

SUMMARY OF THE MEETINGS

Copeia 2008, No. 1, 248–257

The 87th annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH) was held at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri from 11–16 July 2007, in conjunction with the 23rd annual meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society (AES), the 65th annual meeting of the Herpetologists' League (HL), the 50th annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles (SSAR), and the annual meeting of the Neotropical Ichthyological Association (NIA). Rick Mayden served as the chair of the local committee.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING: 11 JULY 2007

President Mayden called the meeting of the Board of Governors to order at 17:09 h; 56 governors and 28 guests were in attendance. Secretary Donnelly conveyed messages of regret from Governors James Atz, Robert Cashner, Frances Cashner, Michael Dorcas, Carter Gilbert, David Greenfield, Patrick Gregory, Fred Janzen, Susan Jewett, David Kizirian, John McEachran, James Orr, Joseph Pechmann, Frank Pezold, Tod Reeder, Richard Rosenblatt, Jay Savage, W.B. Scott, Tom Turner, and Karen Warkentin.

Secretary Donnelly announced the passing of Marcus DiBernardo, Michael Rankin, Marinus Boeseman, Margaret Stewart, J. Alan Holman, Bruce A. Thompson, Jose Cei, Hymen Marx, and Pat Courtenay. Frances Cashner passed away on the morning of 13 July 2007 and George Barlow passed away on 14 July 2007. We also learned that William Pyburn passed away in 2007.

President Mayden called for approval of the minutes from the 2006 Board of Governors meeting as published in *Copeia* 2006(4):843–850. A motion was made to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded, and passed unanimously.

President Mayden announced that Joe Nelson is the chair of the 2007 resolutions committee. Karsten Hartel, David Hillis, and Rick Feeny are members of the committee.

President Mayden announced that Marty O'Connell and Henry Mushinsky are the co-chairs of the 2007 Student Awards Committee. The names of judges will be announced during the banquet.

President Mayden called on Secretary Donnelly to describe future meeting sites. In 2008, the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists will be held in Montreal, Canada (23–28 July). The 2009 meeting will be held in Portland, Oregon, the 2010 meeting will be held in Providence, Rhode Island, and the 2011 meeting will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Secretary Donnelly told interested parties to contact Bob Cashner if they were interested in hosting an annual meeting. President Mayden described his experience as the local host to be simplified because of the efforts of the Kansas State University Conference Services group and the Meeting Planning and Management Committees.

President Mayden asked Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting that was held

earlier in the day. The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by President Mayden at 9:13 am. First, EXEC discussed the dues and subscription rates for *Copeia* and determined that we needed to develop a dues structure that reflects the costs associated with the production of the journal as well as environmental costs. We actually have a cost structure for regular members that reflects this because one can join ASIH as a regular member for \$50.00 and this provides members access to the electronic version of the journal through our silo site. Regular members that pay \$85.00 get electronic access as well as paper. Treasurer Neighbors moved the following dues structure for 2008, the motion was seconded by Secretary Donnelly and the motion passed unanimously:

Regular Members (ejournal):	\$50.00
Regular Members (ejournal + paper):	\$85.00
Student Members (ejournal):	\$40.00
Student Members (ejournal + paper):	\$75.00
Sustaining Members (ejournal):	\$100.00
Sustaining Members (ejournal + paper):	\$135.00
Life Members (ejournal + paper = 25*85):	\$2125.00
Subscribers (ejournal):	\$135.00
Subscribers (both):	\$170.00

Second, EXEC reviewed the report submitted by the ad hoc committee appointed by President Mayden to review *Copeia*. The committee recommends several changes to the journal. President-Elect Mushinsky moved to accept the report submitted by the committee, Past-President Frost seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Endowment and Finance Committee chair Mel Warren moved that the changes in *Copeia* format be implemented for 2008, Mushinsky seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Third, President Mayden introduced four representatives from Allen Press: Shelby Rogers, Mike Joseph, Annielaurie Seifert, and Derek Gates to describe the type of services that Allen Press would provide if we enter into an agreement with Allen Press to cooperatively publish the journal *Copeia* which is currently published by the ASIH. The Allen Press representatives described how the venture would work, how ASIH cash flows would change, and they fielded a variety of questions from members of EXEC concerning the way this partnership would function. It would streamline the interface between the Editor and Allen Press, it would provide ASIH with marketing efforts, and the ASIH would continue to hold the copyright for materials published in the journal. Once we have a firm proposal from Allen Press, it will be presented to the BOG for approval by an email vote.

Fourth, EXEC discussed the issue of advertising in *Copeia*. Mushinsky moved to suspend implementation of advertisements in *Copeia*, President Mayden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Fifth, Governor Mark Peterson asked EXEC to consider lower meeting registration costs for emeritus members and

EXEC determined that it needed a solid proposal to move forward with this request.

Sixth, EXEC received a request to consider reprinting the Ahlstrom volume concerning larval fishes and President Mayden will charge the Special Publications Committee with consideration of this request.

Seventh, Warren showed figures that document steep declines across every category of membership and is concerned that we may disappear as a society if these declines continue. If we decide to co-publish the journal with Allen Press, some of the marketing issues would be addressed and this may help reduce the loss of membership.

Eighth, Treasurer Neighbors described a service wherein non-members using JSTOR can purchase articles for a price and ASIH would receive two-thirds of the costs and one-third would return to JSTOR. Donnelly moved and Frost seconded the motion to engage this JSTOR service. The motion carried unanimously.

Ninth, President Mayden will form two committees to replace the foreign members that recently passed away. One committee will nominate an Honorary Foreign Member in Ichthyology and the second will nominate the Honorary Foreign Member in Herpetology.

Tenth, EXEC voted unanimously to decline the offer from the Thompson Gale group to distribute electronic versions of our publications.

Eleventh, EXEC discussed the need for a Conflict-of-Interest Statement to comply with tax regulations for non-profit organizations. Prior Past President Parenti modified the language used by the AIBS for our purposes. Secretary Donnelly will distribute the conflict-of-interest statement to the members of the BOG and will compile the "signed" forms annually for the society. The 2007 statement will be sent out following the meeting; the 2008 statement will be sent out in January, 2008.

Twelfth, Warren presented the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Awards. Mushinsky moved acceptance of the report; Warren seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Thirteenth, Secretary Donnelly described a request for funds to help support an oral history project. Treasurer Neighbors moved that we decline the request, Mushinsky seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 13:43 h.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

President Mayden asked Secretary Donnelly to distribute three late reports: the Fitch Award Committee Report, the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Awards, and the report from the Ad Hoc Committee on *Copeia*. After late reports were distributed, President Mayden indicated that EXEC exempted the report from AIBS/BioOne and the three late reports, he then asked the Governors if they wanted to exempt additional reports. Governor Bruce Collette asked to exempt the reports from the Editor and the Editorial Policy Committee meeting and Governor H. J. Walker asked to correct the report from the Ichthyological and Herpetological Collections Committee. It was moved and seconded that all non-exempted reports be accepted and the motion passed unanimously. Governor Collette wanted to ask Editor Schaefer about changes made to a diagnosis in a paper and Governor Warren pointed out that this query was not related to the report as presented. Governor Collette then asked to reinstate the listing of honorary foreign

members on the inside pages of *Copeia*. President Mayden informed him that the proposed changes to the journal would allow for this listing. Governor Walker pointed out that the newsletter is the Curation Newsletter (listed as the Curatorial Newsletter in the report) and that the committee was able to obtain commitments (instead of committees) for \$1500 to support a workshop. Discussion turned to the reports exempted by the Executive Committee, and President Mayden called on Al Savitzky, the representative to AIBS and BioOne to describe the action items in his report. The first action item was for ASIH to join COPUS and the Year of Science and Governor Savitzky presented this as a motion that was seconded and passed unanimously. Governor Savitzky then turned to the action item described in the BioOne report and Treasurer Neighbors pointed out that the ASIH is enrolled in the secondary rights program and that our silo site provides individual members with access to *Copeia* so that the individual access provided through BioOne is not needed.

President Mayden then called on Governor Mel Warren to describe the awards proposed by the ad hoc committee on awards. Warren described how the members of the committee felt that presentations of awards that honor the contributions of ASIH members would be attractive and would help retain or increase membership. An awards committee would be appointed annually by the president to present the following awards: Excellence in Education Award, Excellence in Public Outreach Award, Conservation Award, Outstanding Book Award, and Outstanding Scholar Award and that individuals would be nominated or could be self-nominated for consideration. Governors posed a variety of questions including duration of the nomination, criteria for excellence, how the awards would result in increased membership, and how these awards would retain the young members of the society. Governor Warren and President Mayden fielded questions from the floor. Following the discussion, President Mayden moved acceptance of the exempted reports except for the report on *Copeia*, the motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

President Mayden then called on Governor Linda Trueb to come forward and describe the recommendations for *Copeia*. Governor Trueb used a powerpoint presentation that first described the Editorial Changes which include the elimination of the current sections (Ecology & Ethology, General Herpetology, General Ichthyology, Genetics, Development & Morphology, Physiology and Physiological Ecology) so that the Editor could appoint Associate Editors as needed to manage the work flow. The Editor would be elected to a three-year term that could be extended on an annual basis. Associate Editors would be appointed for three-year terms that could be renewed by the Editor. The committee also recommends that the Editor's meeting costs be covered by the society and that the registration costs for the Associate Editors also be covered by the society.

Governor Trueb then described the proposed format changes that would actually save the society money. Following the presentation, Governor Hanken asked when the changes would take place and President Mayden replied that the changes could be instituted in 2008. Governor Pietsch wondered if the proposed color scheme would pose a problem for matching to color photographs on the cover. Governor Trueb assured the board that the colors would work and that the new paper would hold color well. Governor David Green wondered if there were concerns

about an “imperial editor” appointing so many associate editors and asked about editorial oversight. President Mayden responded that the Executive Committee would provide the oversight for the Editorial Office. Governor Walker asked about the elimination of the Shorter Contributions and Secretary Donnelly responded by saying that the designation would disappear and that paper length would not affect consideration for publication in the journal. Governor Buth objected to the fact that Associate Editors would be appointed rather than elected and Governor Trueb pointed out that most societies have appointed editors. Governor Mushinsky then moved acceptance of the report, the motion was seconded and the motion carried.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTIONS

President Mayden then called for approval of the ballot for the general election and the ballot for the Board of Governor elections. It was moved to accept both ballots, the motion was seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The ballots for the Fitch, Gibbs, and Johnson committees were distributed, the governors voted. Lara Ferry-Graham was elected to a three-year term on the Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award Committee, Maureen Kearney was elected to a three-year term on the Henry S. Fitch Award Committee, and Margaret A. Neighbors was elected to a three-year term on the Robert K. Johnson Award Committee. All new members will serve as chairs of the committees in 2010.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

President Mayden turned to items of Old Business, hearing none, he turned to New Business and Governor Hanken described the Biodiversity Heritage Library Project and invited scientists to submit their materials to be scanned as part of the project. President Mayden introduced the representatives from Allen Press. Governor Johnson asked the Program Planners to include the date, place, and type of presentation for the abstracts next year; Governor Helfman reminded the governors that his book on Fish Conservation can be purchased for a discount during the meetings.

President Mayden called for additional New Business, hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn. The meeting of the Board of Governors adjourned at 18:53 h.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING: 15 JULY 2007

President Mayden called the Annual Business Meeting of the ASIH to order at 18:01 h in Regency Ballroom C. He then called for approval of the minutes as published in *Copeia* 2006(4):843–850. A motion to approve the minutes as published was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. President Mayden then asked Secretary Donnelly to read the minutes of the Board of Governors meeting that was held on 11 July 2007. After the reading of the minutes, it was moved to approve them, the motion was seconded, and it carried unanimously.

President Mayden then called on Frank McCormick, chair of the Conservation Committee, to come forward to read the substantive resolutions coming from his committee. Five of the six motions came from AES; these were unanimously approved. The sixth resolution, was a joint

resolution with the herpetological societies. It also was unanimously accepted.

President Mayden then called on Joe Nelson, chair of the Resolutions Committee to come forward to read the substantive resolutions from his committee. All resolutions were accepted by acclamation by the assembled members of the society.

SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION FOR THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC SPINY DOGFISH.—WHEREAS mature female spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) in the Northwest Atlantic are depleted and recruitment failure has persisted for most of the last decade, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has implemented a federal Atlantic spiny dogfish fishery management plan (FMP) to end targeted fishing and rebuild the reproductive biomass over roughly twenty years, and

WHEREAS over the last year the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) raised dogfish fishing limits far above those in place in federal waters to allow for targeted fishing on remaining mature female dogfish, and

WHEREAS excessive state trip limits, now at five times the levels advised by scientists, led to a 50% overage in the last federal spiny dogfish quota, and

WHEREAS fishermen have taken 42% of the current federal Atlantic spiny dogfish quota since the fishery opened in May (compared to 8% at this time last year) and are therefore poised for a substantial quota overage this year, and

WHEREAS excessive limits in state waters undermine state and federal dogfish recovery efforts as well as negotiations for cooperative management with Canada,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the National Marine Fisheries Service to immediately close federal waters to spiny dogfish fishing until ASMFC and individual state dogfish limits are lowered to scientifically advised levels.

RESOLUTION FOR EUROPEAN SHARK CONSERVATION.—WHEREAS eight years after the adoption of the FAO International Plan of Action (IPOA) for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, the European Union has yet to develop a Community Action Plan for Sharks as pledged under the IPOA, and

WHEREAS in September 2006 the European Parliament called on the European Commission to strengthen its shark finning ban and develop an EU shark management plan by June 2007, and

WHEREAS the EU finning regulation allows shark fins and carcasses to be landed in separate ports under the highest fin-to-carcass ratio in the world, thereby seriously undermining the ban’s effectiveness, and

WHEREAS shark scientists at a 2006 technical workshop reviewed the available data regarding the EU finning ban and associated shark fisheries, and recommended improving the effectiveness of the finning ban by replacing the ratio with a requirement to land sharks with fins attached, and

WHEREAS EU, Canadian, and US vessels often fish the same populations of highly migratory North Atlantic sharks, and

WHEREAS EU Member States include major shark fishing nations, contribute significantly to global trade in shark

fins, and support fishing vessels that operate all over the world,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the European Union develop a Community Plan of Action for sharks that includes science-based catch limits and requires that sharks be landed with fins attached.

RESOLUTION FOR SHARKS AT ICCAT.—WHEREAS the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) is capable of instituting restrictions on catches of Atlantic pelagic sharks, and

WHEREAS the International Council for Exploration of the Sea (ICES) has recommended zero catch from the Northeast Atlantic Porbeagle Shark population as well as measures to reduce bycatch, and

WHEREAS Canadian scientists have concluded that the Northwest Atlantic porbeagle population has declined to 12–15% of former levels and will require a century or more to recover from overfishing, and

WHEREAS many Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) rejected a proposal to limit trade in porbeagle sharks based on a position that the responsibility for porbeagle conservation lies with ICCAT, and

WHEREAS ICCAT scientists have concluded that measures to reduce fishing mortality on North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks are necessary to improve the status of this population, and

WHEREAS shark scientists at a 2006 technical workshop examining shark fin removal issues concluded that requiring sharks be landed with their fins attached is the most effective method to ban finning and also improves species specific data collection, vital for assessments,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges parties to ICCAT to adopt a binding recommendation in 2007 to require that sharks be landed with their fins attached, all porbeagle sharks be carefully released, and fishing mortality on North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks be reduced.

RESOLUTION FOR ATLANTIC SANDBAR AND PORBEAGLE SHARKS.—WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is currently considering measures to rebuild NW Atlantic sandbar and porbeagle sharks under Amendment 2 to the Consolidated Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species, and

WHEREAS the most recent, NMFS peer-reviewed stock assessment for Northwest Atlantic sandbar sharks (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*) reveals that the population is overfished, experiencing overfishing, and will require as many as 70 years to recover from depletion, and

WHEREAS Canadian scientists have determined that the Northwest Atlantic Porbeagle (*Lamna nasus*) shark population has declined to 12–15% of former levels and will require a century or more to recover, and

WHEREAS commercial and recreational fishing is still allowed on these depleted porbeagle and sandbar shark populations,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists urges the National Marine Fisheries Service to proceed with proposals to impose moratoria on fishing for Atlantic sandbar and porbeagle

sharks under the Amendment 2 to the Consolidated Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species.

RESOLUTION FOR NORTHWEST ATLANTIC SKATES.—WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has determined that several additional stocks of Western North Atlantic skates are overfished, thereby mandating amendment of the 2003 skate fishery management plan (FMP), and

WHEREAS the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Shark Specialist Group has proposed Northwest Atlantic thorny skates (*Amblyraja radiata*) as threatened with extinction, and

WHEREAS the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reports that thorny skate biomass has not increased despite a 2003 prohibition on landings, and

WHEREAS NMFS reports a decline of nearly 50% in winter skate (*Leucoraja ocellata*) biomass since FMP implementation and predicts that little skates (*Leucoraja erinacea*) and smooth skates (*Malacoraja senta*) will soon become overfished, and

WHEREAS poor identification and insufficient monitoring continue to hamper collection of sorely needed species-specific data on skate catches, and

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

WHEREAS the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) set a quota for thorny skate in 2004 that exceeded scientific advice, but may be reviewed at the 2007 annual meeting of NAFO,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists requests the National Marine Fisheries Service ensure that the amendment to the Atlantic skate management plan includes science-based limits on catch, bycatch reduction requirements, and measures to improve species specific data collection, and further urge NMFS to propose a reduction in the NAFO skate quota to no more than the level advised by the NAFO Scientific Council.

RESOLUTION FOR THE AMPHIBIAN CONSERVATION ACTION PLAN.—WHEREAS the herpetological and conservation communities acknowledge that amphibian declines and extinctions are real, and that the threat of extinction is apparent for at least a third of the more than 6,000 known species of amphibians as revealed by the Global Amphibian Assessment (GAA) by the IUCN (Stuart et al., 2004), and

WHEREAS the GAA, identified habitat loss and degradation, over-harvesting, climate change and disease as the principal causes of threat, and

WHEREAS the Amphibian Conservation Summit met in September 2005 in Washington, D.C., to determine appropriate responses to this ongoing loss of biological diversity, and

WHEREAS this group produced the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan (ACAP, 2007) under the aegis of the Amphibian Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission/IUCN, with the help of host organization Conservation International, and

WHEREAS the implementation of the ACAP will require extraordinary funding and the worldwide cooperation of many parties to conduct research in habitat loss, disease, ecotoxicology, and climate change, and

WHEREAS implementation of the Plan requires continuing coordination and facilitation incorporating many diverse fields through the SSC/IUCN Amphibian Specialist Group (www.amphibians.org) and the proposed Amphibian Survival Alliance, and

WHEREAS one aspect of the Plan is an emergency-response program to secure species immediately threatened with local or global extirpation by establishing captive populations of threatened species in biosecure quarters, in physical proximity to the natural ranges of the species, and

WHEREAS this program is being developed and implemented by The Amphibian Ark (www.amphibianark.org) and its sponsoring groups (the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, the Amphibian Specialist Group of SSC/IUCN, and the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums), and

WHEREAS the need to maintain 500 or more species in large enough numbers for ample representation of the metapopulation genetics of those species demands new ways of controlling or mitigating the effects of climate change, emerging, infectious disease, habitat loss, and other global threats in the wild, and

WHEREAS our ignorance about the basic biology and ecology of many amphibian species is a major handicap in protecting wild and captive populations, and

WHEREAS the training of many people in the necessary conservation and research techniques, calls for the involvement of many colleagues in universities, government agencies, and NGOs in providing information, expertise, training, and encouragement,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Herpetologists League, and Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles jointly endorse the Amphibian Conservation Action Plan and support its implementation under the aegis of the Amphibian Specialist Group of SSC/IUCN and offer our support in mounting a conservation response to this unparalleled challenge faced by an entire class of vertebrates, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we endorse the formation of the Amphibian Survival Alliance and encourage our individual members to assist the endeavors of the Amphibian Survival Alliance and the Amphibian Ark to prevent further extinctions.

RESOLUTION FOR STANLEY F. FOX.—WHEREAS Stanley F. Fox has served three years as Section Editor for Ecology and Ethology, and

WHEREAS Stan put his own research projects aside while he helped our members improve their manuscripts, and

WHEREAS this dedicated service is essential for the production of *Copeia*,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ASIH extends its thanks to Stan for his generous service as Sectional Editor for Ecology and Ethology.

RESOLUTION FOR OUR SENIOR MEMBERS.—WHEREAS ASIH has many long-standing members, some over 90 years old, such as Jimmy Atz (90), Reeve Bailey (96), Henry Fitch (97), Bob Stebbins (93), Bev Scott (90), and Will Tanner (100) who could not attend this meeting, and

WHEREAS other hard-working members, officers or former officers, who would certainly have been here but could not because of personal or health reasons,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ASIH expresses its best wishes to them and looks forward to their continued input into our Society and into the science of Ichthyology and Herpetology.

Following the reading of this resolution, Governor Clark Hubbs was recognized for his contributions to our meetings. Clark attended his first ASIH meeting in 1929!

RESOLUTION FOR FRANCES M. CASHNER.—WHEREAS members of the ASIH and the attendees of the joint meetings in St. Louis, were deeply saddened by news of the death of Dr. Frances Miller Cashner on 13 July 2007, and

WHEREAS Fran, who was the daughter of Frances Hubbs Miller and Robert Rush Miller and a granddaughter of Laura Clarke Hubbs and Carl Leavitt Hubbs, was fully integrated into ASIH by the time she was a teenager, and

WHEREAS Fran served the ASIH in many ways: as member, as local host, and as Index Editor of *Copeia*,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the ASIH express their deepest sympathy to Bob Cashner, and daughters Molly, Emily, and Christie, and a granddaughter, and to the entire Cashner, Miller, and Hubbs families.

PRESENTATION OF GAIGE AND RANEY AWARDS

President Mayden called on Secretary Donnelly to read the names of the Gaige Award winners for 2007. The 2007 Gaige Committee was chaired by Adam Summers. Rita Mehta and Taran Grant served as members of the committee; Rita Mehta will chair the committee in 2008. The 2007 Gaige Award Committee selected ten outstanding awardees from a pool of 56 very competitive applications. The proposals were judged on scientific merit, need, and letters of recommendation. The 2007 recipients of Gaige Awards are:

Bhart-Anjan S. Bhullar, University of Texas: Rare taxa, fossils, and the diversification of the clades Xenosauridae and Anguillidae; **Brittney Calsbeek**, University of Vermont: Testing the influence of parasites on phenotypic variation in a polymorphic lizard; **Karen M. Benyo**, Washington State University: Local adaptation of an emerging infectious disease implicated in amphibian declines; **Krista Parsley Coquia**, California Polytechnic Institute, San Luis Obispo: Hormonal determinants of sexual size dimorphism in the yellow-backed spiny lizard, *Sceloporus uniformis*; **Emily A. Gardner**, Washington State University: Variation in larval amphibian life history traits (turned the award back); **John Peterson**, Auburn University: Effects of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* on several anurans in southeastern North America; **Heather Cunningham**, University of Alabama: Testing assumptions of ecological niche models: Comparisons of relative fitness and condition of populations across high and low probability of occurrence areas; **Matthew L. Niemiller**, University of Tennessee: Hybridization in the dark: linking habitat disturbance to gene flow between an obligate cave-dwelling salamander and its surface relative; **Rachel M. Goodman**, University of Tennessee: Do geographic patterns of cell size and body size in an ectothermic vertebrate reflect latitudinal and climatic gradients?

Casey A. Gilman, University of New Mexico: Changes in cardiopulmonary physiology during gravidity in the oviparous lizard *Crotophytus collaris*.

President Mayden then called on W. Leo Smith to present the 2007 Raney Awards. The 2008 committee was chaired by Kent Carpenter. Tim Targett and Leo Smith served as

members of the committee; Tim Targett will chair the committee in 2008. The committee received 34 applications with many excellent proposals worthy of support. The committee had \$5,000 to award. In most years, previous committees awarded \$1,000 to the top five applicants. This year we had three clear top candidates and five applicants tied for fourth and fifth place. We decided to re-evaluate these five applicants and rank them again in order to choose the top two of the five. Among the top candidates was one candidate who previously received the Raney Award. The committee determined that there was no clear guidelines about repeat Raney award recipients and therefore did not penalize the candidate. However, there was a general consensus that the spirit of the Raney Fund would be better served if a restriction was made, and recommend that the wording in the announcement be changed so that candidates can receive only one Raney award. The top five from the 2007 deliberations are listed below in alphabetical order: **Yvette R. Alva**, Ph.D. student, University of California, Santa Cruz: Molecular evolution, larval ecology, historical biogeography, and geology to estimate levels of gene flow among five species of reef fish endemic to the Tropical Eastern Pacific; **Mollie F. Cashner**, Ph.D. student, Tulane University: Explorations in nest association: characterization of spawning communities using restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP); **Jayne M. Gardiner**, M.A. student, University of South Florida: Multisensory integration in prey tracking and capture in sharks; **Donovan P. German**, Ph.D. student, University of Florida: Gut function in loriciariid catfishes with different diets: implications for lignocellulose digestion among a clade of grazing fishes; **Stuart Willis**, Ph.D. student, University of Nebraska-Lincoln: Cryptic speciation and morphological evolution in Neotropical fishes.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Mayden then moved to the election of ASIH officers including President-Elect, sectional editors, new members of the Board of Governors (Class of 2012), the Nominating Committee Chair, and members of the Nominating Committee. The slate of nominees as provided by the Nominating Committee and the BOG are posted on the website. The ballots were distributed to the members by the election facilitators (Alessandro Catenazzi, Vivian Macca-chero, Ralph Saporito, Rocky Parker, and Nick Osman) and President Mayden called for any additional nominations from the floor, hearing none he called for a motion to close nominations. It was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed. The ballots were collected and tallied by the facilitators.

Results of the elections were announced at the banquet and are listed here (an asterisk [*] denotes re-election of an incumbent officer): President-Elect: John L. Lundberg; Secretary: Maureen A. Donnelly*; Treasurer: Margaret A. Neighbors*; Editor: Scott A. Schaefer*; Index Co-Editor: Frances M. Cashner*; Index Co-Editor: James W. Orr*; Ecology and Ethology Sectional Editor: Gregory J. Haenel; Ecology and Ethology Sectional Editor: Jacqueline D. Litzgus; Ecology and Ethology Sectional Editor: Sharon E. Wise; Ecology and Ethology Sectional Editor: Joel M. Snodgrass*; General Herpetology Sectional Editor: Michael J. Lannoo*; General Herpetology Sectional Editor: Tod W. Reeder*; General Herpetology Sectional Editor: David Kizirian; General Ichthyology Sectional Editor: Donald G. Buth*;

General Ichthyology Sectional Editor: Carl J. Ferraris, Jr.*; Genetics Development and Morphology Sectional Editor: Joseph M. Quattro*; Genetics Development and Morphology Sectional Editor: Jacqueline F. Webb*; Physiology and Physiological Ecology Sectional Editor: Eric T. Schultz*; Physiology and Physiological Ecology Sectional Editor: Robert T. Mason*; Chair of the Nominating Committee: Stanley F. Fox; Nominating Committee Members: Karsten Hartel, Tim Berra, and Charles Peterson. The new members of the Board of Governors Class of 2012 are: Herpetology: Chris Beechy, Bill Cooper, Taran Grant, Karen Lips, and Rick Relyea; Ichthyology: Kassie Cole, Carol Johnston, Roberto Reis, Peter Wainwright, and Mark Westneat.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

President Mayden then called for items of Old Business. Kassie Cole asked if life memberships could still be paid in four installments and President Mayden told her that arrangement was still available for the membership. Under New Business, Richard Vogt announced that the World Congress of Herpetology would be held in Manaus, Brazil at the Hotel Tropical, the venue for the 2003 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, in 2008 (17–22 August; <http://www.worldcongressofherpetology.org/>). COPA is the airline of the meeting and it flies directly to Manaus from Panama City, and is a partner with Continental Airlines.

Hearing no other new business President Mayden reminded the members that we have meetings scheduled through 2011 as follows: 2008: Montreal, Canada (23–28 July); 2009: Portland, Oregon (22–27 July); 2010: Providence, Rhode Island (7–12 July); 2011: Minneapolis, Minnesota (6–11 July). President Mayden then called on David M. Green to give a presentation on the Montreal meeting in 2008. David presented a slide show promoting the Montreal meeting and invited us in French and English to join him in Canada in 2008.

President Mayden then called for a motion to adjourn, which was made, seconded and the meeting adjourned at 19:03 h.

ANNUAL BANQUET: 17 JULY 2006

Emcee Larry Page called the Banquet to order at 19:00 h. He introduced the persons seated at the head table. The AES was represented by Cami McCandless (Secretary) and Julie Neer (Treasurer); the ASIH was represented by President Richard Mayden, his son Kyle Mayden, Treasurer Margaret Neighbors and Secretary Maureen Donnelly; the HL was represented by President Linda Ford and President-Elect David Cundall; President Roy McDiarmid, Secretary Marion Preest, and Treasurer Kirsten Nicholson represented the SSAR. Larry invited all the attendees to enjoy their dinner and reconvened the banquet proceedings following the meal.

When Emcee Page took the podium following dinner he thanked Sharon Brookshire and the entire staff of the Kansas State University Conference Services for an excellent job at running the 2007 meeting. He then wished Jack Musick well in his retirement. Larry welcomed the diversity found at the 2007 meeting which included the AES, the SSAR, the HL, ASIH, the Neotropical Ichthyological Association, and the North American Native Fishes Association (NANFA). He then told a joke about a cow, a family, and a mermaid.

Larry announced that the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists hosted 1,068 attendees and 50% of those

were students. The attendees represented 25 countries (Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Guyana, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela).

Larry called on the Past-Presidents of all the assembled societies to stand and be recognized. He then asked persons to stand according to their ages after hearing the resolution, honoring our senior members, during the business meeting. Larry looked around the audience and acknowledged the important contributions made by our senior members and remarked on the value of the Historical Perspectives series that appears in *Copeia*.

Larry then turned to the awards portion of the program. He first announced that the ASIH Graduate Student Participation Committee earned \$3192 during the 2007 Book Raffle. The student members that organized the raffle, Lara Douglas and James Van Dyke, were assisted by an army of student volunteers. The ASIH will match the funds to build the Student Travel Award fund for future meetings. Larry called on Mo Donnelly to come forward to present a Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing Ecology and Ethology Editor Stanley Fox. He then called on Frederick Zaidan to present the best student papers for the Southeastern Division of the ASIH. Joe Gerken won for his paper entitled "Habitat Use of the Grotto Sculpin (*Cottus carolinae*) A Troglitic Fish Species in Perry County, Missouri." Chris Winne won for his paper entitled "Are Black Swamp Snakes (*Seminatrix pygaea*) Income or Capital Breeders? Experimental Evidence Using Stable Isotopes to Unravel the Timing of Reproductive Allocation."

PRESENTATION OF STOYE AND STORER AWARDS

Larry then called on Marty O'Connell, co-chair of the Student Awards Committee for 2007, to present the Stoye and Storer awards. Marty co-chaired the STAC with President-Elect Henry Mushinsky. Marty and Henry worked with 33 judges in 2007. Each Stoye and Storer awardee received a certificate and a \$250 cash prize. Carol Stepien chaired the committee that judged papers for the Stoye Award in Ichthyology. The judges included Peter Berendzen, Prosanta Chakrabarty, Philip Harris, and J. Andres López. The winner of the 2007 Stoye Award in General Ichthyology was **Michael Tobler**, University of Oklahoma for his talk entitled "Ecological Differentiation and Reproductive Isolation along Environmental Gradients in *Poecilia mexicana* (Poeciliidae, Teleostei)." Robert Aldridge (Chair), Russ Burke, Cliff Fontenot, and Sue Parker judged papers for the Stoye Award in General Herpetology. **Jeanne Robertson**, Cornell University, won the 2007 Stoye Award in General Herpetology for her talk entitled "Geographic Diversity: Pattern and Processes." Marlis Douglas (Chair), Nicholas Lang, and Carol Spencer served as judges for the Stoye award papers in Genetics, Development and Morphology. **John Peterson**, Auburn University, won the Stoye Award in Genetics, Development, and Morphology for his talk entitled "Growth and Developmental Effects of Coal Combustion Residues on Southern Leopard Frog (*Rana sphenoccephala*) Tadpoles Exposed Throughout Metamorphosis. Tiffany Doan (Chair), Mark Belk, Lynne Houck, Steve Johnson, Ken Longenecker, Mark Mills, and Steve Walsh judged several papers in the Ecology and Ethology competition. The 2007 Stoye Award for Ecology and Ethology was

awarded to **Jayne M. Gardiner**, University of South Florida, for her talk entitled "Blind fish suck: Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) Switch Feeding Modalities in Response to Sensory Deprivation." Gad Perry (Chair), Emily Taylor, and Richard King judged the papers in the Conservation category. The winner of the Stoye Award in Conservation was **Angela M. Picco**, Arizona State University, for her talk entitled "Strain Variation of Ranaviruses in the Tiger Salamander Bait Trade." Richard Lehtinen (Chair), Rafe Brown, Bruce Kingsbury, Brad Shaffer, and Mark Waters judged the posters in Herpetology. The winner of the Storer Award in Herpetology was **Karen Kiemnec**, Oregon State University, for her poster entitled "The Diversity of Pheromone Receptors in the Vomeronasal Organ of *Plethodon* Salamanders." Donald Stewart (Chair), Ginny Adams, Valerie Barko, Terry Grande, Eric Hilton, and Brian Sidlauskas judged the posters in Ichthyology. The winner of the 2007 Storer Award in Ichthyology was **Christa M. Woodley**, University of California Davis, for her poster entitled "The Swim Performance of Sacramento Perch (*Archoplites interruptus*): Temperature and Ontogenetic Effects."

BANQUET RESOLUTIONS

Larry then called on Joe Nelson, Chair of the 2007 Resolutions committee to come forward to read the banquet resolutions:

RESOLUTION FOR THE 2007 JOINT MEETING.—WHEREAS the Local Hosts: Rick Mayden, Nevin Aspinwall, Robert Aldridge, Jason Knouft, and Robert Wood assisted and advised in all manners of things, especially the fabulous City Museum, and

WHEREAS Swank AV was committed to supporting JMIH members, and kept the Power Point gremlins at bay, and

WHEREAS the Hyatt Regency St. Louis guest services and banquet staff provided prompt and courteous response to every request made, and

WHEREAS the K-State team, Sharon Brookshire, Heide McBride, Derek Larson, Erin Moore, Rebecca Frakes, Cara Davis, and Candace Hufford, **once again**, made the meetings work,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASIH thank them all for their hard work and service to the Society.

RESOLUTION FOR THE 2007 MEETING VENUE.—WHEREAS in 1936, the late Marlin Perkins, Curator of Reptiles at the St. Louis Zoo, invited the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists to hold its annual meeting in St. Louis the following year, and

WHEREAS this Society, for various reasons chose not to meet in St. Louis in 1937, and

WHEREAS the Society, through its secretary, M. Graham Netting, expressed its view that a meeting should be held in St. Louis in the "not too distant future," and

WHEREAS the "not to distant future" turned out to be 70 years later,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASIH conveys the news to Mr. Perkins, wherever he may be, that his kind offer was finally accepted.

RESOLUTION FOR PAST-PRESIDENT DARREL FROST.—WHEREAS past ASIH President Darrel Frost presented his

presidential sermon on the Evils of Paraphyly, Polyphyly, and Phenetics, and

WHEREAS Darrel is recognized around the world as an expert on evils of all kinds, and

WHEREAS Darrel admonished us all to avoid these evils, and to seek the one true path to enlightenment of monophyly, and

WHEREAS “herpetology” and “ichthyology” are each defined as the scientific study of known evil paraphyletic groups, and

WHEREAS “Americans” are an even more evil POLYPHYLETIC group, and

WHEREAS “Society” is obviously a phenotypic concept,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that from this point on, Darrel be required to list on his CV that he served not as President of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, but rather as the president of “An Informal Group of Vertebrate Biologists who Exclude as Members those who Study Birds and Mammals, Not Because Those Groups Aren’t More Closely Related to the Groups We Care About, But Just Because We Can.”

RESOLUTION FOR PRESIDENT RICK MAYDEN.—WHEREAS at past joint meetings highly placed “dignitaries” have welcomed joint attendees to the Plenary Session, and

WHEREAS at this meeting **only** the Chair of the local Committee/ and President of ASIH opened the Plenary Session,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Professor/ Doctor Rick Mayden be appointed under a grand and auspicious title of the “Unique Greeter and Welcoming Poobah” for all future ASIH meetings.

RESOLUTION FOR SECRETARY MAUREEN DONNELLY.—WHEREAS during the BOG meeting, Secretary Donnelly’s desktop was projected on the screen, and

WHEREAS during that time many folders and files of a possibly personal nature were projected,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ASIH purchase a copy of “Computer Security for Dummies” to save the BOG from having to annually anticipate seeing her files.

RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY MUSEUM RECEPTION.—WHEREAS The reception at the City Museum was one of the greatest receptions in recent memory, and

WHEREAS curators, past-Presidents, professors, and university students alike were seen clambering through wire tubes and laughing like children whizzing down scary slides in the dark, and

WHEREAS it was a good recommendation to wear long pants, especially for the older guys, and

WHEREAS the combination of a wire tube 50 feet in the air, a collection manager, and a generous mixed drink in a fancy glass, makes for one hell of a time,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all future ASIH receptions include some form of wire tube, scary slide, old-building façade, gargoyle, and most importantly, a working kiddie train.

RESOLUTION FOR HARRY GREENE.—WHEREAS Harry Greene is a respected and longstanding member of the herpetological community, and

WHEREAS Harry is one of the most popular speakers at our annual meeting, and

WHEREAS at the end of his stimulating presentation on the relationship between primates and snakes Harry shared two provocative natural history observations he made while in Brazil, and

WHEREAS one of those natural history observations was of a Brazilian frog resting on the back of capybara (the world’s largest rodent), and

WHEREAS Harry interpreted his observation as the frog “grooming” the capybara—much to the amusement of the audience members, and

WHEREAS participants of JMIH often engage in vigorous discussion and genial debate long into the wee morning hours night after night, and

WHEREAS such activities often preclude opportunities for bathing and other forms of personal grooming,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that at future JMIH meetings all participants be provided a “Brazilian grooming frog” with their registration packet to aid them with personal hygiene.

RESOLUTION FOR THE 2008 MEETING INVITATION.—WHEREAS David Green gave two intriguing presentations, in two languages, in his overview of Montreal for ASIH 2008, and

WHEREAS ASIH attendees should be at least slightly bilingual to fully enjoy this wonderful city,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we look forward to 2008 but note that ASIH members attending the Montreal meetings should never be heard to say “Je ne parle pas français.”

PRESENTATION OF THE ROBERT K. JOHNSON AWARD

Larry Page then called on Frank McCormick to present the Robert K. Johnson Award on behalf of Harvey Lillywhite, the committee chair.

“In 2004, the ASIH created the Robert K. Johnson Award to recognize members who perform exceptional service for the ASIH and exemplified Bob Johnson’s legacy. 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 Society that guides the work of the volunteers who govern it. We continue to benefit from Bob’s inspired leadership and the efforts of that committee. The 2007 Robert K. Johnson Committee was chaired by Harvey Lillywhite with members Brian Crother and Frank McCormick.

Previous recipients of this award, Clark Hubbs, Margaret Stewart, and Carter Gilbert, are emblematic of the lofty standard of service set by the man for whom the award is named. This year’s recipient continues that tradition. This year we have chosen to honor a very active member of ASIH. A past president of the Society, he served on the Executive Committee for eight years. He also chaired the Long Range Planning and Policy Committee and its predecessor (Long Range Planning and Finance), and serves as the ASIH representative to several other professional societies. He has served on the Board of Governors, the Nominating Committee, the Henry S. Fitch Award Committee, and committees that I did not even know we had. He is an active and integral member of the Conservation Committee. His

work with the American Institute of Biological Sciences and BioOne has been instrumental in helping the ASIH maintain its health during the transition of *Copeia* from a paper journal format to an electronic journal.

This distinguished record of service is accompanied by an equally distinguished record of scientific accomplishment. He has published over 25 papers and a long, long list of contributed and invited presentations. He has a deep appreciation for multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary activities and a sincere interest in his fellow scientists at all stages of their careers. He has supervised or served on the committees of 45 post-doctoral, doctoral and masters students, though given his dedication to advancing the study of herpetology and his commitment to service in his professional societies, we are sure that he has encouraged and mentored many, many more. We are pleased to honor our colleague, mentor and friend, **Alan H. Savitzky.**"

PRESENTATION OF THE HENRY S. FITCH AWARD

Larry then called on Al Savitzky to present the 2007 Henry S. Fitch Award.

"This year's committee consisted of Harold Voris, Brad Shaffer, and Julian Lee, Chair. None of those individuals could be here tonight, and as the previous Chair I was asked to present the award for 2007. The opportunity is both a professional and a personal pleasure, as the recipient is someone whose work I have admired for many years and whose research has informed my own in critical ways.

The Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology was established to honor the accomplishments of the esteemed ecologist and natural historian Henry Fitch, whose diverse research activities over more than 60 years have included signal contributions in the fields of behavioral ecology, reproductive biology, and community ecology. Henry has had a special talent for gaining novel insights from familiar organisms, opening our eyes to complex relationships not previously appreciated. As noted in a motion passed at yesterday's ASIH business meeting, Henry continues to be active as a field biologist, scholar, and valued colleague.

This year's recipient of the Henry S. Fitch Award shares those attributes, notably the ability to gain novel insights from familiar phenomena and common taxa. Edmund D. Brodie, Jr. is a native of the Pacific Northwest, where he first trained to become secondary school teacher. Fortunately for us, he soon returned to academia to pursue graduate studies under Robert Storm of Oregon State University, a noted authority on the salamanders of that region. Butch Brodie's interests soon focused on the defensive behavior of amphibians, especially salamanders, including the use of toxic skin secretions in deterring predators. Butch combined field observations with elegant laboratory experiments to demonstrate the hidden complexities of amphibian defenses. Along the way he discovered many other behavioral novelties, including the fact that hedgehogs anoint themselves with toad toxins to enhance their defense against predators, an observation that resulted in his first publication in *Nature*. Indeed, Butch's roughly 150 peer-reviewed publications have included several in *Nature*, as well as *Science*, *Evolution*, and all three North American herpetological journals, and he has written or edited five books. In addition to his work on amphibian defensive behavior, Butch has published on subjects as diverse as food hoarding

behavior in shrews, palatability of holothurians, and the systematics of Middle American amphibians and reptiles.

Most recently, Butch has been involved in elucidating the coevolutionary interactions between highly toxic newts and the gartersnakes that prey upon them. Those studies, which have resulted in over 20 publications, constitute perhaps the most extensively documented example of a predator-prey arms race, which Butch has studied on scales ranging from the molecular to the organismal to the continental. Conducted largely in collaboration with his son, Edmund D. Brodie III, those studies also have involved many of the more than 30 master's students and eight doctoral students Butch has advised during his career. I must also acknowledge that his work on chemical defenses has inspired others, including me, to enter that field.

In addition to his research and educational contributions, Butch has rendered service as a department chair at several universities, and as President of the Herpetologists' League.

For his many contributions to our understanding of the behavior, ecology, and evolution of amphibians and reptiles, and for his extensive service to his students, colleagues, and the field of herpetology, the Committee presents the 2007 Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology to **Edmund D. Brodie, Jr.**"

PRESENTATION OF THE ROBERT H. GIBBS, JR. AWARD

Larry then called on Ted Pietsch to come forward to present the 2007 Robert H. Gibbs, Jr. Memorial Award.

The Robert H. Gibbs Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in Systematic Ichthyology is presented by the ASIH to a citizen of a Western Hemisphere nation for "an outstanding body of published work in systematic ichthyology." The award was established in 1988 to honor the memory of Bob Gibbs who was an active member of ASIH for over 30 years. He served four terms on the Board of Governors and was treasurer from 1967–1972. He served also on many of the Society's committees, as well as on the editorial board of *Copeia*. In 1988, he was nominated as a Distinguished Fellow, and was elected posthumously. The Gibbs Award for excellence in systematic ichthyology, made possible by a gift from his wife, Frigga, was established by the Society following Bob's untimely death in 1988, just short of his 59th birthday. The award is offered annually and consists of a plaque and a cash prize. This year's award committee consisted of David Greenfield, serving as chairperson; Carter Gilbert; and me as the most junior member of the group. Unfortunately, Carter and David couldn't be here, Carter for reasons of ill health, and David who is off with his wife Terry on a cruise in the Aegean.

This year's Gibbs award winner is a world-class leader in studies of comparative morphology and evolutionary relationships of actinopterygian fishes. In particular, her research on basal fossil and Recent teleosts has been fundamental to our understanding of the origin and early evolution of this largest group of vertebrates. Her morphological analyses are paradigms of careful description and synthesis. Combined with modern methods of phylogenetic analysis, her detailed studies have provided new insights into early teleost evolution, leading the path to a better understanding of homologies and relationships of both fossil and living groups. Along the way, she has done fundamental studies on the morphology of the actinopterygian caudal skeleton, vertebral column, and suspensorium. Although perhaps best known for her work on fossil actinopterygians and relationships of higher groups, she

has also made many substantial contributions to the systematics of catfishes, including fundamental work on the more basal members of this diverse clade. The results of her career are summarized in over 100 peer-reviewed publications, and chapters in six books she edited. She is a frequently invited national and international speaker, recently giving the plenary talk for the European Congress of Ichthyology. In addition to her many scientific contributions, she is well known for her gracious personality, good

sense of humor, and forthright nature. Everyone, please join me in congratulating **Dr. Gloria Arratia**.

Larry then called on David Green. David extended an invitation to all to come to Montreal in 2008. The banquet adjourned at 21:10 h.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen A. Donnelly
ASIH Secretary