## American Arachnological Society Minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina 14 June 2010

- President Rosemary Gillespie called the meeting to order at 15:04 edst. She welcomed everyone and encouraged their participation.
- A movement to waive reading and accept the minutes from the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual AAS Business Meeting, held at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, AR 29 June, 2010 was seconded and approved.

## Reports

- The membership report was given by Membership Secretary **Jeff Shultz**. He reported there are 495 Individual members (522 in 2008), and that almost all losses were students, with a 'churn' of ~70 members. There are 19 sponsored members. The Society is looking for more sponsors. All new sponsored members receive electronic copies of JOA. There are ~90 institutional memberships, which is a stable number. The report was approved by the membership.
- Secretary Alan Cady gave the Treasurer's report in the absence of Treasurer Karen Cangialosi. It was reported that the Society's financial situation is steady since last year (~\$135K; \$49K for SNAIM). We are getting about \$21K from BioOne & JSTOR. These revenues are expected to increase in the future. We have received >\$3K to add to the \$45K donated towards the artwork for the Field Guide to spiders. The report was approved by the membership.
- Jim Carrel, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Arachnology (JOA), reported there were a record number of submissions in 2009, and this increase is expected to continue. Most papers are published in less than 12 months after submission to editor **Morse** (was previously up to 2 yrs). They are preparing for the Congress issue, thus extra reviewers will be needed, especially help for English editing since 50%-60% of the submissions do not have English as their first language. He mentioned that it is a requirement of JOA to help authors with English. The report was approved by the membership.
- President Gillespie reported on future meeting sites. We meet at Lewis & Clark College in 2011 hosted by Greta Binford & Susan Masta, the 2012 meeting will be at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay hosted by Mike Draney & Frank Pascoe. The 2013 meeting is at East Tennessee State University in 2013 as guests of Tom Jones, and we meet in 2014 at Ohio State University-Newark hosted by Andy Roberts & Rich Bradley. Brian Patrick tentatively will host the meeting in 2015. President-Elect Jon Coddington is attempting to secure meeting sites to 2016.
- Secretary Cady reported on the 2010 AAS officer election. James Harwood is the newest Director, replacing Matt Persons. Alan Cady remains as Secretary. They will assume their duties in September 2010.
- Secretary **Cady** gave the report on the Spiders of North America: An Identification Manual (SNAIM) in the absence of Past-President **Paula Cushing**. Sales are still good. Since the Tree-Of-Life is in stasis, the Executive Committee has decided to proceed with revisions. The timeline, costs, and quality of materials are being investigated for a revision versus addenda. Also, the possibility of a digital version is being discussed.
- Director **Matt Persons** reported there were 13 applicants for travel awards (many more than last year). Retiree or emeritus applicants do not compete with students. Emeriti and retirees do not have to give a presentation to be eligible. Coordination will be sought with the ISA during Congress years.
- Secretary **Cady** gave the Archivist's report in the absence of Archivist **Lenny Vincent**. **Bea Vogel** is preparing an exhaustive history of the Society with the support of the Society. It has been suggested that AAS archives may be deposited at the Smithsonian, and that records might be digitized.
- All those assembled expressed gratitude to the AAS officers and their service to the Society with their applause.

## **Old Business**

- James Harwood, Chair of the Marketing Committee, reported the AAS website receives the most hits after publication of JOA, and that the photographic archives are very popular too. Data collection and compilation about AAS website use continues. A Wikipedia listing for AAS is being developed. James asks for advance notification of publications so they may be properly publicized.
- Executive Committee student representative **Dustin Wilgers** reported the AAS listserve is working well (109 subscribers), new subscribers are encouraged. The graduate student listserve is not as popular. A testimonial from the floor attested to its usefulness. There are 40 members on the AAS Facebook page.

## **New Business**

- President Gillespie requested a moment of silent reflection for R.W. Mitchell, Joe Beatty, Marica Peck, Bob Breene, and Jim Carico. All news of deaths should be forwarded to Jim Carrel to determine family wishes for the obituaries. The Secretary will send notifications to the Membership.
- President Gillespie announced a bequest from the Pecks of \$40K. It may be used to start a research endowment. Jim Carrel will work with Jim Berry to decide on the deposition of books from the estate of Joe Beatty.
- The Executive Committee is forming new policies concerning meeting finances (up-front money for the host; excess money going into a Meeting Fund). The 'Vetter Manual' (developed by **Rick Vetter**) has been very helpful to hosts for planning meetings over the years.
- President **Gillespie** reported that the fire at the museum in Butantan did not destroy all of the arachnid collection. The Executive Committee sent a letter of support to help prevent its closure.
- Linden Higgins suggested from the floor that members be given the opportunity to opt-out of delivery of paper copies of JOA. There already is a discount on electronic memberships. Jim Carrel stated that significant savings could be realized by not sending paper copies abroad. It was suggested that a minimum number of copies need to be printed by Allen Press. The Executive Committee will discuss issue this with the Editorial staff.
- Reading of a proclamation of appreciation for the meeting host **Jason Bond** and his staff was waived but stipulated to be entered into the Minutes and read at the upcoming Banquet. As eloquently read at the Banquet by Parliamentarian **Don Cameron**: "Let it be resolved that **Jason Bond**, aided by his very able crew, has brought-off a very successful 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Arachnological Society at East Carolina University. It is true that the success of the meeting is due to the very high quality of the papers and posters and those presenting them. The meeting has supported Society goals to communicate new research and foster networking and cooperation among Society members. The Society and participants of the 34<sup>th</sup> AAS meeting thank **Jason Bond** and his staff and express our deep gratitude for a fine meeting."
- A motion to adjourn was forwarded by George Uetz. The motion was approved by acclimation.
- The Business Meeting was adjourned at 16:07 edst.

Respectfully Submitted, Alan Cady Secretary – American Arachnological Society