



NEWSLETTER

Animal Behavior Society

A quarterly publication

Sue Bertram, Editor

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2015 Annual Meeting

June 10th-14th, 2015 | Anchorage, Alaska



Alison Bell (University of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign) giving her keynote entitled, *Insights into plasticity and individual differences in behavior from stickleback genomic data*.

The 52nd Animal Behavior Society Meeting was held in Anchorage, Alaska and had 586 attendees from 23 countries. With five concurrent sessions, the meeting included 63 invited talks and 257 contributed talks and 150 posters. Symposia and plenaries included:

Jeff Galef (McMaster University, Canada) on *Social Influences on Food Choice: Behavior, Neuroscience and Molecular Biology*.

Susan Alberts (Duke University, USA) on *Advantage and Adversity: The Influence of Social Environments on Fitness in Social Mammals*.

Steven Swartz (Laguna San Ignacio Ecosystem Science Program) *The Behavior and Conservation of Breeding Gray Whales in Laguna San Ignacio: a Forty Year Perspective*.

Alison Bell (University of Illinois, Urbana/Champaign, USA) on *Insights Into Plasticity and Individual Differences in Behavior from Stickleback Genomic Data*.

Regina H. Macedo (Universidade de Brasilia, Brasilia, DF, Brazil) on *Animal Behavior: Time Travel Through Science*.

Peter Marler Memorial Symposium: Mechanisms of Animal Behavior,



2015 Awards

Congratulations to all of the 2015 awardees!

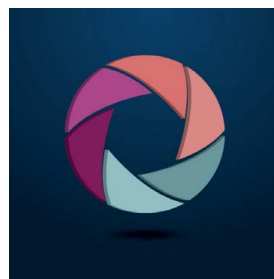
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2015 Election

View the current slate of candidates and nomination information.

[Read more »](#)



Call for Photos

Share your photos of your research, as well as ABS 2015!

[Read more »](#)

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organized by Michael Beecher, William Searcy, and Robert Seyfarth.

Allee Symposium for Best Student Poster Paper, organized by William Searcy.

Northern Marine Mammals Symposium, organized by Deborah Boege-Tobin and Jennifer Burns.

New Frontiers for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior Symposium, organized by Dustin Rubenstein and Hans Hofmann.

It's About Time Symposium – Understanding Temporal Variation in Animal Behavior, organized by Andy Dosmann.

Presidential Symposium: Social Networks and Animal Societies - Linking Structure to Function, organized by Daniel Rubenstein.

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Emily DuVal, Florida State University,
E-mail: mematlarge3@
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2015 Election

CANDIDATES FOR 2015 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Second President-Elect:

Mike Webster
John Swaddle

Treasurer:

Matthew Wund
Gil Rosenthal

Parliamentarian:

Tamra Mendelson
Peter Bednekoff

Member-at-Large:

Melissa Hughes
Todd Freeberg
Bruce Schulte



Additional nominations may be made by email to the 2015-2016 Nominating Committee Chair, Regina H. Macedo, Universidade de Brasilia, Departamento de Zoologia IB Campus Universitário Asa Norte, Brasília, DF 70910-900, Brazil. E-mail: pastpresident@animalbehaviorsociety.org. Nominations must be signed by five or more ABS members in good standing (ABS Constitution, Article 8, Section 2) and must be received by 1 October, 2015.

Note: An e-mail will be sent from the ABS Central Office containing information on the candidates, as well as a link that will take you to the online ballot. This email will be sent to the address in your ABS account as long as you are an active ABS member as of November 15, 2015. Information on the candidates will also be posted with a paper ballot in the November/Winter Newsletter.

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2015 Meeting Awards

WARDER CLYDE ALLEE AWARD: BEST STUDENT POSTER PAPER

The Warder Clyde Allee Symposium for best student paper is always a highlight of the conference as it features outstanding graduate student research, with an award for the best paper and talk. The session honors Dr. Warder Clyde Allee (1885–1955) who was very influential in the development and direction of animal behavior research in the 20th century. Dr. Allee earned his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1912, was a faculty member at the University of Illinois, University of Oklahoma, University of Chicago, and University of Florida. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1951 and ranks among the leading twentieth century ecologists. In the 2015 ABS Allee Session, 9 finalists were selected to present their research based on the quality of their papers. Any independent graduate student research is eligible, but the students must have had the principal responsibility for the conceptualization and design of the research, the collection and analysis of the data, and the interpretation of the results. These presenters also cannot have completed their defense of the doctoral dissertation before the preceding ABS annual meeting. The judges: – William Searcy, Jeff Podos, Dorothy Cheney, and Jonathan Pruitt – found the presentations to be of exceptionally high quality. First place was awarded to **Sarah E. Bengston** (University of Arizona) for her talk and paper entitled Life-history strategy and behavioral type: risk-tolerance reflects growth rate and energy allocation. Honorable mention was awarded to **Laura R. Stein** (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) for her talk and paper entitled Dads matter: causes and consequences of plasticity in paternal care in three spine stickleback.



Sarah E. Bengston (University of Arizona) receiving top honors for her Allee Symposium paper and presentation.



Laura R. Stein (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign) receiving honorable mention award for her Allee Symposium paper and presentation.

FOUNDERS' MEMORIAL POSTER AWARD

Each year a poster competition, named for a Founder of the Animal Behavior Society, is held at the annual meeting ("A founder is defined as a person active in the period prior to 1966 who held at least two administrative positions, elected or appointed, in ABS or the ESA Section on Animal Behavior and Sociobiology or the ASZ Division of Animal Behavior as recorded by the ABS Historian."). The Founders' Memorial Award is for outstanding posters presented at the annual meeting. The Founders' Memorial Award was named this year for John A. King. The judges included Emilia Martins (Chair, First President Elect), Emily DuVal, Teresa

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Cheng-Yu Li (University of Alabama) receiving his John A. King Founders' Memorial Poster Award.

Dzieweczynski, Jeff Lucas, Clair Varian-Ramos, and Danielle Whittaker. There were many excellent posters, and a lot of fascinating science shared. The judges identified one outstanding poster and two honorable mentions that were notable for their innovative science, and clear presentation. The grand prize winner of the Founders' Memorial Award for 2014 was: **Cheng-Yu Li** (University of Alabama) for his poster entitled Sexual Phenotype Drives Variation in Endocrine Responses to Social Challenge in a Clonal Animal (co-authored by Shu-Ping Huang, Adam Fuller, Mark Garcia, Yuying Hsu, and Ryan Earley). Honorable Mention was presented to **Melinda Weaver** (Arizona State University) for the poster entitled Bold Urbanites and Shy Hillbillies? Variation in Novel Environment Exploration in *Haemorrhous mexicanus* (co-authored by Kevin McGraw) and **Alissa G. Anderson** (University of Nebraska – Lincoln) for the poster entitled Male Benefits of Copulatory Silk Wrapping in the Nursery Web Spider *Pisaurina mira* (co-authored by Eileen Hebets).

[Emily DuVal](mailto:mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org), Florida State University, E-mail: mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org

GENESIS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE POSTER PRESENTATION

First presented at the 2000 ABS Annual meeting, the Genesis Award honors the best undergraduate poster presented at the meeting. This year 23 undergraduate students submitted posters for the Genesis Undergraduate Poster Competition, and the standard was extremely high. The judges included Matt Wund, Sarah Humfield, Carrie Hall, Melissa Graham, Dan Howard, and Emilie Snell-Rood. This team worked extremely hard to carefully review all posters.

The grand prize was awarded to **Hailey Shannon** (Susquehanna University) for her poster titled "*The Effects of Prenatal Predator Cue Exposure on Offspring Substrate Preferences in Wolf Spiders*" (co-authored by Dylan Kutz, Matthew Persons).



Hailey Shannon (Susquehanna University) receiving her Genesis Award for best undergraduate poster presentation.

Three honorable mention prizes were awarded to **Ciara Main** (University of California at Davis) for her poster titled "*Seasonal Changes in Male Display Performance in Response to a Robotic Female Stimulus*" (co-authored by Anna C. Perry, Alan H. Krakauer, and Gail L. Patricelli), **Mykell Reifer** (Carleton University) for his poster titled "*Do fight winners produce higher quality offspring?*" (co-authored by Michelle J. Loranger and Susan M. Bertram), and **David Vazques** (Virginia Tech) for his poster titled "*Examining the Relationship Between Dominance Status and Disease Transmission in House Finches*" (co-authored by Sahnzi C. Moyers, Jim S. Adelman, Dana M. Hawley).



Genesis honorable mention prizes being awarded by Sarah Humfield to Ciara Main (University of California at Davis), Mykell Reifer (Carleton University), and David Vazques (Virginia Tech) (shown left to right and all Turner Award recipients).

ABS FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS

Now in its 32nd year, the ABS Film Festival featured top films that were produced in the preceding five years that portray important concepts in animal behavior research and education. Categories included both amateur (non-commercial) and professional (commercial) films. This year's ABS Film Festival was attended by an enthusiastic 100 people.

After careful deliberation, the Film Committee was happy to announce that the ABS Jack Ward Film Award in the non-commercial category would be awarded to "*The Bearded Capuchin Monkeys of Fazenda Boa Vista*" directed by **Elisabetta Visalberghi and Alessandro Albani**.

The ABS Film Award in the Commercial Category was awarded to "*Wild Australia - Desert of the Red Kangaroo*" directed by **Jens Westphalen and Thoralf Grosnitz**.

CHARLES H. TURNER AWARDS

In 2002, the Animal Behavior Society created the Charles H. Turner Program for undergraduate participation at the annual society meetings. Charles Turner was the first known African American researcher in animal behavior. He earned his PhD from the University of Chicago in 1907. Among other things, his research showed that insects can hear and exhibit trial-and-error learning. By naming the undergraduate program after him, the ABS Diversity Committee emphasizes its goal of increasing the diversity of its membership by encouraging researchers of all ages, levels and ethnic groups to participate in the annual meetings. The ABS Diversity Committee brought a group of eight undergraduates to the Anchorage meeting this year, covering all expenses and providing a full program of events including a pre-meeting workshop and direct mentorship from junior and senior scientists.

This years deserving Charles H. Turner Award winners were **Jose Alvarez** (Augustana College), **Monica Bailey** (Augustana College), **Ashley Bothwell** (University of North Carolina Wilmington and Semester by the Bay, Homer, Alaska), **Ciara Main** (University of California at Davis), **Sade McFadden** (Clark University), **Montrai Spikes** (University of Missouri, Columbia), **Mykell Reifer** (Carleton University), and **David Vasquez** (Virginia Tech).



2015 Charles H. Turner Award recipients and mentors.

ABS 2015 Career Awards



Distinguished Animal Behaviorist Award

Sir Paul Patrick Gordon Bateson

Sir Paul Patrick Gordon Bateson has been awarded the Distinguished Animal Behaviorist Award for his lifetime commitment and the impressive intellectual contributions he has made to the field of Animal Behavior.

Quest Award
Bernard Crespi



The Quest Award, recognizing an outstanding seminal contribution in animal behavior, has been awarded to Bernie Crespi at the annual meeting in Anchorage.



Exemplar Award

Andrew Sih

The Animal Behaviour Society was pleased to announce Andy Sih as the Exemplar Awardee in Anchorage.



Outstanding New Investigator Award

Emily DuVal

Emily DuVal has received the Outstanding New Investigator Award at the annual meeting in Anchorage.



Penny Bernstein Distinguished Teaching Award

Linda Rayor

Linda Rayor has received the Penny Bernstein Distinguished Teaching Award at the annual meeting in Anchorage. Linda is known as a talented, dynamic, and inspiring teacher who draws in students with her style and then gives them an innovative and experiential course.

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Call for Nominations

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2016 CAREER AWARDS

The Animal Behavior Society has a series of Career Awards which include the following:

- **Distinguished Animal Behaviorist** - outstanding lifetime achievement in animal behavior
- **Exemplar Award** - major long-term contribution to animal behavior
- **Outstanding New Investigator** - outstanding contribution by a new investigator
- **Quest Award** - outstanding seminal contribution
- **Exceptional Service Award** - sustained service contributions to the Animal Behavior Society

All members of the society are encouraged to submit nominations for the above awards. To aid the Selection Committee and to help codify the procedures involved, the following items must be submitted for a nomination: (1) a letter of nomination indicating the award for which the nominee is being proposed which should provide details on the reasons the nominee should be considered for that award; (2) a curriculum vitae of the nominee; and (3) additional supporting letters from colleagues solicited by the nominator. These materials can be submitted using the link below (which is also found on the Career Awards page on the website):

<http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org/career-awards/>

The deadline for nominations is **November 30, 2015**.

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Blind Observations in Behavior Studies

Melissa Kardish and colleagues have recently published a paper in *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* that reports that far fewer of us than should be are conducting experiments with observers that are blind to the hypothesis tested or of treatment condition of a particular sample.

"We surveyed 492 recent studies in the fields of ecology, evolution, and behavior (EEB) to evaluate potential for observer bias and the need for blind experimentation in each study. While 248 articles included experiments that could have been influenced by observer bias, only 13.3% of these articles indicated that experiments were blinded. The use of blind observation therefore was either grossly underreported in the surveyed articles, or many EEB studies were not blinded. We hope that a concerted effort of the field of EEB—including researchers, peer-reviewers, and journal editors—will help promote and institute routine, blind observation as an essential standard that should be practiced by all sciences."

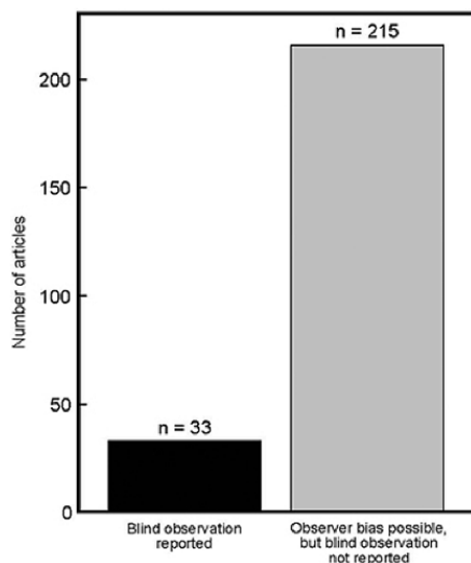


Fig 1. Of 492 articles published in January and February in 13 prominent journals covering the fields of ecology, evolution and behavior, 248 articles reported on experiments that had the potential for observer bias.

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Fig. 2. Of 13 surveyed journals publishing in ecology, evolution and behavior, the percentage of articles reporting the use of blind observation does not differ between journals.

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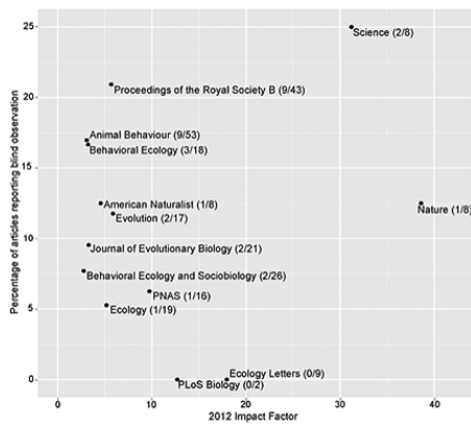
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Melissa R. Kardish, Ulrich G. Mueller, Sabrina Amador-Vargas, Emma I. Dietrich¹, Rong Ma¹, Brian Barrett, and Chi-Chun Fang. 2015. Blind trust in unblinded observation in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior. *Front. Ecol. Evol.*, 19 May 2015 | <http://dx.doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2015.00051>

The whole article can be found at: <http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fevo.2015.00051/full>

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Sue Bertram, Editor

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Announcements

UPCOMING MEETINGS

2015: 9-14 August, International Ethological Conference - Cairns, Australia

2015: October 16, Society for Social Neuroscience (S4SN) - Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL www.s4sn.org. The meeting will consist of a Keynote Address by John T. Cacioppo (<http://www.s4sn.org/keynote-address/>), Symposia discussing topics of Social Neuroscience from both the human and animal model perspectives, Early Career Award, Hot Topics Session, and a Poster Session. To view our Scientific Program please visit: <http://s4sn.org/2015-scientific-program/>

2016: 3-7 January, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) - Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon, US.

2016: 10-14 January, American Society of Naturalists Meeting – Asilomar, California

2016: 11-15 February, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) - Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., US.

2016: 30 March-April 3, International Congress of Neuroethology 12th Annual Meeting, Montevideo, Uruguay, SA.

2016: 18- 21 June, Evolution 2016 – Austin, Texas

2016: July 29-August 4, 16th International Behavioral Ecology Congress, University of Exeter, Exeter, England, UK.

2016: July 30-August 3, 53rd Annual Meeting Animal Behavior Society, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, US.

2017: 4-8 January, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) - Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, US.

2017: June 12-16, 54th Annual Meeting Animal Behavior Society, University of Toronto, Toronto, CAN.

JOIN AN ABS COMMITTEE!

This is an important and rewarding way to participate in the business of the Society and we need your help!

Animal Care Committee

Applied Animal Behavior Committee

Conservation Committee

Diversity Committee

Education Committee

Film Committee

Latin American Affairs Committee

Public Affairs Committee

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Contact **ABS President, Emília P. Martins**, Department of Biology Indiana University - Bloomington 1001 E. 3rd Street, Bloomington, IN 47405, US. E-mail: president@animalbehaviorsociety.org

[Emily DuVal](mailto:mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org), Florida State University, E-mail: mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org

CALL FOR ABS MEETING INVITATIONS

ABS is seeking proposals for future meeting venues. Sites can be a resort or hotel, university campus or a mixture of the two. Contact **ABS Past President, Regina H. Macedo**, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade de Brasília, IB Campus Universitário Asa Norte, 70910-900 - Brasília - DF – Brazil, E-mail: pastpresident@animalbehaviorsociety.org



Grooving to the tunes at the ABS 2015 banquet in Anchorage, Alaska.

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Opportunities

FOLLOW ABS ON FACEBOOK

Please visit <http://facebook.com/animalbehaviorsociety/> to stay on top of the latest news, events, and announcements about the Animal Behavior Society, its members, and their research. Members are welcome to contribute to the ABS wall and share their ABS-related photos and experiences.

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Call for Photos

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS OF YOUR RESEARCH, AS WELL AS ABS 2015

Interested in sharing a small subset of our members photos for our website, newsletter, and events? The ABS is looking for its members to contribute their top photos. If so, please consider submitting your photos associated with your research organisms in action, member presentations at ABS, social life at ABS, and Outdoors/Wildlife at and around ABS. If you want to contribute, post your photos at:

<http://abs2015photos.animalbehaviorsociety.org>

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Minutes

ABS Executive Committee Meeting Notes June 10, 2015 - SpringHill Suites Anchorage University Lake

Present: Regina Macedo, Emília Martins, Bill Searcy, Dan Rubenstein, Molly Cummings, Sue Bertram, Mike Beecher, Eileen Hebets, Michelle Scott, John Swaddle, Allison Bell, Beth Jakob, and Zuleyma Tang-Martinez (ex-officio). Regrets: Mark Hauber

PART I. New Business

1. **The 2014 minutes** from the Executive Committee meeting were approved
2. **The Historian** keeps the history of the society, facilitates the transfer of archival material, and provides perspective for the EC. *Motion: Include the Historian as a permanent ex officio invitee to the EC meeting (moved: Regina, seconded: Mike, unanimous support).*
3. **Graduate Student Travel Grants:** Several societies have conference travel grants for graduate students. ABS does not have any financial support to aid graduate student travel, aside from our diversity travel award. *Motion to provide graduate student travel support (moved: John, Seconded: Mike, Supported: unanimous).*
4. **Conference Caregiver Travel Grants:** Several academic societies have conference grants to aid members who are caregivers to offset their elevated travel costs and facilitate their attending and presenting at the annual meeting. *Motion to provide support to members who require dependent care (Moved: Bill, Seconded: Mike, Supported: unanimous).*
5. **Retired Active Members Support:** Some retired members are unable to attend the annual meetings because of the costs. *Motion to reduce the registration fees for our retired but active members (Moved: Alison, Seconded: Mike, Supported: unanimous).*
6. **Voting for Fellows:** Currently only EC members and Fellows can nominate candidates for fellowship. There was a question about whether we should include committee chairs when asking/voting for fellow nominations? It was decided that the President and Secretary should (1) develop a database to know who has already received award who might be eligible, and (2) simplify our nominating process to get nominations from the current fellows and the EC.
7. **Latin American Budget:** We have historically paid partial travel costs for up to two invited ABS speakers to attend meetings in Latin America. *Proposed a motion to provide international transportation costs for up to two active ABS members to travel to a Latin American country to give an invited behavior plenary/keynote talk. (Motion was approved at the business 2015 meeting)*
8. **Future of Animal Behavior:** NSF has been leading workshops on the future of our field. Do we want to play a more active role in this sort of discussion? *Motion: Form an ad hoc committee charged with facilitating the development of a strategic plan (Moved: Emilia, Seconded: Molly, Supported: unanimous).* The ad hoc committee will (1) send out surveys to its members, (2) hold a strategic town hall at 2016 meeting to discuss the strategic plan development, (3) discuss the ABS logo, (4) write a charge to the Advancement and Investment Committee that aligns with the strategic grant informing them about what we want them to do over the next two years.
9. **Meetings and Program issues:** The next meeting will be in Missouri in 2016 and Toronto in 2017. We need to line up the 2018 meeting.

PART II. Officers Reports

President: (Regina Macedo): Provided historical perspective explaining transition from Central Office to SPLtrak. Finalized legal negotiations involving closing the Central Office, contracting SPLtrak (11/2014–10/2019), transferred databases and information to SPLtrak. The EC is thrilled with what SPLtrak offers the society.

First President-elect: (Emília Martins): Coordinated the Founders' Memorial Poster Paper Award, and changed its

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name to honor the recently deceased Founder John (Jack) A. King.

Second President-elect: (Bill Searcy): We received an excellent set of papers and are looking forward to a strong Allee symposium. Encourages submissions to be entered in a timely fashion. Updated policy to require online submissions of written papers for Allee Award.

Past President: (Dan Rubenstein): Oversaw the transition of the Central Office to SPLtrak, oversaw the election of career award winners, created a slate of candidates for vacant EC positions.

Treasurer: (Molly Cummings): Handled severance and lawyer fees resulting from the transition to SPLtrak. The Society is in excellent financial shape. The proposed budget was approved in a subsequent e-vote.

Secretary: (Sue Bertram): Published four newsletters with SPLtrak's new online newsletter format. Noted that the number of members voting is down and encourages members to vote.

Program Officer & Program Officer-elect: (Mike Beecher & Mark Hauber): *Motion to increase support of all symposia (except the Presidential symposium and the Allee symposium) to be funded a minimum of \$3,000 for travel or accommodation (Moved Mike, Seconded Molly, Supported: unanimous). Motion to support all four symposia submitted for 2016 meeting in Missouri (Moved Mike, Seconded Molly, Supported: unanimous).*

Parliamentarian: (Eileen Hebets): The various Policy changes (14) and Bylaw changes (3) to the Animal Behavior Society Constitution were reviewed and completed.

Executive Editor: (Michelle Scott): The Journal continues to do well. Accepted 34% of the 375 new submissions it received. The Impact Factor remains at 3.1 and the 5-year Impact Factor is 3.4.

Members-at-Large: (John Swaddle, Alison Bell, & Beth Jakob): Smoothly transitioned to a new online grant submission and review system. Coordinated submissions, reviews, and funding of 7 Developing Nations Awards, 39 Student Research Grants, and 5 Latin American Travel Awards.

Historian: (Zuleyma Tang-Martinez): Consulted with Don Dewsbury and Lee Drickamer, met with two historians of science, and has plans to meet with a historian of scientific societies. Keeping a record of all EC correspondence.

PART III. Committee Reports

1. **ABS 2016 Meeting in Missouri (Johannes Schul):** Dorms and food will be inexpensive. Plan is to hold the registration fees constant with previous years.
2. **Film (Barbara Clucas):** Received and reviewed 38 films. The top 3 films in the commercial and non-commercial categories were selected to be showcased at the ABS Film Festival. Food and beverage will be available for purchase at the film festival.
3. **Conservation (Misty McPhee):** The Conservation Behaviour Workshop generated huge interest. They want to work with SPLtrak to update their web page, get the Conservation Behavior journal issues reposted, provide information about the committee and its' members, and the resources they provide.
4. **Diversity (Dan Howard):** There are 8 Turner students attending, but anticipate increasing this back to 10 for 2016. Expecting around 100 students at the Undergraduate Luncheon and Orientation. *Motion to add language to the ABS policy about the Turner Award (moved Molly, Seconded Alison, Supported: unanimous), resulting language addition to ABS policy: Charles Henry Turner Award (added at EC meeting 2015) a. The Charles Henry Turner Award was named for one of the very first African American scientists to publish in animal behavior. It is an undergraduate travel and professional development award instituted by the ABS Diversity Committee in 2002 to promote its goal of increasing the diversity of the ABS membership by encouraging researchers of all ages, levels, and ethnic groups to participate in the annual meetings. b. The Turner Award is made annually to a number of undergraduate students following a competitive review of applications by a sub-committee of the Diversity Committee. The number of awards will be determined in consultation with the Treasurer. c. The Turner Award covers all meeting expenses (travel, housing, registration, meals, one-year membership in ABS, a meeting t-shirt) for each of the awardees, as well as a day-long pre-meeting workshop for orientation and professional development (organized, presented and managed by the Diversity Committee), and connection with at least one mentor from the ABS membership during the opening reception of the meeting. d. Applicants for the award may be at any stage of their undergraduate career (not secondary school) or recently graduated, but may not have finished their undergraduate degree earlier than the end of the fall semester prior to the annual meeting covered by the award. e. Turner Awardees who have completed research projects of the quality to produce a poster are entered in the Genesis Award competition, but the poster presentation is not required for selection for the Turner Award, and awardees are allowed to give an oral presentation if recommended by their undergraduate research advisor.*
5. **Latin American Affairs (Lilian Tonelli Manica):** Organized a Latin American party (Pachanga Party) in the hopes of raising money for Latin American Affairs.
6. **Education Committee (Susan Foster):** The committee works hard reviewing books for the book award, gathering material and reviewing applications for the teaching award, running teaching workshops and symposia, organizing teaching resources, running the Genesis poster award competition, and coordinating the Education Outreach program.

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7. **Public Affairs Committee (Patricia Brennan):** This committee was reformed in 2015. They will contact media and plan to be active in social media.
8. **Applied Animal Behavior Committee (Robin Foster):** Plans to run a Public Day session on Comparative Canine Behavior in Missouri.
9. **Board of Professional Certification (Robin Foster presented for Crista Coppola):** 1 new certified animal behaviourist and 5 renewals. There are plans to automate a number of different elements, and send reminders of renewal eligibility.
10. **AAAS Liaison Committee (Dan Rubenstein):** Encouraged members to propose symposia for AAAS to keep behavior in the forefront. Forward ideas to Dan.
11. **SPLtrak (Adam Kohm):** Focussed efforts on getting access to the server, getting grant submission system developed, developing our online meeting submission system, working on the budgets, helping organize the meeting, and getting historical material scanned. Next step is to help committees with their needs.

**Animal Behavior Society Annual Business Meeting Notes
June 13, 2015, University of Alaska Anchorage
10AM-11AM - Anchorage, AK**

President Regina H. Macedo called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. She announced the working transition of the Society to SPLtrak, which included the closing of the Bloomington, IN Central Office and negotiations of Lori and Shan's severance package, as well as a new website and new online membership system.

Regina announced this year's new Fellows: Gregory E. Demas, Steven L. Lima, Daniel R. Papaj, Michael S. Webster

Regina announced the appointment of new chairs for the following committees:

- Public Affairs Committee: Patricia Brennan
- Applied Animal Behavior: Robin Foster
- Latin American Affairs Committee: Lilian Manica
- Advancement and Investment Committee: Jeff Galef & Bob Seyfarth
- New Historian: Zuleyma Tang- Martinez.

Regina announced the Executive Committee Candidates. Those elected will start their terms after the 2016 ABS meeting.

- Second President Elect: John Swaddle and Mike Webster
- Treasurer: Gil Rosenthal and Matthew Wund
- Members -At- Large: Tood Freeberg and Melissa Hughes
- Parliamentarian: Peter Bendekoff and Tamra Mendelson

Sue Bertram, Secretary, announced the Secretary's Report. Sue recalled the exact number of attendants as 586 and announced the 2017 Toronto Meeting. This year the Newsletter had the four regular issues published in the new electronic format. The ABS election generated 25% member vote compared from 39% in 2013. Sue's aim is to get 50% voting rate for 2015. The number of emails handled is 2362: 704=Newsletter related, 553=Anchorage Meeting, 285=Spltrak handover, 214=ABS News (125 Postings), 180=Votes, 148=Career Awards, 143=Committee Chairs.

Sue presented the Parliamentarian Report in place of Eileen Hebets. Sue announced the policy changes which will be available via the website. The changes proposed included:

6. Executive Committee Meetings *(added at EC meeting 2015)*

Meetings of the Executive Committee are closed to those who are not members of the Executive Committee, except for the Historian who will act as an *ex officio* member and any other persons invited at the discretion of the President. Invited participants have a voice but not voting privileges *(Revised at 2015 EC meeting)*.

7. Annual ABS Meetings *(added at EC meeting 2015)*

- All symposia except the President's and Allee symposia will be funded a minimum of \$3000 for travel or accommodation and registration fees will be waived for symposium speakers *(revised at 2015 EC meeting)*.
- Retired but active members of the society are entitled to reduced registration fees to attend the annual ABS meeting.

Plus the addition of a Graduate Student Travel Grant and a Caregiver Travel Grant:

14. Graduate Student Travel Grant *(added at EC meeting 2015)*

- a. The objective of this grant is to provide financial support for graduate students to attend and present at the annual Animal Behavior Society meeting.

- b. Grants will be available annually and will be open to any active graduate student member of ABS.
- c. Receiving this award does not preclude students from applying for additional funding from ABS.
- d. The number of awards and dollar amount will be based on a recommendation from the Treasurer.
- e. The Members-at-Large, in conjunction with the Treasurer will organize, run, and administer these awards.

15. Caregiver Travel Grant (added at EC meeting 2015)

- a. The objective of this grant is to provide financial caregiving support for active ABS members to attend and present at the annual ABS meeting.
- b. Funds may be used to aid in caregiving costs that will enable ABS members to attend the annual meeting (e.g., airfare for caregiver, childcare or dependent care costs).
- c. Grants will be available annually and will be open to any active ABS member.
- d. The Members-at-Large, in conjunction with the Treasurer, will organize, run, and administer these awards.

A proposal to the Bylaws was announced:

Section 15. Latin American Affairs Committee:

Shall provide international transportation costs for up to two active ABS members to travel to a Latin American country to give an invited behavior plenary/keynote talk. (proposed at 2015 EC meeting) **Motion. Seconded. Open to discussion:** Zuleyma added that ABS has been informally already providing travel funding for speakers.

Audience asked for more info: Zuleyma added: that it's difficult to get funding to bring in anyone from the US. This change will support the studies and activities in Latin American. There was a question about the definition of an "active" member: Active member- pay dues and presently involved in the society. Question: Are the Latin American countries made aware of each effort? Regina: Yes, they already aware and actively seek more funding. These actions are already processed in this manner; this request would just make it official in the society's bylaws. Motion to edit the by-laws: ACCEPTED. Call for vote: unanimous vote on new wording- unanimously passed. In Favor: unanimous. Opposed: none

Johnathan Pruitt, Emcee for the 2015 Raffle Chose the winning tickets for #1 and #2.

1st Member-at-Large: John Swaddle gave the MAL Report. John first introduced the committee as Allison Bell, Elizabeth Jakob and himself. John thanked all of the reviewers for their hard work and efforts. Reviewers were assigned at least 3 grants to review. New grant review system worked very well to make review process speedier. 39 of 127 applicants were granted awards and 5 of 22 travel grants were awarded. Starting next year there will be two new initiatives: Graduate Student Awards and Caregiver Awards. There were many requests for an award which recognizes graduate students. So this grant would help spread the funds past the undergrads. Also in order to attract speakers a caregiver award would allow diversity with speakers by covering the funds of a caregiver to join the meeting and provide childcare during the conference.

Treasurer Molly Cummings gave an overview of our expenses and income: Expenses - \$344,419.02. Income \$369,803.65 from journal. \$614,894 est. total for year. Molly pointed out that the primary income is membership & profit share of the AB journal. Investments have grown steadily over last 10 years. YTD: 6.7% compared to last year made 7.7% return. We now have 3yrs of reserve operating costs. Molly emphasized that the transition to SPLtrak substantially streamlined our operating costs, resulting in a net of \$65,000 minimum. As a result this allows ABS to give money. For example, the Turner Program is now fully funded by ABS (no longer NSF). We have increased the number and amounts of SRG's and DNG's. Starting in 2016 we will provide \$46K for student travel grants. There will also be funds for caregiver grants. Ability to get better symposia support with increased funds (from 3k to 5k approved for 2016).

The 2016 Meeting was summarized and announced by Johannes Schul. The next ABS meeting will be held JULY 30 - AUG 3 - COLUMBIA, MO with hosts: Zuleyma Tang-Martinez and Johannes Schul. Note that campus is adjacent to downtown. Expect the costs to be reasonable (Residence Halls - including breakfast approximately \$60 / night for a single and \$37 / night for double occupancy; Meal plan – approximately \$50 for 4 lunches and 2 dinners). They are looking at possible solutions for childcare and hope to announce these in Fall 2015.

EXITING OFFICERS

- John Swaddle
- Michelle Scott
- Dan Rubenstien
- Mike Beecher

2016 FREE REGISTRANT – RAFFLE WINNER: The winner of a free registration to ABS 2016 Annual Meeting is Ann Jane from Colgate University.

DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

- Where is the increase from journal coming from & what are we doing to make it more accessible to those in need? Elsevier raises rate sold to library; More on-line income has increased
- What can we do to support POST-DOCS/ grants/ travel? We will discuss this idea further at the next EC meeting.

ABS Newsletter

Send general correspondence concerning the Society to Sue Bertram, the Secretary of The Animal Behavior Society, E-mail: secretary@animalbehaviorsociety.org. Deadlines for materials to be included in the Newsletter are the 15th of the month preceding each issue. The next deadline is **15 October, 2015**. Articles submitted by members of the Society and judged by the Secretary to be appropriate are occasionally published in the ABS newsletter. The publication of such material does not imply ABS endorsement of the opinions expressed by contributors.

Animal Behavior Society Website:
<http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org>

Animal Behavior

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