



The American Fisheries Society Genetics Section Newsletter

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President's Message

I'd like to begin by thanking Meredith Bartron for her work as section President these last two years. Meredith set a high bar and much was accomplished during her tenure including a retooling and improvement of the section's website, improvements to the section's list serve and induction of the inaugural class of the Hall of Excellence, to name a few.



Dr. Jeffrey Olsen, AFSGS president.

She helped advance the profile of Genetics Section within AFS through active participation on the Governing Board and routine communications with AFS staff. Thanks Meredith!

Speaking of the website, we've added a new Gallery page that is intended to show some of the genetic work by section members (thanks Kristen and Andrew). I encourage you to check it out (<http://genetics.fisheries.org/gallery/>) and send photo's with brief descriptions to Kristen Gruenthal (kristen.gruenthal@noaa.gov) for inclusion in the Gallery. This is a great way to highlight the variety of uses of genetic data in fishery management and conservation.

It was great to see genetics and the Genetics Section so well represented at the AFS annual meeting in Québec City this year. Many section members contributed to and attended two great symposia on genomics and eDNA. Thanks to those who organized these symposia. Equally encouraging was the number of genetics-themed talks and posters by section members in other symposia and the poster session. *continued on page 2*

President's Message

Continued from page 1 . The variety of presentations this year clearly demonstrated the many applications of genetic/genomic data in management and conservation and the increasing reliance on genetic/genomic methods by biologists and fishery managers. Our annual business meeting, as always, was highlighted by recognizing our award recipients. This year, in addition to recognizing the recipients of the Stevan Phelps and James E Wright awards we introduced the inaugural class of the Genetics Section Hall of Excellence. You can see and read about this year's Hall of Excellence class as well as the award recipients on our website. Please see the meeting minutes by section Secretary/Treasurer (now president-elect) Wendylee Stott to catch up on all that was discussed. A couple points regarding membership. First, thank you to Helen Neville (hneville@tu.org) who volunteered to chair the membership committee. Please contact Helen if you have any questions or suggestions about recruiting new members. Second, as suggested by membership during the business meeting, we increased the regular member fee to \$10/year. The student fee remains at \$5 and the affiliate member fee remains at \$15. We also added a Life member option for \$200. More details regarding membership are available on our web site. Please consider renewing your membership for 2015 as the dues provide funds for student travel through awards like the Wright award for travel to the annual meeting.

Finally, it's not too early to begin thinking about next year's annual meeting in Portland (<http://2015.fisheries.org/>). I hope you will consider organizing a symposium (Contact Wendylee Stott, wstott@usgs.gov). Symposium proposals are due January 16, 2015.

-Jeffrey Olsen

AFS Annual Meeting Summary



Dr. Wendylee-Stott, president elect of AFSGS

Québec City hosted another successful annual meeting August 17-21. Dr. Louis Bernatchez started us off with an interesting discussion about the importance of balancing utilitarian and basic research in fisheries. The Genetics Section was well represented in symposia and contributed paper sessions. There were

two multi-day symposia that covered topics in eDNA and genomics for fisheries. Both symposia were well attended by researchers using these methods and by the biologists and managers interested in learning more about them. Talks and posters covered a broad range of species and generated good discussion within the sessions, during the breaks, and on into the great social events that were offered during the week. From eels, to Big Data, to larval fish, the Section is doing and sharing interesting and relevant work.

Cartoon

A BIOLOGIST, A CHEMIST, AND
A STATISTICIAN ARE OUT HUNTING.
THE BIOLOGIST SHOOTS AT A DEER
AND MISSES 5FT TO THE LEFT, THE
CHEMIST TAKES A SHOT AND MISSES
5FT TO THE RIGHT, THE STATISTICIAN
YELLS "WE GOT 'EM!"



Meet the awardees



Stevan Phelps Memorial Best Paper Award

HELEN NEVILLE AND LOUIS BERNATCHEZ



Helen Neville

I and my co-author Louis Bernatchez were greatly appreciative of the recommendation of our paper “Coding gene single nucleotide polymorphism population genetics of non-native brook trout: the ghost of introductions past” (TAFS 142: 1215–1231) for the Stevan Phelps Memorial Award for best genetics paper published in an AFS

journal. As a scientist for Trout Unlimited, a particularly satisfying aspect of this award is that it is intended to continue the vision of Stevan Phelps in encouraging genetic science that is directly applicable to management. Understanding how the long history of mixed-origin hatchery stocking contributes to genetic patterns and the potential invasiveness of introduced species is something I think merits a greater emphasis in the fisheries world, and we hope our paper has helped to encourage further work in this arena. On other fronts, it was a particularly satisfying project to work on because of the tremendous amount of encouragement and help that many people provided along the way – this was a truly ‘organic’ collaborative enterprise! My interest in the subject stemmed initially from work on European green crab invasions in eastern North America (Roman 2006, Proc. R. Soc. B 273: 2453–2459; Roman and Darling 2007, TREE 22: 454–464) and various conversations related to brook trout invasion in the west with Bruce Rieman, Kurt Fausch, Jason Dunham and Mike Young. The late Jim Sedell of the National Fish and Wildlife

Foundation wrangled funding for the laboratory work because he appreciated the need for a better understanding of genetic contributions to the successful establishment of non-native fish. The fact that we had no identified funding for field collection did not hinder the 10 different people/groups who collected brook trout samples for us, even from hatchery populations representing source stocks sent to Idaho over 100 years ago. Many others contributed to piecing together the history of brook trout introductions in Idaho, commenting on the manuscript, and helping with laboratory work and analyses (found in the paper acknowledgements). This paper just barely scratched the surface, in looking simply at patterns of neutral genetic variation in this non-native species, but we hope it will serve as a useful foundation for future work that delves more deeply into genetic characteristics related to successful invasion in fish.

James E. Wright Graduate Award

RYAN WAPLES



Ryan Waples receives his award from Meredith Bartron during the annual AFS meeting.

Robert L. Kendall Best Paper in TAFS

ANDREA DRAUCH SCHREIER

I was very humbled to receive the Robert Kendall award this year for my paper "Patterns of population structure vary across the range of white sturgeon."

In this article, co-authored by Brian

Mahardja and Bernie May, we described population structure in three different drainages containing spawning populations of white sturgeon. Previous studies of population structure of white sturgeon were limited in scope or used markers with low power to detect fine scale differentiation. The major goal of this study was simply to determine how many white sturgeon populations existed in the three drainages supporting spawning: the Sacramento-San Joaquin system in California, the Columbia-Snake system in the Pacific Northwest, and the Fraser River in British Columbia Canada.

We found that all three drainages exhibited different patterns of gene flow among spawning sites. In California, we found that all individuals sampled in the San Francisco estuary, where adults congregate to feed, belonged to a single population, despite the fact that spawning occurs in both major rivers systems draining into the estuary, the Sacramento and San Joaquin. This suggests either significant gene flow between the two rivers or reproductive failure in the San Joaquin, which harbors a smaller spawning run. We found isolation by distance in the Columbia-Snake system with our data supporting a downstream oriented population in the Lower Columbia River and an upstream oriented population associated with the Middle Snake River. Despite their ubiquity on the Columbia-Snake, impoundments seemed to have little effect on population structure, likely due to their recent construction relative to the long generation time of white sturgeon (20+ years). We referenced a previous publication describing population structure in the Fraser River (Drauch



Andrea Drauch Schreier

Schreier et al. 2012 CJAFS), where we showed white sturgeon movement over a geological feature presumed to be a migration barrier for the species. We also identified significant genetic divergence between white sturgeon in the Middle Fraser and Nechako River, a tributary to the Fraser, in the absence of barriers or great geographic distance. These variable results suggested that the scale of spawning site fidelity in white sturgeon is drainage specific. This research was done using dominant microsatellite data due to the polyploid nature of the white sturgeon genome and in the future, I'd like to develop co-dominant SNPs for white sturgeon to improve the power of population structure analyses. I'm also very interested in using SNPs to study marine migrations of white sturgeon to non-natal estuary habitat, particularly the Puget Sound where a non-listed American population (Lower Columbia) likely mixes with a listed Canadian population (Lower Fraser). I recently accepted an adjunct assistant professor position at the University of California Davis and I'll be recruiting graduate students over the next few years to work on sturgeon genetics projects. I encourage prospective students interested in polyploid population genetics and spontaneous autopolyploidy to contact me regarding research opportunities in my lab (amdrauch@ucdavis.edu).

Coastwide Salmon Genetics Meeting Travel Award



Wes Larson receives his award from Jeff Olsen during the annual AFS meeting.

Inaugural Class of the Genetics Section Hall of Excellence



Dr. Fred W. Allendorf

Dr. Fred W. Allendorf is widely recognized as a visionary leader who has played a major role, over almost four decades, integrating evolutionary principles into fishery conservation and management. Fred joined the University of Montana in 1976 where he taught both introductory and advanced courses in biology and evolution to multiple generations of students. His commitment to teaching and mentoring students as well as doing applied and cutting-edge research have made Fred one of the most influential and respected conservation geneticists of his generation. Although he has wide-ranging interests and has published important work on many different taxa, Fred's enduring passion has been for salmonid fishes. Fred's foundational contributions to our understanding of evolutionary ecology of salmon and trout laid the groundwork for many practical applications in conservation and management. Relevant topics include population structure, management of captive populations, hybridization, life history evolution, natural selection, and fishery-induced evolution. While these contributions are many and profound, Fred's greatest legacy is the many students, postdoctoral scholars, and others he has mentored and advised that have become outstanding and influential scientists in their own right.



Dr. John C. Avise

Dr. John Avise is a highly regarded evolutionary geneticist, a conservation ecologist and natural historian. His foundational work in the field of phylogeography, he coined the term in 1987, began a new field of study that examines the principles and historical processes governing the geographic distribution of genetic variation among populations and species. Three decades of phylogeographic studies of aquatic species, including work by John and his students in the southeastern United States, have revealed many important insights into the historical factors influencing colonization, migration, and patterns of gene flow in marine and freshwater species. These studies often have provided the foundation for practical applications in conservation and management. Another exemplary contribution of John's research involved studies of the genetic parentage and mating systems of fishes and poikilothermic vertebrates in general. He has written or edited 26 books and published over 340 peer reviewed research papers, often with an emphasis on freshwater and marine systems and species. John's enduring legacy is equally evident in the many PhD and postdoctoral scholars he has mentored who have gone on to make outstanding contributions in the field of aquatic evolutionary biology, conservation, and management.

Inaugural Class of the Genetics Section Hall of Excellence



Dr. Fred M. Utter

Dr. Fred M. Utter was a pioneer in the development of genetic methods for the study of natural populations and a visionary in his early advocacy of the critical importance of genetic information for managing fish populations. Considered one of the founding fathers of fishery genetics, Fred began his career at the NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center fishery genetics laboratory in 1959. He became the head of the laboratory in 1969 and led the genetics group until he retired from NOAA in 1988. In "retirement" Fred has remained active in the field of fisheries genetics as an adjunct professor at the University of Washington, co-editor of the Transactions of the American Fisheries Society for 18 years, past president of the Genetics Section, and many other related activities. Through his career Fred has mentored numerous graduate students, many of whom now occupy positions of leadership in the field. He has authored over 150 scientific publications, co-edited the influential book Population Genetics and Fishery Management, and has been a strong advocate and catalyst for getting research published by students and junior scientists.



Dr. James W. Wright

Dr. James E. Wright was one of the founders of fish genetics research and education in North America. The work of Jim and his students combined classical chromosome studies with allozyme inheritance and helped shape our understanding of the salmonid genome. His work is relevant today in the era of genomics as researchers continue to study genomics and transmission genetics in polyploidy salmonid fishes. A native of Deepstep, Georgia, he joined Pennsylvania State University in 1949 to teach and conduct research on fish and corn genetics. Often with support from National Science Foundation grants, Jim made important and unexpected discoveries about differences in inheritance patterns between male and female trout. During his career, he served as president and vice president of the American Genetic Association, as a National Institutes of Health committee member and as a consultant geneticist to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Pennsylvania Fish Commission. He retired in 1983 and continued research on salmon, trout and char as a Penn State professor emeritus of genetics.



Calendar

DECEMBER 2014

2nd *Registration closed.* Online early registration closes. SICB annual meeting.

JANUARY 2015

3rd-7th *Meeting.* Annual SICB meeting. West Palm Beach, FL.

6th *Symposia proposals due.* American Fisheries Society. Portland, Oregon.

15th-17th *Meeting.* Texas Chapter Annual Meeting. Tyler, Texas.

26th-30th *Meeting.* 7TH Freshwater, Fish, and the Future. Rome, Italy.

FEBRUARY 2015

8th *Abstracts due.* Oral presentations. SMBE annual meeting.

16th-19th *Meeting.* WA-BC Chapter Annual Meeting. Richmond, BC, Canada.

17th-19th *Meeting.* Florida Chapter 35th Meeting. Ocala, FL.

19th-22nd *Meeting.* Aquaculture America 2015. New Orleans, LA.

24th-26th *Meeting.* Wisconsin Chapter AFS Annual Meeting. Eau Claire, WI.

24th-27th *Meeting.* Montana Chapter AFS Annual Meeting. Great Falls, MT.

28th *Abstracts due.* The International Symposium on Genetics in Aquaculture (ISGA) XII. Santiago de Compostela University, Spain.

MARCH 2015

1st *Registration closed.* Early bird registration closed for SMBE annual meeting.

29th *Abstracts due.* Poster presentation. Annual SMBE meeting.

JUNE 2015

21st *Registration closed.* Online registration. Annual SMBE meeting.

JUNE 2015

21st-27th *Meeting.* The International Symposium on Genetics in Aquaculture XII. Santiago de Compostela University, Spain.

22nd-24th *Meeting.* Fish Passage 2015-International conference on river connectivity best practices and innovations. Groningen, the Netherlands.

JULY 2015

12th-16th *Meeting.* Annual SMBE Meeting. Hofburg Palace, Vienna, Austria.

15th-19th *Meeting.* ASIH Annual Meeting. Reno, NV.

AUGUST 2015

16th-20th *Meeting.* National American Fisheries Society. Portland, Oregon.

NOVEMBER 2015

8th -12th *Meeting.* 23rd Biennial CERF conference: Grand Challenges in Coastal & Estuarine Science: Securing Our Future. Portland, OR.

Courses

Recent Advances in Conservation Genetics

12th – 21st January 2015

Rincon of the Seas Hotel, Rincon, Puerto Rico

The American Genetics Association in conjunction with the University of Puerto Rico is presenting a 10 day intensive course directed by Dr. Stephen J. O'Brien, and taught by renowned scientists in methods, interpretation, and applications of molecular genetic and genomic analyses for conservation of endangered species. Application deadline is 15 Sept 2014. Information about the course, participating faculty, venue, and applications can be found at: <http://congen2015.com/>

Jobs

Graduate positions

Graduate Studies in Integrative Biology. The University of Miami's Department of Biology is seeking outstanding graduate students in integrative biology. **Application deadline:** December 1, 2014 for the 2014-2015 academic year. **Salary:** All PhD students are guaranteed 5 years of financial support and tuition waiver. Current sources of support include: university and college fellowships, HHMI/NIH fellowships, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden fellowships, and research & teaching assistantships.

Position summary: Our department's research strengths and foci include Neuroscience & Behavior, Development & Disease, Tropical Biology, and Ecology & Evolutionary Biology. Our graduate program promotes an interdisciplinary training in the biological sciences, that takes advantage of our diverse faculty, proximity to the Neotropics and strong partnerships with other departments and institutions. Our partner institutions and departments include the Departments of Mathematics, Physics, Computer Science and Psychology, as well as the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Miller School of Medicine, Rosenstiel School for Marine & Atmospheric Sciences, and the Abess Center for Environmental Science & Policy. Shared facilities available in the department include tissue culture, imaging, isotope, molecular core and zebrafish facilities. **To apply:** please visit: <http://www.as.miami.edu/biology/> For additional information contact Al Uy, Graduate Program Director at uy@bio.miami.edu

M.S./Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship. The Fisheries Oceanography and Ecology Lab (Department of Coastal Sciences) is seeking a motivated student to fill a M.S.-level Graduate Assistantship position; exceptional candidates may be considered for the Ph.D. program of study. The position is funded by a grant from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative and will be available starting Fall 2015.. **Application deadline:** January 9, 2015. **Salary:** \$19,200 per year. **Project summary:** The student will investigate some aspect of larval fish ecology (e.g., vertical behaviors,

trophic interactions) related to river-dominated coastal ecosystems in the northern Gulf of Mexico. All research will be conducted at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Ocean Springs, Mississippi (<http://www.usm.edu/gcrl/>). **Qualifications:** B.S degree in biology, marine science, oceanography, fisheries, or related field; strong writing and quantitative skills; willingness to work in both field and laboratory settings. **To apply:** To be considered for the position, please email a letter of interest, current CV, unofficial transcripts, GRE scores, and contact information for three references to frank.hernandez@usm.edu.

M.S. Graduate Research Assistantship. The Oklahoma State University, OK Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, seeks a master's student. **Application deadline:** Until filled. **Salary:** \$15,600 per year plus benefits and tuition waiver. **Position summary:** The goal of this project is to assess the invasion extent of Asian swamp eels in the Chattahoochee River near Atlanta, GA. The successful applicant will sample for eels with leaf-litter traps via wading and canoe, extract otoliths and analyze constituent elements for potential location-specific identification, and collect water samples for eDNA analysis. Anticipated start date is January 2015. **Qualifications:** BS degree in biology, fisheries, ecology, or related field. Applicant must be highly motivated with a strong work ethic and able to work independently and in a team setting in/around water during hot, humid summers. Experience with fish otoliths, elemental composition analysis (e.g., laser ablation ICPMS), and basic genetic analysis skills preferred. **To apply:** Send cover letter, CV, copies of transcripts, GRE scores, and names/contact info of 3 references to Jim Long; longjm@okstate.edu

Postdoc positions

Postdoc position in Conservation Genetics. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Center for Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Aquatic Sciences seeks a postdoctoral research position for a one-year appointment with potential to renew based on performance. *Continued on page 9*

Jobs continued

Continued from page 8. **Application**

deadline: November 15, 2014 or until suitable candidate is found.. **Salary:** \$40,000 per year plus benefits. **Position summary:** Assist in ongoing research projects on genetics of fishes including sharks and sturgeon. Help supervise graduate and undergraduate students and assist in laboratory maintenance. Conduct your own research projects. Some funds for lab supplies will be available. **Qualifications:** Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in biology, genetics, fisheries, aquatic ecology, marine biology, or a related discipline. Applicants must have experience in modern molecular genetic tools (e.g. PCR, DNA sequencing, SNP and DNA microsatellite analysis). Experience with genomics and/or bioinformatics would especially be welcomed. **To apply:** Send application letter describing background and interest for the position, curriculum vitae, and names and contact information for three references to Ed Heist (edheist@siu.edu).

Postdoc position in Conservation Genetics. University of Idaho seeks a postdoctoral position for a one-year appointment with possibility of extension. **Application deadline:** December 5, 2014.. **Salary:** \$45,000 per year. **Position summary:** The successful candidate will (1) conduct research and contract work in conservation genetics; (2) assist in training and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students; and (3) assist in teaching a graduate level conservation genetics course with opportunity to develop and implement an online course. The successful candidate will be based in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Sciences and will be a member of the Laboratory of Ecological, Evolutionary and Conservation Genetics (<http://www.uidaho.edu/cnr/research-outreach/facilities/leecg>) at the University of Idaho. We have state-of-the art facilities for genetic and spatial analyses and collaborate extensively with faculty and students in the Institute for Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Studies – I B E S T (<http://www.ibest.uidaho.edu>).. **To apply:** Please apply at <https://uidaho.peopleadmin.com/postings/6487> Contact person is Lisette Waits lwais@uidaho.edu

Professional

Molecular phylogenetics and systematics. The US Geological Survey in Gainesville, Florida seeks a full time positions. **Application deadline:** January 30, 2015. **Salary:** Federal government pay scale-commensurate with education and experience. **Position summary:** The US Geological Survey is seeking motivated individuals to assist with research projects on rare and imperiled freshwater mussels and fishes. Funding currently available to fill a student or B.S.-level technician position to lead data collection in the molecular laboratory and a MS or PhD-level position to oversee data collection in the molecular laboratory, assist with report and manuscript development, and lead future projects. **Qualifications:** *Requirements* 1) B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. in malacology, aquatic sciences, molecular phylogenetics/systematics or bioinformatics at any recognized university; current students in Gainesville, FL are also encouraged to apply . 2) Evidence of strong expertise in molecular systematics (data analysis, knowledge of laboratory procedures), programming in R and Perl welcomed. 3) Previous experience in molecular systematics/taxonomy (analysis of data, lab procedures), good computer skills. 4) Ability to effectively communicate (written and oral) in the English language. *Preferred qualifications* 1) Evidence of strong expertise in study of ecology, evolution, genetic differentiation and specialization in freshwater aquatic organisms (mainly freshwater mussels of the family Unionidae), including methods of field collection (collecting fish/mussels, extracting glochidia, non-lethal tissue sampling, etc.) and procedures of molecular biology (DNA isolation and purification, PCR amplification of DNA, agarose gel electrophoresis, microsatellites, DNA sequencing, working with appropriate molecular-genetic software, etc.). 2) Evidence of publication activity in molecular biology, phylogenetics, or systematics strongly preferred. 3) Ability to work in parallel on multiple projects; prioritization of tasks. **To apply:** Email the following documents to Nathan Johnson (najohnson@usgs.gov): *Continued page 10*

Jobs continued

continued from page 9. 1) Brief cover letter explaining career interests and qualifications 2) CV or resume 3) Unofficial copies of transcripts 4) Names and contact information for three references 5) Available start date.

Assistant or Associate Professor, Fish Conservation Genomics. The University of Montana College of Forestry and Conservation (CFC) and Wildlife Biology Program seek applications for a nine-month, tenure-track assistant or associate professor position in fish conservation genomics beginning Fall 2015.

Application deadline: December 1, 2014. **Salary:** not listed. **Position summary:** We are interested in candidates who use genomic approaches to address ecological questions in fisheries, aquatic ecology, and population biology associated with the conservation and management of aquatic systems. Wildlife Biology is a broad interdisciplinary program between the CFC, the Department of Ecosystem and Conservation Sciences (DECS), the Division of Biological Sciences, and the Montana Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit (www.cfc.umt.edu/wbio). One of the top-ranked Wildlife Biology Programs in the nation, we comprise highly interactive and collaborative faculty with outstanding records of scholarship and training in basic and applied wildlife biology. The successful candidate will complement existing programmatic strengths in wildlife ecology, conservation, and genetics, including on-campus integration of state and federal geneticists working on aquatic and terrestrial systems and a new state-of-the-art genomics core facility. **Qualifications:** A Ph.D. in a relevant biological field of study (e.g., aquatic and/or fisheries biology or ecology, genomics) at the time of appointment. • A strong record of research and scholarship in the field of aquatic and fisheries ecology and genomics, including publications in peer-reviewed journals and successful development of competitive externally-funded grants; • Experience and strong commitment to excellence in teaching; and • A proven ability to communicate effectively with students, professionals, and the general public. Candidates with post-doctoral experience as well as experience working with natural resource agencies are especially encouraged to apply.

The University of Montana is one of the nation's outstanding public universities, committed to liberal arts education, research, and strong professional programs. UM is located in Missoula, a northern Rocky Mountain city located between Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Missoula boasts abundant recreational opportunities with a blend of small-town charm and urban sophistication. **To apply:** Visit <http://bit.ly/1065fcg> to submit online application for full consideration. Complete applications include: • A current CV. • Statements of research and teaching interests. • Three representative examples of publications (in one of the following formats: doc, xls, txt, rtf, pdf, gif, jpg, htm, html). • Names and contact information for three professional references. Inquiries pertaining to the announcement can be directed to Mark Hebblewhite, Search Committee Chair, Ph: 1-406-243-6675 or E-mail: mark.hebblewhite@umontana.edu The College of Forestry and Conservation has additional faculty openings expected to begin fall semester 2015. All positions may be found on the UM Jobs website at <https://umjobs.silkroad.com/>.

Please send information on symposia, jobs, articles, and calendar events to Joy.Young@myfwc.com to see it published in the next newsletter!



AFS Genetics Section Business Meeting Notes

Monday, August 18, 2014

Centre des Congrès de Québec, Room 2104B

Québec City, QC Canada

1. Call to order at 17:35 by Meredith Bartron

2. The 2013 minutes by were reviewed by Meredith Bartron and approved. Meredith Bartron made a motion to suspend Robert's rules of order for the remainder of the meeting which was seconded by Bill Templin.

3. President's Report

3.a. Meredith attended the Governing Board retreat.

3.b. Meredith reviewed the discussions at the retreat. They discussed the Society's communications strategy and how it will change as a result of new policies. The Society is looking into redesigning its website and how it uses social media. Changes that consider the target audience of each type of media are being discussed. As part of this, the role of the Fisheries journal was discussed. There is an item on the annual work plan to make some changes to Fisheries. The format of Fisheries may change to focus on shorter articles on a specific set of topics in order to reach a broader audience. This may result in more requests to the Genetics Section for articles. The Genetics section has done a good job to date in submitting articles, but we should be ready for additional requests. In particular, the journal will be seeking shorter, general interest articles. Anyone interested in being a contributor should contact Meredith Bartron (Meredith_Bartron@fws.gov) or Jeff Olsen (Jeffrey_Olsen@fws.gov) or put a note on the sign-in sheet (no one did the latter).

3.c. Section activities

3.c.i. The first year class of members has been inducted to the Hall of Excellence (see the committee report below).

3.c.ii. A change to the website has it running through the old address (<http://genetics.fisheries.org/>).

4. Treasurer's Report (Wendylee Stott)-Our balance was \$4,204.91 as of August 14, 2014 (see report attached to agenda). There were questions about

paying dues by John Epifanio; he wanted to know if they could be paid at the meeting and if it was possible to get a life time membership to the Section. Wendylee told him that he could pay her and that she would look into the possibility of the life time membership.

5. Announcements-The Genetics section and Genidaqs are co-sponsoring a social for the eDNA symposium on Tuesday at Les voûtes de Napoléon, starting at 17:30. Life Technologies is providing food and Genidaqs and Fluidigm are providing drinks. Any donations for travel funds are welcome and could be given to any Ex-comm member at the social.

6. Committee Reports

6.a. Standing Committees

6.a.i. Nominating committee (Bill Templin)-Two positions on the Ex-comm were filled this year, 4 people were nominated and two were elected. Amy Welsh is the new Secretary-Treasurer and Wendylee Stott is the President-elect. Lisa Seeb was elected as the member-at-large to the Hall of Excellence committee.

6.a.ii. Program committee (Jeff Olsen)-The section was not leading any symposia this year since two genetics related titles were submitted by others. This could be a sign of the continued acceptance of genetics as a tool in fisheries science. In addition, there are good genetics talks in other symposia. This year there are a series of species themed sessions. Members should start thinking now about topics for next year. Wendylee Stott will be the program coordinator for 2015.

6.a.iii. Hall of Excellence (Jeff Olsen) - Fred Allendorf, University of Montana, John Avise, University of California, Irvine, Fred Utter, University of Washington, Jim Wright, deceased, Pennsylvania State University were inducted. Many thanks go to the committee; Lisa Seeb (member-at-large), Kim Scribner (Section past-president), Jeff Olsen (chair, Section president-elect), and Bill Templin (Section past-president). None of the inductees or family members could attend. Nominations for next year are due June 15, 2015. *Continued on page 12*

AFS Genetics Section Business Meeting *continued from page 11*

6.b. Ad-Hoc Committees

6.b.i. Newsletter (Meredith Bartron)-Joy has been doing a good job soliciting articles. Anyone who is interested in submitting something should contact Joy Young (Joy.Young@MyFWC.com). We are looking to increase the variety of submissions, so along with articles consider submitting pictures, summaries of meetings or any other Section or Society business.

6.b.ii. Membership-The membership is staying constant at 177 members. Thirty members and 5 non-members attended the Section meeting. There is currently no membership committee at this time and we are looking for volunteers. Helen Neville volunteered.

6.b.iii. James Wright Student Travel Award (Meredith Bartron)-This year the award went to Ryan Waples and was presented by Meredith. Ryan presented a talk entitled "How to Use Reduced-Representation Genomic Methods to Estimate Contemporary Effective Population Size" in the Big Data Science and Its Impacts on Fish Conservation and Management symposium. Committee members are Amy Welsh, Andrea Schreier, and Carol Stepien.

6.b.iv. Stevan Phelps Award (Meredith Bartron)-Meredith presented the award on behalf of Ken Currens. This year the award went to Helen Neville and Louis Bernatchez for their paper, "Neville H., and L. Bernatchez 2013. Coding Gene Single Nucleotide Polymorphism Population Genetics of Nonnative Brook Trout: The Ghost of Introductions Past. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society. Committee members are: Ken Currens (chair), Jim Seeb, Lisa Seeb, Ryan Waples, Joseph Anderson, and Adrian Spidle.

6.b.v. Website (Meredith Bartron)-Webmasters Wes Larsen (wlarsen1@uw.edu) and Kristen Gruenthal (Kristen.gruenthal@noaa.gov) are looking for any interesting pictures you have for them.

7. Old Business (Meredith Bartron)

7.a. Conference call to Section meeting-We wanted to try and have a conference call for the Section meeting to increase attendance but the costs were

prohibitive. We will look into it again for next year.

7.b. Volunteer Opportunities-Many opportunities, ask any Ex-comm member.

7.c. Listserv-The Section has a new listserver through AFS (afsgenetics@afsmembers.org). It is not moderated and they are looking for ways to improve it. This is a good way to keep the membership engaged.

8. New Business (Jeff Olsen)

8.a. Meredith has finished her term as president and now moves into the role of past-president. Many thanks go to Meredith for her work in getting the Hall of Excellence established and getting the website redesigned.

8.b. The meeting is in Portland OR next year (<http://2015.fisheries.org/>). Stay tuned for more details and if you have any ideas for symposia, be sure to submit them. Wendylee Stott (wstott@usgs.gov) will be the Program Coordinator for the meeting.

8.c. The Section will be working to increase student participation and membership. Student submissions to the newsletter and are encouraged. A question was raised about how Section dues were set and if we would consider raising them to generate more funds for awards. It might be possible to raise dues and also have different rates for different types of memberships (e.g., student vs. regular).

8.d. Carol Stepien suggested that we might need more advertising to get more people applying for awards. This generated discussion about how to do this: members need to encourage their students, more announcements on media, we could do targeted donations, consider a wider range of meetings to support with travel awards (e.g., International Symposium on Management and Biology of Coregonid Fishes).

9. Adjournment (Jeff Olsen) - At 18:15 John Epifanio moved to adjourn and was seconded by Bernie May.

Notes taken by Wendylee Stott

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