

ABLS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING 2019 MINUTES

2019 ABLs General Membership Business Meeting (45-50 members present)
MINUTES FINAL (19 AUGUST, 2019, PAST SECRETARY SUSAN WILL-WOLF; EDITS FROM EC MEMBERS)
WEDNESDAY JULY 31 4:30-5:30 PM ROOM: SAN PEDRO 1/STARR PASS

1. **President Catherine La Farge convened the meeting at 4:30 pm.**
 - a. Present EC members were introduced: Douglas Ladd (President-Elect, ABLs 2019 meeting Organiser & Program design), Steven Leavitt (Treasurer and Lichen Exchange Director), Susan Wil-Wolf (Secretary), Jessica Budke (Member-at-large), Larry StClair (past President and Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) member).
 - b. Absent members recognized: Emily Holt (Member-at-large), Klara Scharnagl (Student Member-at-large, Webmaster), Jim Bennett, Dale Vitt (FAC), Scott LaGreca (Evansia Editor), Jim Lawrey (The Bryologist Editor), and Jon Shaw (past President).
 - c. La Farge also thanked absent James Shevock (Moss Exchange) and John Atwood (Hepatic Exchange).

2. **President La Farge welcomed new EC members, thanked retiring members**
 - a. Doug Ladd (incoming President), Scott Schuette (incoming President-Elect), Diane Haughland (absent, incoming Secretary), Jessica Allen (incoming Member-at-large)
 - b. Renewed absent members Emily Holt and Klara Scharnagl were welcomed back.
 - c. Special thank you to EC members Jim Bennett, Jessica Budke, Susan Wil-Wolf, and Jon Shaw stepping down as their current positions end, for their unrelenting and invaluable dedication to ABLs.

3. **Reports**
 - a. Secretary: Will-Wolf reported highlights: Membership has stabilized at 490-500; the revised Constitution was approved by the membership; the 2019 election went smoothly; a formal ABLs spending policy was approved by the EC. Reduction of the ABLs hard copy archive is proceeding. Lendemmer suggested digitizing all Evansia back issues in jstor; StClair and Leavitt noted all Evansia issues are digitized at Brigham Young; Will-Wolf reported all are available via interlibrary loan. Making sure all are available to ABLs members via jstor will be pursued.
 - b. Treasurer and FAC (for Bennett): Leavitt reported highlights: Society finances are in good shape with the Portfolio value reaching \$1 million in June. Subscriptions increased; BioOne royalties decreased, from libraries cutting back.
 - c. Journals and Allen Press. James Lendemmer (for Lawrey and La Greca) reported that both journals are maintaining submissions and publications. Leavitt noted that contracts with Allen Press expire at the end of 2021 and must be renewed. An EC committee will investigate several options for a new contract, including switching journals to electronic-only. Editors favor the latter, as announced to members in fall 2018. Members will be invited to register their opinions in a fall 2019 poll.
 - d. Exchanges: Leavitt (also for Atwood and Shevock) reported moss and lichen exchanges had no activity; the hepatic exchange had some. Discontinuation is being considered. Discussion ensued – history of announcements was reviewed; the fate of current specimens was explained. One more member notice was suggested.
 - e. Webmaster: La Farge (for Scharnagl) noted that a revised website on a new platform was being reviewed by the EC and should go live in a month or two.

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4. The Bryologist - Award Recipients announced:

- a. **Sullivant Award** for best paper on bryology for 2018 (volume 121)
SHANSHAN DONG, JIA-YU XUE, SHOUZHOU ZHANG, LI ZHANG, HONG WU, ZHIDUAN CHEN, BERNARD GOFFINET & YANG LIU. 2018. Complete mitochondrial genome sequence of *Anthoceros angustus*: conservative evolution of the mitogenomes in hornworts. *The Bryologist* 121(1): 14–22.
- a. **Tuckerman Award** for best paper on lichenology for 2018 (volume 121)
PAUL DIEDERICH, JAMES D. LAWREY & DAMIEN ERTZ. 2018. The 2018 classification and checklist of lichenicolous fungi, with 2000 non-lichenized, obligately lichenicolous taxa. *The Bryologist* 121(3): 340–426.

5. Anderson-Crum 2019 Field Research Award winners announced:

- a. **Wagner Luis dos Santos**, Instituto de Biologia - Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brasil - *How does the evolution of sexual systems relate to reproductive traits, to genetic diversity and to the thermotolerance in Fissidens Hedw. (Fissidentaceae, Bryopsida)*
- b. **Daniel Tucker**, University of Alberta - *Bryophyte floras of Quercus garryana ecosystems on the Saanich Peninsula, Vancouver Island*
- c.

6. Culberson-Hale 2019 Field Research Award winners announced:

- a. Amanda Chandler, Eastern Washington University Cheney - *A survey of lichen species in the endangered Palouse Prairie region of Washington state*
- b. Dena Paolilli, California Polytechnic State University - *Alpine Lichen Inventory for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks*

7. Sharp Award 2019 winner – best ABLs talk – announced: Carly Rae Anderson Stewart, University of Colorado, Boulder, “Using restriction site associated sequencing (RADseq) data for phylogenetic analysis of *Cladonia* lichens.” Honorary mentions to Jenna Ekwealor, Rachel Keuler, and Patrick Lauriault for their talks. The seven eligible talks were separated by 1.5 points out of 18 total.

8. Elizabeth G. Britton and Chicita L. Culberson Lifetime Achievement Awards: Past Presidents Catherine La Farge and Larry StClair will with President Doug Ladd design an awardee selection protocol and identify a recipient for 2020. The awardee will be either a bryologist or a lichenologist, and in future years disciplines will be alternated.

9. Membership issues:

- a. Frank Bungartz announced he now manages CNALH; it has a new look designed by Matt von Konrat. He reminded members that a new home for CNABH is needed. Brent Mishler noted that bryologists are working on this.
- b. How to stimulate increased membership? The EC voted to develop a special retiree rate (details to be determined), and to subsidize student participation in ABLs-sponsored field trips. A special meeting session with 3-minute student presentations to foster experience was discussed.

10. ABLs Meetings:

- a. The 2019 ABLs field trips were reported as successful. The Madera Canyon trip led by Steve Leavitt and Larry StClair and the Mt. Lemmon trip led by Christian

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Parrinello both went well. Many thanks to Frank Bungartz's student Chris who stepped in at the last minute after the scheduled leader's plane trip was cancelled.

- b. The 2019 ABLs talk and poster sessions were noted by La Farge and other members as high quality and running smoothly. Thanks to President-elect and meeting organizer Doug Ladd, and session moderators Jessica Budke and Kristen Coe!
- c. **ABLS 2020** will be in Anchorage Alaska with BSA. Suggestions have been received for a local host and for field trip organizers; initial contacts have been made. President-Elect Scott Schuette will organize the ABLs part of the meeting.
- d. **ABLS 2021** – The EC voted to pursue a potential Quebec City joint meeting with IAB, CBA, SQB, contingent upon EC approval of financial and meeting organization arrangements. The alternative would be to meet with BSA in Boise, ID. Several members expressed interest in a meeting on the eastern side of the continent.

11. Annual Meeting EC travel Support: La Farge asked members to review and discuss limited support for EC members to attend annual meetings, that was approved by the EC. An option to meet via Skype was proposed as cheaper. EC members noted the annual EC meeting always coincides with the annual Society meeting, and usually some members must still call in to achieve a quorum. EC members also noted 1) meetings are getting expensive; 2) such support encourages members with no institutional support for such travel to run for EC positions; 3) it has become very difficult to convince members to run for EC positions; 4) it is valuable to have one face-to-face meeting per year. Business the rest of the year is done by email; set-time multi-person calls other than the annual meeting have been found difficult to both schedule and set up. Meeting consensus was mostly favorable for limited support given the practical situation and good Society finances.

12. Officer Elections

- a. On December 31, 2019 Jim Bennett will step down as Chair of FAC; an EC committee has been formed to find a new committee member and new Chair.
- b. For the ABLs 2020-2021 election, the President-Elect will be a lichenologist; a new Treasurer will be needed then.
- c. Lawrey's first term as editor of The Bryologist ends in 2020. He expressed interest in a second term 2021-2025 and the EC voted to ask him to renew.

13. La Farge adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm; It was immediately followed by a reception with snacks and open bar, substituting for a Society banquet that had been found too expensive at this meeting venue. Catherine La Farge was thanked by us all for her term as President, and incoming President Doug Ladd was congratulated.