

American Bryological and Lichenological Society
Business Meeting
29 July 2014 – Boise Idaho BSA Meeting

Jon Shaw, President – Conducting

Discussion Points:

- Status of the ABLS exchange programs was summarized. Jon encouraged members to participate.
- Brent Mishler, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported on the status of the ABLS Endowment, now at \$500,000+. Jon also reported that the other society funds are in good shape.
- The idea of transitioning to online versions of The Bryologist and Evansia was discussed. Several options are being evaluated. Scott Scheutte is in the process of exploring options and will submit recommendations to the Executive Committee by the end of this year.
- The separation of the Secretary/Treasurer position into 2 separate positions was discussed. Scott Schuette will continue to cover the Treasurer position and the Executive Committee is currently pursuing options for someone to fill the Secretary position. Jim Bennett in 2012 put together a proposal for the split; that document has now been fine tuned by Scott. In addition, the plan is to have essential tasks previously covered by the Business Manager position transferred to the Secretary. In the future there will be no Business Manager.
- Peter Nelson reported on the podcast initiative. Good progress has been made. The current focus is on cutting edge publications. Distribution of podcasts will be from the ABLS website. Other distribution options are being considered.
- Erin Tripp and James Lendemer reviewed their request for ABLS support (non-financial) for T&E lichen submissions to the USFW federal agency. The Executive Committee voted unanimously to support T&E petitions. Discussion followed. Jon asked Erin and James to submit a brief proposal to him for final Executive Committee consideration and a letter of support.

Awards:

- Anderson and Crum Field Research Awards for 2014 announced - The three awardees were: Theresa Clark, Arielle Garrett, and Jessica Nelson.
- Bernard Goffinet expressed concern about how funds for the Anderson-Crum Research Award have been handled in the past. Future options were discussed. One possibility might be to establish both a bryophyte and a lichen student research grant supported by member donations supplemented by ABLS endowment earnings.
- Jon distributed other awards:
 - o Sullivant Award to Lloyd Stark and John Brinda, The Bryologist, volume 116(2): 149

- Tuckerman Award to Steve Leavitt et al., *The Bryologist*, volume 116(4): 337
- Sharpe Award to Gajendra Shrestha et al., for meeting presentation.

Future meetings:

- Options for upcoming annual meetings were discussed. Next year (2015) ABLS will meet with BSA in Edmonton (Catherine LeFarge will coordinate field trip arrangements); BSA will meet in Savannah, Georgia in 2016 (under consideration by ABLS – the majority of the members in attendance at the Business Meeting were in favor of staying with BSA in 2016 – Jon and the Executive Committee will consider options and get back to the membership concerning the location for the 2016 ABLS annual meeting). Roger Rosentreter has been developing a January 2015 field trip plan for ABLS members to the Florida Everglades. This field trip will be limited to 12 people with housing accommodations arranged through the National Park Service. The So-Be-Free Foray is scheduled for March 2015 and the Tuckerman Foray is scheduled for May 18-23 in Michigan.
- Larry St. Clair reviewed several logistical issues related to the 2015 BSA Meeting in Edmonton.

Minutes Prepared and Submitted by: Larry St. Clair 27 August 2014

Additional edits by: Susan Will-Wolf 24 November 2014