Herpetology Editor: Tod W. Reeder*; General Herpetology Editor: Michael J. Lannoo*; Physiology & Physiological Ecology Editor: Steven J. Beaupre*; Genetics, Development, and Morphology Editor: Robert M. Wood*; Genetics, Development, and Morphology Editor: Joseph M. Quattro*; Ecology and Ethology Editor: Stanley F. Fox*; Ecology and Ethology Editor: Christopher M. Taylor*; Book Review Editor (Herpetology): Kentwood D. Wells*; Book Review Editor (Ichthyology): Marlis R. Douglas*; Board of Governors Class of 2009 Herpetology: Michael E. Dorcas, David M. Green, Nathan J. Kley, Charles R. Peterson, Richard J. Wassersug; Board of Governors Class of 2009 Ichthyology: G. David Johnson, John D. McEachran, Kyle R. Piller, Mark H. Sabaj, Kirk Winemiller. The chair of the Nominating Committee is Brooks Burr, and members of the nominating committee are Martin T. O'Connell, Aaron Bauer, and Maureen Kearney.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Under old business, President Gregory announced that we were still looking for a volunteer to serve as the Herpetological Information Coordinator. Since the meetings, President Gregory appointed Eileen Banach to serve a three-year term as the Herpetological Information Coordinator.

President Gregory then called on Steve Beaupre, Chair of the Herpetological Animal Care Committee, who announced that the final version of the new Guidelines for the Use of Amphibians and Reptiles in Research is ready for final comment. The new guidelines will be posted on the ASIH website and will be published as an electronic document through the BioOne initiative for Open Access.

President Gregory announced that we are looking into providing electronic access to *Copeia* for the members. Bruce Collette asked about the BioOne meeting that involved the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee, members of the Executive Committee, a representative from Allen Marketing and Management, and a representative from BioOne. Subscriptions are an important source of revenue but the day is coming when subscriptions to print will end and libraries will move to electronic access. We discussed several scenarios that could benefit our members prior to the end of print. There are at least two ways to deliver an electronic version of the journal to our members. This issue should be resolved in the near future. Secretary Donnelly will contact the membership once this has been resolved.

President Gregory called on Henry Mushinsky to describe the 2005 meeting, which will be convened in Tampa, Florida from 6--11 July. The local committee is working with the ASIH committees and Kansas State University Conference Services. A logo has been developed and the website

(<http://www.dce.ksu.edu/jointmeeting>) is posted. Details are provided elsewhere in this summary. Check the ASIH website (www.asih.org/meetings/meetings.html) for information during the coming months. .

Bob Cashner came forward to describe additional venues. July 12-17 we will meet in New Orleans at the Sheraton Hotel on Canal Street. The meeting is hosted by Bob Cashner at UNO and Hank Bart at Tulane. Trolleys run along St. Charles Ave. to go to City Park. We will publicize family activities. Meetings are scheduled through 2009 as follows: 2007: Cornell University - Ithaca, NY; 2008: Montreal, Canada; 2009: Vancouver, Canada. Bob pointed out that he is contacted regularly by cities and tourist bureaus that want our business.

The Annual Business Meeting was adjourned at 18:25 h.

ANNUAL BANQUET: 31 MAY 2004

The banquet was called to order by emcee David Hillis. He introduced the folks assembled at the head table. Patrick Gregory, Maureen Donnelly, and Margaret Neighbors represented the ASIH. They were joined by the local committee representatives Janalee Caldwell, Laurie Vitt, and representatives from the participating societies (AES, HL, SSAR).

A total of 1,059 registrants were present at the 2004 meeting and 43% of the participants were student members. The registered members represented the United States of America, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Ecuador, Germany, Ghana, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, and United Kingdom.

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

The committee on Graduate Student Participation raised \$4119 during the book raffle and the ASIH will provide a match of \$2000 to bolster the travel award fund.

David presented a wonderful powerpoint presentation that captured some highlights from the meeting following dinner.

David called on Jan Caldwell to present awards for the SSAR, then called on Henry Mushinsky to present the Herpetologists' League awards. David then called on representatives from the ASIH. Bobby Espinoza read the names of Gaige Award winners for 2004 and Mo Donnelly read the names of Raney Award winners for 2004. Matthew Parris then came forward to present the names of the Stoye and Storer judges and 2004 winners. Each winner receives a monetary prize and all available back issues of *Copeia*. The Conservation Committee was chaired by Michael Ghedotti. Erin Muths and Matthew Parris served as judges. The committee gave an Honorable Mention to Kimberly M. Andrews, SREL and University of Georgia for her paper entitled "To cross or not to cross: A behavioral investigation of responses to roads by southeastern snake species." Jason J. Kolbe of Washington University won the Stoye Award in Conservation for his paper entitled "Origin, colonization, and population structure of the invasive lizard *Anolis sagrei*. The Ecology and Ethology Committee was chaired by Christine Bridges.

Nancy Brown, Eric Schultz, and Stan Trauth served as judges. Maria Thaker, won for her presentation entitled “Sensory cues, association preferences and cohabitation patterns of San Marcos salamanders (*Eurycea nana*).” The General Herpetology Committee was chaired by Leslie Rissler; Chris Beachy served as a judge. The committee gave Emily N. Taylor, Arizona State University, an Honorable Mention for her paper entitled “Why are male rattlesnakes larger than females?”. Thomas J. Devitt, University of California, won the Stoye Award in General Herpetology for his paper entitled “Phylogeography of lyresnakes (*Trimorphodon*): Testing biogeographic hypotheses for North and Middle American aridlands.” The General Ichthyology committee was chaired by Tom Munroe. Andrew Kinziger, Karen Martin, and Richard Strauss served as judges. Jacob D. Egge, University of Minnesota, received an Honorable Mention for his paper entitled “Systematics of the Ozark Madtom, *Noturus albatel*, with the description of a new species.” John F. Switzer, St. Louis University, won the Stoye Award in General Ichthyology for his paper entitled “Molecular systematics and phylogeography of the *Etheostoma variatum* species group in the Kanawha/New River drainage.” The Genetics, Development, and Morphology committee was chaired by Rick Mayden and Maureen Kearny served as a judge. Heidie, M. Hornstra, Northern Arizona University, won the Stoye Award for her paper entitled “Gas bladder movement in lionfishes: A novel mechanism for control of pitch?” Frank Burbrink served as the chair of the Storer Award in Herpetology Committee. Raf de Sa and Jim Collins served as judges. Emily N. Taylor, Arizona State University won the Storer Award for her poster entitled “Reproductive ecology of the Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake.” Kathleen Cole chaired the Storer Award in Ichthyology Committee. Carol Stepien and Thomas Orrell served as poster judges. Wasila M. Dahdul, University of Pennsylvania won for the poster entitled “Utility of vertebral morphology and meristic counts for phylogenetic analysis in the Neotropical Serrasalminae (Ostariophysi: Characiformes).”

David then called on Larry Page to present the first Robert K. Johnson Award, David Wake to present the Henry S. Fitch Award, and Hank Bart to present the Robert H. Gibbs Award.

PRESENTATION OF THE ROBERT K. JOHNSON AWARD

Last year at our meeting in Manaus, ASIH decided to honor members of the society who have provided outstanding service to the society. The award has been named the Robert K. Johnson Award in honor of Bob’s exceptional dedication in his service to the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists.

Bob served on many ASIH committees, four terms as a member of the Board of Governors, was Managing Editor of *Copeia*, Secretary, and Chair of the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee. As chair of the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee, he developed a policy and procedures manual for the ASIH that has proved to be an exceptionally useful document. Bob's committee was inspired by his commitment to this task, which codified the activities of ASIH.

The Robert K. Johnson Award is to be given annually to a deserving member of the society at the annual meeting banquet. As this year’s chair of the committee,

it is my pleasure to recognize the first recipient of the award. As you would expect, this year's recipient is someone who has contributed in many ways to the society, through elected and appointed positions, and by being generally helpful in many ways.

This year's awardee has served on numerous committees, has served on the Board of Governors since 1951, served as Managing Editor of *Copeia* 1971-1984 (this is 14 years and represents a huge commitment to the society), and he served as President in 1987. But, perhaps more than all of this, Clark Hubbs is always here at the meetings telling us what he likes and what he doesn't like. In fact, it seems to many of us that Clark has always been a major player in ASIH. The first meeting he clearly remembers (according to the biography of Clark published in *Copeia* in 2000 and written by Dean Hendrickson and Meg Stewart) was the 1934 meeting; Clark was 13. Clark became a life member in 1940 when he was still a college student! ASIH is much the better organization because of his commitment to the society. It is my pleasure to present the first Robert K. Johnson Award to Dr. Clark Hubbs, Regents Professor Emeritus of the University of Texas.

PRESENTATION OF THE HENRY S. FITCH AWARD

The Henry S. Fitch Award honors the herpetological spirit of Henry S. Fitch, a distinguished member of the University of Kansas faculty, for his manifold contributions to our understanding of the systematics, ecology, natural history and conservation of amphibians and reptiles. The award is made by the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) to an individual for long term excellence in the study of amphibian and/or reptile biology, based principally on the quality of the awardee's research, with consideration given to educational and service impacts of the individual's career in the field of herpetology.

A series of eleven distinguished herpetologists were nominated for consideration as the awardee for 2004. We selected an individual who is a wonderful natural historian, a renowned teacher, a stimulating and effective communicator to his scientific peers and the public, and who as a budding herpetologist was deeply influenced by Henry S. Fitch -- Harry W. Greene of Cornell University.

PRESENTATION OF THE ROBERT H. GIBBS AWARD

Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Systematic Ichthyology was established in 1989 in honor of Bob Gibbs, by his family. It is awarded annually to a citizen of the western hemisphere judged by a committee of three to have the most outstanding body of published work in fish systematics. I was assisted with judging this year's nominations by Larry Page and Joe Nelson, both of whom are past Gibbs Award winners. Other past winners include Bruce Collette (the first), Jack Randall, Stan Wietzman, Gary Nelson, Vic Springer, Bob Miller, Reeve Bailey, Bill Gosline, Dan Cohen, Dick Robins, Bill Eschmeyer, Jim Tyler, Larry Page, Joe Nelson, and last year's winner, Dave Johnson.

We had five nominees in this year's competition: C. Leavitt Smith, Royal Suttkus, Ed Wiley, John Lundberg and Ted Pietsch. Considering the outstanding

contributions of this group, I am sure you can understand the difficult job the committee faced in deciding on a winner.

This year's Gibbs Award Winner has published over 100 papers and four books, two of which are in their second editions. His publications include important papers on the systematics of gars, fundulids and other cyprinodontoids, a number of groups of minnows, lampridiformes, acanthuroids, darters and *Latimeria*. He has worked on both fossil and living fishes, conducted studies of gill arch morphology, worked extensively with fish osteology and even introduced a new method of preparing fish skeletons. He has shown the ability to adapt to changes in the methods of systematics, publishing important papers on molecular systematics involving both allozymes and DNA sequence data. He has had made many contributions to general understanding of fishes. Some of his most recent contributions are in the emerging field of biodiversity informatics, involving uses of natural history collection information in ecological modeling.

However, his greatest contributions are in the area of systematics theory, principally phylogenetic systematics and vicariance biogeography. He literally wrote the book on the theory and practice of phylogenetic systematics, with the publication of *Phylogenetics* in 1981. He further championed the cause of phylogenetics with a primer on cladistics published in 1991, numerous book chapters, and papers in *Systematic Biology*. Through these works, he introduced the Hennigian method to a generation of biologists, and based his examples primarily on fishes. His primer, *The Compleat Cladist* has been translated to Japanese and Chinese; *Phylogenetics* has been translated to Japanese. He co-wrote the book *Evolution as Entropy*, which has been published in two editions, and made important theoretical and philosophical contributions on the species question.

Melanie Stiassny called him "a world class systematic ichthyologist, a free-thinking scholar, and an accomplished theoretician; among the major thinkers in the international arena of contemporary evolutionary biology."

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2004 Robert H. Gibbs Jr. Memorial Award for excellence in Systematic Ichthyology to Edward O. Wiley.

David then called on Mo Donnelly to announce the results of the election which were reported elsewhere in this summary. David then called on Linda Ford and David Green to read the Banquet Resolutions.

BANQUET RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ON THE WEATHER.--WHEREAS the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists has held its 84th annual meeting, the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles has held its 47th annual meeting, the Herpetologists' League has held its 62nd annual meeting and the American Elasmobranch Society has held its 20th annual meeting, and

WHEREAS all of these annual meetings were seamlessly integrated and simultaneously held in Oklahoma at the height of tornado season and,

WHEREAS for several days black clouds filled the sky (as much as we could see) and winds whipped across the plains (as much as we could tell), and

WHEREAS several severe weather warnings were issued for the region, and

WHEREAS the barbecue picnic was moved indoors on account of a severe weather warning on Saturday, which hardly qualifies it as a picnic in the strict sense but I suppose we shouldn't complain, and

WHEREAS 91 tornadoes were recorded across the Great Plains of the United States on Saturday night alone, and

WHEREAS severe weather and tornadoes appeared immediately north of Oklahoma City on Saturday night, and

WHEREAS some of us were getting a mite worried about all this atmospheric mayhem and took careful notice of the locations of the severe weather shelters in the bathrooms of the Training Center, and

WHEREAS that could get you a bit concerned over exactly who you were likely to be huddled next to in one of those severe weather shelters in the event a tornado came our way, and

WHEREAS others among us were too busy carousing to give it much notice,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that meetings next year and the year after be held in the southeastern United States during hurricane season.

RESOLUTION ON JOINT MEETINGS.--WHEREAS the joint meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Herpetologists' League and American Elasmobranch Society is now known as the "Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists," and

WHEREAS saying all that still takes a while, and

WHEREAS the acronym J.M.I.H. does not so easily roll off the tongue either,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, i.e. J.M.I.H., shall henceforth be pronounced "Jimmy", as in "Jimmy's in Tampa next year" and "I'm leaving for Jimmy in Montreal", which we reckon would be best spoken for maximum effect by wives to their husbands.

RESOLUTION ON DATA BASES.--WHEREAS Marty O'Connell continued the high tradition of scatology in the Society by contributing a new data quantity measure, the "butt load" to the ecological lexicon, and

WHEREAS "butt load" has thereby joined "Shute load" in the data dictionary,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a repository for ecological data be established in Deep Fin and Linné and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it be called "Big Butt."

RESOLUTION ON SHUTTLE SERVICES.--WHEREAS the NCED, being situated on the very edge of nowhere, does provide shuttle bus service to such hot spots of Norman culture as WalMart, and

WHEREAS these are know locally as "pleasure shuttles,"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we find this whole concept rather amusing.

RESOLUTION ON PUNCTUATION AND SPELLING.--WHEREAS the Herpetologists' League is notable for its trailing plural possessive apostrophe after the "ologists" in their name and,

WHEREAS that apostrophe has gone missing on the cover of the program book and abstract book to be replaced by an "I" with an odd dot,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ASIH finds that kind of funny too, in a pedantic sort of way, and would be eager to lend its sister society some punctuation should they need it and if we have any to spare but,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ASIH should not be smug about this because you'll notice there is an "h" missing from the word "Ichthyologists" on our name tags and we might want to ask Herp League if we could borrow one of those from them sometime.

RESOLUTION ON OKLAHOMA.--WHEREAS we have been gathered here in Oklahoma for nearly a week, and

WHEREAS we have spend virtually all of that time within the walls of the United States Postal Service National Center for Employee Development, and

WHEREAS even when we've ventured outside it has been to go to the Sam Noble Museum in shuttle busses, and

WHEREAS we sure have not seen much, if anything, of Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS we therefore collectively have very little primary information available to us that Oklahoma actually does exist, much less know what it looks like, and

WHEREAS it might be out there anyway, and

WHEREAS it could just be an elaborate hoax, and

WHEREAS I don't know about you but I'm getting a little paranoid about this,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the assembled multitude, just to reassure themselves about where they are, or where they should be, shall hum to themselves the state song of Oklahoma, which is entitled "Oklahoma!" and comes from the musical show, "Oklahoma!", and contains the lyric, "O.K.L.A.H.O.M.A., Oklahoma!"

RESOLUTION ON DOPPELGANGERS.--WHEREAS Phil Pister can be observed in two places in the group photograph, one of those apparitions seated next to President-elect Lynne Parenti and,

WHEREAS at the symposium dinner, B.B. Collette was depicted in duplicate image and the above-named Phil Pister and President-elect Lynne Parenti were again noted to be seated next to each other, this time canoodling about desert pupfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that cases of double vision among ichthyologists are not solely to be related to excess of drink.

RESOLUTION ON IMPECCABLE TIMING.--WHEREAS, it was learned at the Collette banquet, both version A and version B of Bruce B. Collette were in Cuba at the very beginning of the Cuban revolution, and

WHEREAS both versions of Bruce B. Collette were involved with the study of movements of a certain species of *Anolis* before it invaded Florida, with devastating effect, and

WHEREAS those same multiple editions of Bruce B. Collette developed the concepts of ecomorphology and resource partitioning at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that coincident presence of one or more Bruce Collettes at events preceding major disasters be known as the Collette Effect.

RESOLUTION ON DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY - WHEREAS the group photo is a long standing tradition at SSAR/ASIH/HL meetings, and

WHEREAS the 2004 group photo at the Norman meetings is among the best ever taken, in spite of the fact that some persons mysteriously vanished, but Phil Pister mysteriously appeared twice, and

WHEREAS, the 2002 group photo at the sister-midwest Kansas City meetings was among the most optically challenging ever taken,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Janalee Caldwell should give Ed Wiley the name of her optometrist, or at least lend him her glasses.

RESOLUTION ON THE USPS NATIONAL CENTER FOR EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT.--WHEREAS the NCED staff all excelled in providing outstandingly friendly and professional service to all ichthyologists and herpetologists, and

WHEREAS the NCED staff should accept no blame for the Postal Training Center not knowing how much it costs to send a postcard to Canada, and

WHEREAS the NCED provided an abundance of wonderful, even edible, food in the cafeteria, thereby ending unilaterally the Dust Bowl famine and allowing visitors from other countries to return home looking decidedly overfed, and

WHEREAS the NCED is surely not to blame for the incorrect spelling of "Ichthyologists" on our name tags, and

WHEREAS, the NCED evidently kept all those tornadoes away from us,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we extend our eternal gratitude to the staff of the NCED.

RESOLUTION ON BIODIVERSITY.--WHEREAS the President of the United States, no less, estimates that there are a bazillion or more species in the world today, and

WHEREAS, golly, a bazillion sounds like a whole lot,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we appreciate this contribution to our understanding of global biodiversity for what it is.

RESOLUTION ON CANADIAN NATIONAL UNITY.--WHEREAS the mighty Canadian River flows all across the very heart of Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS the good people of Oklahoma are people of generosity and kindness, like Canadians, and

WHEREAS, these good people of Oklahoma prefer to live in peace on a bald and bushless prairie, very much like prairie Canada, and

WHEREAS along with its good people and bushless prairie, Oklahoma has an abundance of oil, hence wealth and fine universities and museums, which reminds us a lot of Alberta,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we plant the Canadian flag in front of the NCED building and annex Oklahoma to Alberta so that they too can enjoy the winning ways of the Calgary Flames on the way to the Stanley Cup!

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Florida should be annexed to Quebec in case the Flames should lose.

RESOLUTION ON TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT.--WHEREAS the number of university degrees held by herpetologists and ichthyologists at this meeting at a minimum exceeds N^2 , where N is the number of meeting participants and the exponent represents one undergraduate and one graduate degree, and

WHEREAS this makes us a highly educated bunch of folks, and

WHEREAS we are all generally familiar both with laser pointers and with the concept of advancing from one slide to the next when giving a talk, and

WHEREAS advancing when what you meant to do was point and pointing when what you meant to do was advance can be a distracting embarrassment, and

WHEREAS nonetheless many among us evidently have encountered difficulty distinguishing between the two technologies when both are present on a single clicker thing,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that henceforth at meetings of the societies there will be provided two clicker things to avoid the evil of excess multitasking.

RESOLUTION ON CHONDRICHTHYIAN BEHAVIOR.--WHEREAS the American Elasmobranch Society members observed all NCED rules and left their clasper weapons of mass destruction outside, and

WHEREAS AES members confined their choice of beer at NCED to two brands, thereby remaining *almost* sober, and

WHEREAS AES members have broken their demolition derby tradition and forsaken their pistol shark-shooting past,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AES be totally exonerated of their 1997 Seattle battles and, indeed, be given credit for future misdemeanors in Tampa to trash that city just as an obscure Alberta hockey team is currently doing to the Tampa Bay Lightning.

RESOLUTION ON THE FURTHERANCE OF SCIENCE.--WHEREAS herpetologists and ichthyologists readily convene over alcoholic beverages (whatever their specific alcohol content) for the purpose of discussing scientific problems, and

WHEREAS getting the bar and lounge to open at noon is clearly a sign of an advanced civilization with a keen appreciation for the value of science, and

WHEREAS we must have solved several noteworthy scientific conundrums this past week as all but one beer tap in the lounge was run dry by Sunday afternoon,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the availability of abundant beer in several varieties prior to noon and for the duration of the meetings would further enhance scientific advancement and contribute to the solving of world crises.

RESOLUTION ON DECORUM AND LIBATIONS.--WHEREAS the ASIH has a proud and longstanding tradition of holding its members to the highest standards of appropriate behavior at our annual meetings, and,

WHEREAS one of the hallmarks of JMIH is in breaking said decorum, as facilitated by the liberal consumption of alcoholic beverages, and

WHEREAS the consumption of bona fide alcoholic beverages at the annual meeting is considered a right that every member of JMIH holds as dearly as an acceptance letter to *Copeia*, and

WHEREAS the restriction of alcohol content in beer by the state of Oklahoma to levels that would be considered safe for children and pregnant women infringes on our right to cast off our inhibitions, and

WHEREAS in the attempt to achieve a buzz, ichthyologists and herpetologists had to drink an average of eight beers per hour, and

WHEREAS this resulted in repeated trips to the restroom/tornado shelter by all members

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the stocking of bars with 3.2 beer and other diluted distilled beverages, suitable only for tea-totaling nuns, be prohibited from future societal events.

RESOLUTION ON PIANKAFICATION.--WHEREAS Eric R. Pianka survived a potentially deadly childhood experience, and

WHEREAS Eric has been a life member of the ASIH since the time he was in high school, thereby saving himself from a lifetime of annual dues, and

WHEREAS Eric has had a profound influence on the science of herpetology- particularly in the area of desert lizard ecology, and

WHEREAS Eric published his first scientific paper in *Herpetologica*, to be followed by over 100 more in various journals, and,

WHEREAS Eric's years in the field have set the standard both for natural history and for ecological studies, resulting in publications that have lain the foundation for research programs that will undoubtedly outlive even his bison farm, and

WHEREAS Eric authored the book "Evolutionary Ecology", now in its 6th edition and soon to be available in 8 languages, and

WHEREAS along with Eric's many books and publications, his web site, including his 10 commandments, open letter to prospective graduate students, and "obituary," should become mandatory reading for all graduate students, and

WHEREAS we who are getting on in years particularly like the one about honoring your predecessors, and

WHEREAS the title of Eric's popular autobiography, *The Lizard Man Speaks*, was changed to mollify the publishers; the result being that the herpetological community is precluded from the opportunity to cite *The Yank Down Under*, a title akin to that of one featuring well-known stars belonging to the adult-film industry, and

WHEREAS Eric was honored at these meetings as Distinguished Herpetologist, and

WHEREAS Eric delivered an emotional and heart-felt keynote address to the JMIH, and

WHEREAS Rick Shine has coined the term “piankification” to describe Dr. Pianka's vast and immeasurable influence on several fields of evolutionary ecology

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the JMIH submit a petition to Merriam-Webster for the inclusion of the word piankification (verb, piankafy), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this term be widely adopted members and used widely in publications.

RESOLUTION ON LONG-TERM STUDIES.--WHEREAS Henry Fitch, at the young age of 94, is in attendance at these meetings and,

WHEREAS Henry presented a talk on his continuing research,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we are all too much in awe to come up with anything more to say.

RESOLUTION ON PROPER IDENTIFICATION.--WHEREAS there is an abundance of exuberantly venomous snakes in Australia, and,

WHEREAS a prominent herpetologist at these meetings has spent his career mucking about with snakes of all kinds in Australia without ever getting dinged, and

WHEREAS we are a long way from Australia, nevertheless, and

WHEREAS there are venomous snakes in Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS Rick Shine is doing fine but will not be joining us for dinner tonight,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we wish Rick Shine a speedy recovery, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in future whenever Rick Shine travels abroad he be equipped with the appropriate field guide to the local snake fauna.

RESOLUTION ON THE ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS.--WHEREAS ichthyologists and herpetologists have changed the way they organize and operate annual meetings, and

WHEREAS the professional leadership, expertise, congeniality, watchful eyes, and unflagging sense of humor provided by our conference planners is key to our success, and

WHEREAS we are now able to offer ichthyologists and herpetologists with a well-planned and organized meeting,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Sharon Brookshire and Jan Hudzicki, and their associates at Kansas State Conference Services.

RESOLUTION ON THE SAM NOBLE OKLAHOMA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.--WHEREAS the ichthyologists and herpetologists appreciate the warm welcome extended by the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History and its director Ellen Censky, and

WHEREAS the state-of-the-art Integrated Pest Management kept us confined to the lobby, we suspect based on some members' reputation for their eating and drinking habits, and

WHEREAS the state-of-the-art Security kept the collection tours to a controllable number, we suspect based on some members' reputation for running amok, and

WHEREAS we truly enjoyed the wonders of Brazil through the photo exhibit and the eye-to-eye view of the *Apadosaurus* via the "dinovator,"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the societies wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful times we have had at the Museum of Natural History.

RESOLUTION ON OUR HOSTS.--WHEREAS the University of Oklahoma hosted the joint meetings of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Herpetologists' League and American Elasmobranch Society (a.k.a. JIMH) at the United States Postal Service National Center for Employee Development and Marriott Conference Center in Norman, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, two social events, including this memorable banquet, were also held at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, and

WHEREAS the efforts of the Local Committee and sponsoring institutions have made this a marvelous, if slightly claustrophobic, meeting, and

WHEREAS, the meeting breaks were provided with soft drinks and coffee to our heart's content, even though there were no goodies to go along with it but that's okay because popcorn *ad libidum* was freely available in the dining hall and lounge, and

WHEREAS excellent papers and posters were presented concerning the study of amphibians, reptiles and fishes, both bony and cartilaginous, and

WHEREAS an atmosphere fostering scientific advancement and camaraderie among old and new friends was created and maintained,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the societies thank the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History and the Department of Zoology of the University of Oklahoma for sponsoring the meeting and,

BE IT FURTHER AND MOST DECIDEDLY RESOLVED that we express our sincerest gratitude to the Local Committee chaired by Janalee Caldwell and consisting also of Charles Carpenter, Vic Hutchison, Edith Marsh-Matthews, William Matthews, Laurie Vitt, Ellen Censky, Richard Broughton, Sara Cartwright, Amy

Estep, and a host of University of Oklahoma students in ichthyology and herpetology.

To conclude the banquet, David Hillis called Henry Mushinsky to the podium. Henry invited all of us to Tampa for 2005. We look forward to seeing you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen A. Donnelly
ASIH Secretary