ABS Elections
Society Election

ONLINE VOTING WILL BEGIN SOON!
Please take the time to vote in the upcoming election!

You will receive an E-mail from the ABS Central Office containing a link to the online ballot. This email will be sent to the address in your ABS account as long as you are currently an active ABS member (as of November 1, 2016). A paper ballot is available in Microsoft Word format if you prefer to vote by regular mail. Please make sure that your name is clearly indicated on the envelope and is received by January 31, 2017.

ABS Constituional Amendment Postcard Ballot
Member Vote

Soon you should receive a postcard ballot by mail asking you to vote on an amendment to Article 11 of the Animal Behavior Society’s constitution (mailed November 2, 2016). Article 11, which deals with procedures for amending the constitution, at present allows voting on constitutional amendments only by postal mail. The proposed amendment would, if approved, allow future voting on amendments to be done by email or other electronic means.

I hope you will understand why this vote must be conducted by postal mail. The Executive Committee will be very grateful if you will make the effort to mark and return your ballot.

We will send out an email notification about the results and include the results in the next newsletter.

Call for Nominations
The Animal Behavior Society has a series of Career Awards available. Please consider nominating a worthy recipient.

Grants & Awards
The ABS offers a number of grants and awards to support the educational activities of its members.
Announcements
View the current ABS announcements.
Read more »

Check out some opportunities in the field of animal behavior.
Read more »

Members-at-Large:
Beth Jakob, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, E-mail: mematlarge1@animalbehaviorsociety.org
Emily DuVal, Florida State University, E-mail: mematlarge2@animalbehaviorsociety.org
Melissa Hughes, College of Charleston, E-mail: mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org

ABS Newsletter
Send general correspondence concerning the Society to Sue Bertram, 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 January 15, 2017. 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 Behaviour
Animal Behaviour, manuscripts and editorial matters: Authors should submit manuscripts online to Elsevier’s Editorial System (http://ees.elsevier.com/anbeh). For enquiries relating to submissions prior to acceptance, contact the Journal Manager (yanbe@elsevier.com). For enquiries relating to submissions after acceptance, visit Elsevier at http://www.elsevier.com/journals. For other general correspondence, contact Kris Bruner, Managing Editor, Animal Behaviour, Indiana University, 407 N. Park Ave., Bloomington, IN 47408, USA. E-mail: kbruner@indiana.edu. Phone: 812-935-7188.

Change of address, missing or defective issues: ABS Central Office, 2111 Chestnut Ave., Ste 145, Glenview, IL 60025, USA. Phone: 312-893-6585, Fax: 312-896-5614, E-mail: info@animalbehaviorsociety.org.

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Election

CANDIDATES FOR 2017 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Second President-Elect:
Jennifer Fewell (Arizona State University)
Diana Hew (Indiana State University)

Secretary:
Patricia Brennan (Mount Holyoke College)
Matthew Wund (College of New Jersey)

Member-at-Large:
Ryan Taylor (Salisbury University)
Chris Templeton (Pacific University)

Program Officer:
Alison Bell (University of Illinois)
Mike Noonan (Canisius College)

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Second President-Elect:

Jennifer Fewell (Arizona State University)

Education:
B.A. Neurobiology and Behavior, 1979, Cornell University
M.S. Evolutionary, Ecology and Organismal Biology, 1985, University of Colorado, Boulder
Ph.D. Evolutionary, Ecology and Organismal Biology, 1988, University of Colorado, Boulder
NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1989-1991, Simon Fraser University

Current Position: President’s Professor, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University

Research Interests: social organization and evolution; social insect biology; social transitions and the evolution of cooperative social groups; social scaling; foraging ecology and foraging energetics

ABS and Related Activities:
Diana Hews (Indiana State University)

Education:
B.A. Zoology, 1979, Pomona College
M.S. Zoology, 1984, Oregon State University
Ph.D. Zoology, 1990, University of Texas at Austin
Postdoctoral research fellow, 1991-1995 Zoology, Arizona State University

Current Position:
Professor and Chair, Department of Biology, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN.

Research Interests:
Animal communication, sexual selection, territoriality, behavioral endocrinology, alternative reproductive tactics, stress physiology.

ABS and Related Activities:

Patricia Brennan (Mount Holyoke College)

Education:
B.A. Marine Biology, 1993, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano
Ph.D. Neurobiology and Behavior, 2005, Cornell University
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2005-2010, Yale University
Research Associate, University of Massachusetts, Amherst 2010-2015

Current Position:
Visiting Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Mount Holyoke College.

Research Interests:
Sexual selection and sexual conflict in vertebrates; in particular genital evolution, post-copulatory selection, and costs of mating.

ABS and Related Activities:
Chair of the Public Affairs Committee (2014- present) We revived this committee to include broadening social media presence, and offering workshops on science outreach during the ABS meeting; Member of the Latin-American Affairs Committee (2009-2011); ABS Graduate Student Grants reviewer; ABS Allee Poster competition reviewer; Manuscript and grant reviews: NSF grant review panelist (pre-proposals and full proposals for behavioral systems and evolutionary processes), NSF grant review external reviewer (behavioral systems, developmental systems); Peer reviewed 3-12 papers per year in the last five years; developed an outreach program defending the importance of basic science funding, in particular animal behavior and organismal biology that incorporates a seminar, round table participation at AIBS and AAAS, peer-reviewed publications and development of 9-12 materials for teaching these concepts and ideas, as well as continued training and involvement of outreach efforts by graduate students.

Matthew Wund (College of New Jersey)

E-mail: mematlarge@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Melissa Hughes, College of Charleston, E-mail: mematlarge3@animalbehaviorsociety.org
Education:
- B.S. Biology, 1999, The College of New Jersey
- M.S. Biology, 2001, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, 2005, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2005-2009, Behavioral Evolution, Clark University

Current Position:
- Associate Professor of Biology, The College of New Jersey

Research Interests:
- behavioral evolution, the evolution and development of antipredator behavior, the role of phenotypic plasticity (including learning) in shaping evolutionary outcomes

ABS and Related Activities:

Member-at-Large:

Ryan Taylor (Salisbury University)

Education:
- B.S. Biology, 1995, University of Louisiana Lafayette
- M.S. Biology, 1999, Florida International University
- Ph.D. Biology, 2004, University of Louisiana Lafayette
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2004-2005, University of Texas at Austin

Current Position:
- Associate Professor of Biology, Salisbury University, Maryland.

Research Interests:
- Animal communication, multimodal signaling, auditory scene analysis, sensory ecology, auditory perception

ABS and Related Activities:

Chris Templeton (Pacific University)

Education:
- B.S. Biology, 1999, Denison University
- M.S. Organismal Biology & Ecology, 2003, University of Montana
- Ph.D. Zoology, 2009, University of Washington
- NSF International Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2010-12, University of St Andrews
- Natural Environment Research Council (UK) Independent Fellow, 2013-15, University of St Andrews

Current Position:
- Assistant Professor, Pacific University; Honorary Lecturer, University of St Andrews

Research Interests:
- Animal communication, sexual selection, learning and cognition, predator-prey interactions, acoustic ecology and conservation.

ABS and Related Activities:
- ABS Member for 15+ years; ABS Film Committee (2015); Reviewer for ABS Graduate Student Grants (2015); Judge for ABS Founder’s Memorial Poster Award (2014); ABS Allee Award honorable mention (2003); University of St Andrews Animal Ethics Committee (2011-15); Scottish Conference on Animal Behavior Student Presentation Judge (2014); NSF Animal Behavior Panel Grant reviewer; Manuscript Reviewer for Animal Behaviour and 17 other journals (5 manuscripts/year on average).

Program Officer:

Alison Bell (University of Illinois)
Mike Noonan (Canisius College)

Education:
B.S. Biology, 1974, University of Notre Dame
Ph.D. Behavioral Neuroscience, 1985, State University of New York at Buffalo

Current Position:
Professor, Animal Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation, Canisius College.

Research Interests:
The cognitive and social nature of marine mammals held in seaquaria. (Recent studies have focused upon evidence of numerical competence in bottlenose dolphins, unusual male-male alliances in beluga whales, and culturally transmitted gull-baiting techniques in killer whales.)

ABS and Related Activities:
ABS Non-Commercial Film of the Year, 2005; ABS Distinguished Teacher, 2006; ABS Teaching Workshop 2009; ABS Film Committee Chair 2010-2014; ABS Film Makers Workshop 2014.
At Canisius College, founder/chair of undergraduate program in Animal Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation; founder/director of graduate program in Anthrozoology.
**Book Award**

**2016 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY CHILDREN’S BOOK AWARD FINALISTS STIMULATE YOUNG READERS**

Stories and pictures illustrate science in an exciting way. This year the Animal Behavior Society recognized one winner and three finalists through our Outstanding Children’s Book Award program. These books are targeted to children in grades 3-5 (ages 8-11). Inspire a future scientist by giving one of these as a gift or by encouraging your school or public library to acquire these titles.

The Animal Behavior Society will soon be soliciting books for next year’s award. Interested publishers should contact the Book Award Sub-committee Chair, Michelle Solensky, E-mail: msolensk@uj.edu.

**Outstanding Children’s Book Award Winner**

The winner of the 2016 Outstanding Children’s Book Award is *The Queen’s Shadow: A story about how animals see*, written and illustrated by Cybèle Young, and published by Kids Can Press. The Queen’s Shadow is an enjoyable story about the many aspects of vision in different animals. The queen has played host to a diverse group of animals in the palace, but during a thunderstorm she has lost her shadow. She accuses them of stealing it and, one by one, they explain why their particular perceptual abilities eliminate them from her accusation. Well, the squid says all his arms were busy… On each double page, we learn about the perceptual world of a different animal. In the end the sea urchins reveal that she ‘left her show in the loo’ and they all go home, with us much the wiser. Children who reviewed this book liked the story, and they enjoyed learning about how animals see.

**Outstanding Children’s Book Award Finalists**

*Bite into Bloodsuckers*, by Kari-Lynn Winters and Ishta Mercurio (Fitzhenry & Whiteside) describes the benefits and challenges of hematophagy, or using blood as a food source, and features vivid behavioral accounts of the usual suspects (ticks, leeches, mosquitoes and vampire bats) and some less familiar bloodsuckers (torpedo snail, catfish, kissing bugs).

What’s the buzz? *Keeping Bees in Flight*, by Merrie-Ellen Wilcox (Orca Book Publishers) is a great book buzzing with information about the life of bees and ways humans can help them amidst recent massive die-offs.
The Octopus Scientists: Exploring the Mind of a Mollusk, by Sy Montgomery (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) puts the spotlight on an international team of scientists who study octopus behaviors near the South Pacific island of Moorea. As part of the Scientists in the Field Series, this book does an excellent job of describing both the joys and challenges of studying animal behavior in the field.
2017 ABS Conference

54th Annual Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society

Toronto, Canada - June 12 - 16, 2017

The 54th Annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society will be held in Toronto, Canada, June 12 - 16, 2017; hosted by the University of Toronto, Scarborough, and chaired by Maydianne Andrade and Andrew Mason. Please check the ABS website and look for a special email announcement to members in the near future with details about our 54th meeting.

The slate for symposia is now complete for 2017 and includes Cognitive Ecology III: 10 years later; The Future of Zoo Research: 50 Years of Zoo Behavior; and Re-Invigorating Your Classroom with Module-Based Teaching. Keynote speakers include Rebecca Kilner, Cambridge University; Elizabeth Tibbetts, University of Michigan; ABS Fellow Molly Morris, Ohio University; and Jim Dale, Massey University.

PRE-CALL FOR PAPERS: Each ABS member may present or sponsor one contributed paper at an Annual Meeting. Any topic related to the field of Animal Behavior is welcome, including all aspects of the behavior of animals for field, laboratory, applied or theoretical studies. Abstracts submitted by non-members must include the name of an ABS member willing to sponsor the presentation. ABS members may also show one film, participate in invited paper sessions or present plenary lectures in addition to giving or sponsoring their single contributed paper. The research reported at an Annual Meeting must comply with the ABS guidelines and all applicable laws concerning animal care and welfare. More details on abstract submission guidelines and abstract submission deadlines will soon be available on the conference website, linked to the ABS meeting site here: http://animalbehaviorsociety.org.

Registrants may submit abstracts for Talks or Posters. Talks will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, as per ABS policy. For more information, please contact: info@animalbehaviorsociety.org.

Conference hosts: Maydianne Andrade & Andrew Mason

Local Organizing committee:
Daryll T Gwynne
Locke Rowe
Marla Sokolowski
John Ratcliffe

All non-Canadians will need a PASSPORT (and in some cases, a visa) to travel to Canada.
ABS 2017 MEETING RELATED AWARDS

2017 Warder Clyde Allee Award

The 2017 Warder Clyde Allee Session for Best Student Paper Competition will be held during the annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society scheduled June 12th through June 16th at the University of Toronto at Scarborough. All eligible students and recent graduates are encouraged to participate.

Eligibility requirements: Any independent graduate student research (including, but not limited to, the doctoral dissertation) is suitable for the application. The work presented may be part of a larger collaborative effort, but the applicant must be first author and have principal responsibility for conceptualization and design of the research, collection and analysis of the data, and interpretation of the results. The applicant cannot have been awarded the Ph.D. degree before the start of the preceding ABS annual meeting (for the 2017 meeting, this date is July 30, 2016). An individual can apply to the Allee competition only once per lifetime.

To submit an entry to the Allee Session, applicants must (1) check the appropriate box in the online abstract submission system for the annual meeting; (2) confirm that they meet all eligibility requirements; and (3) submit a PDF version of their Allee manuscript. All applications must be submitted on or before the 2017 meeting’s abstract submission date.

The Allee manuscript must consist of no more than seven double-spaced, line-numbered, text pages (11 point font or larger), followed by no more than a total of four tables and figures. This limit does not include abstract, references, or acknowledgments. Thesis research that is already published may be included in the Allee paper as long as that work is cited appropriately. Allee manuscripts should be prepared with the same care and attention to detail as if the manuscript was being submitted to a leading journal, such as Animal Behaviour.

Allee judges will evaluate manuscripts, and based on that evaluation will select a slate of applicants to be invited to present their research during the Allee Session at the annual meeting. Submission of an entry does not guarantee participation in the Allee Session, as it is a competitive process. If an applicant is not invited to participate in the Allee Session they will be guaranteed a regular oral presentations at the annual meeting.

For invited applicants, the oral presentation of research during the Allee Session must focus on the material presented in the submitted paper, but may also include other original research conducted by the applicant as well as general introductory and concluding remarks. Applicants who participate in the session are also expected to attend the Allee welcoming dinner and the Annual Meeting’s award ceremony, both of which occur during the annual meeting.

Questions about the Allee Session should be addressed to ABS Second President-Elect, John Swaddle (preselect2@animalbehaviorsociety.org).

GENESIS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE POSTER PRESENTATION

Undergraduates who submit posters for presentation at the annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society are automatically entered in the Genesis Award poster competition unless they indicate they do not want to be included in the competition when they submit their abstract. Judging criteria include significance of the research topic, research methods, research results, and presentation. Presentation encompasses the student’s oral discussion with the judges and the poster itself, including clear statements of the questions and results, demonstration that there has been appropriate literature review, good organization and visual appeal. Students should be prepared to demonstrate a mastery of their subject material. Information about this award is available at the ABS website link: http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org/web/awards-genesis.php. Further information, if needed, can be obtained from the chair of the Genesis subcommittee, Sarah Humfeld (E-mail: humfelds@missouri.edu).

CHARLES H. TURNER AWARD

The Diversity Committee of the Animal Behavior Society is calling for nominations for the 2016 Charles H. Turner Award. This program, previously funded by an NSF grant but now supported entirely by the Animal Behavior Society, is a travel grant that supports the goals of increasing the diversity of our membership through support for undergraduate students to attend the annual meeting. Selected Turner Program Fellows will receive support to
travel to the 53rd Annual Conference being held in Columbia, Missouri, and participate in a one-day workshop structured to integrate students into both the meeting experience and the broader community of the Animal Behavior Society.

The deadline for submitting online applications is **February 28, 2017**, including the receipt of all applicant materials and faculty letters of support. The Diversity Committee will review all complete applications and award decisions will be available in March. Interested undergraduate students should contact the Diversity Committee Chair, Dr. Daniel R. Howard, diversity@animalbehaviorsociety.org, before the deadline with any questions on the application process, and we especially encourage those from traditionally under-represented groups to apply for this unique professional development opportunity.

### FOUNDERS’ MEMORIAL POSTER PAPER AWARD

The Founders’ Memorial Poster Award competition will be held at the 2017 annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society scheduled June 12th through June 16th at the University of Toronto at Scarborough. Any graduate student or postdoctoral member of the society in good standing is eligible to enter the competition. Applicants can indicate their intention to enter the competition by marking the appropriate box on the Meeting Abstract submission form. All Founders presenters will be expected to provide a single page preview of their poster for the judges.

NOTE: Founder’s participants will no longer be required to give a rapid fire 1 minute 2 slide poster preview presentation.

### DIVERSITY FUND STUDENT REGISTRATION FEE AWARD

The Diversity Fund Student Registration Fee Awards are intended to encourage participation and defray costs of attending the annual Animal Behavior Meetings by covering registration fees for graduate students and, in some cases (see below), established professionals, of under-represented minorities. Awards will be made by lottery of all valid applications received before the deadline, which falls on the same date as that for abstract submissions for the upcoming meeting. The exact date for this deadline will be announced when the abstract submission deadline is finalized. The application process is online, and preference is given to individuals presenting research. Questions on the award or application process should be emailed to the ABS Diversity Committee Chair, Daniel R. Howard (diversity@animalbehaviorsociety.org). Please include in the subject line “ABS Diversity Award” followed by your name.

Eligibility: Applicants from North America must be enrolled in a graduate program at the time of application and must be members of under-represented minorities in the STEM fields who are of African, Asian, Latin American, American Indian or Alaska Native descent. Citizens (graduate students or established professionals) of Latin American countries and non-white citizens of African countries are also encouraged to apply.

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**ABS Newsletter**

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**Animal Behaviour**

**Animal Behaviour, manuscripts and editorial matters:** Authors should submit manuscripts online to Elsevier’s Editorial System (http://ees.elsevier.com/anbeh). For enquiries relating to submissions prior to acceptance, contact the Journal Manager (vanbe@elsevier.com). For enquiries relating to submissions after acceptance, visit Elsevier at http://www.elsevier.com/journals. For other general correspondence, contact Kris Bruner, Managing Editor, Animal Behaviour, Indiana University, 407 N. Park Ave., Bloomington, IN 47408, USA. E-mail: krbuner@indiana.edu. Phone: 812-935-7188.

**Change of address, missing or defective issues:** ABS Central Office, 2111 Chestnut Ave., Ste 145, Glenview, IL 60025, USA. Phone: 312-893-6585, Fax: 312-896-5614, E-mail: info@animalbehaviorsociety.org.
Call for Nominations

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

*Penny Bernstein Distinguished Teaching Award* - recognizes a sustained record of excellent teaching of animal behavior in the classroom or informal education setting.

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:

- 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.
- A curriculum vitae of the nominee.
- Additional supporting letters from colleagues solicited by the nominator.

Materials for the Distinguished Animal Behaviorist, Exemplar, Outstanding New Investigator, Quest and Exceptional Service Award can be submitted using the online upload system [here](#).

* For the Penny Bernstein Distinguished Teaching Award, submit a one-page letter providing evidence to support the nomination to the chair of the PBDTA sub-committee (Stan Braude, braude@wustl.edu). Click [here](#) to review award criteria.

The deadline for all career awards nominations is November 30, 2016.
ABS Newsletter

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Research Grants & Travel Awards

SEVERAL AWARDS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP OFFSET TRAVEL COSTS TO THE ABS 2017 CONFERENCE IN ADDITION TO THE GRANTS LISTED BELOW.

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY 2017 STUDENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPING NATIONS RESEARCH GRANTS

The Animal Behavior Society offers the following grants to support graduate student research:

- ABS Student Research Grants
- George W. Barlow Award
- E.O. Wilson Conservation Award
- Amy R. Samuels Cetacean Behavior and Conservation Grant
- David S. Tuber Award
- Developing Nations Research Grant (for students and other researchers)

IMPORTANT NOTE: Individuals may receive only one ABS research grant during their lifetime. Receipt of an ABS research grant does not preclude receipt of a Developing Nations Grant in a subsequent year, and receipt of a Developing Nations Grant one year does not preclude the receipt of an ABS research grant in a subsequent year.

The deadline for Student Grant submission is 11:59PM CST on Friday, December 16, 2016. Submissions will not be accepted after the closing date. Applicants for student grants must be enrolled in a graduate program and must be active members of the Animal Behavior Society.

Application instructions and more information about the Student Research Grants are available on the grant application website here: http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org/web/awards-student-grants.php

If you have any questions about your membership or the submission process, contact the ABS Central Office (info@animalbehaviorsociety.org).

ABS STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

ABS Student Research Grants for graduate student research are awarded at a level of $500 to $2000 USD each, depending on referee evaluations.

E. O. WILSON CONSERVATION AWARD

The Edward O. Wilson Conservation Award seeks to encourage graduate students of animal behavior to participate in meaningful conservation-related research. This single grant of up to $2000 USD supports a proposal considered meritorious for its integration of behavior and conservation. The award is named for Dr. E. O. Wilson, professor at Harvard University, one of the world's preeminent scientists and pioneers in biodiversity conservation. Dr. Wilson received the ABS Distinguished Animal Behaviorist Award in 2002.

GEORGE W. BARLOW AWARD
The George W. Barlow Award's purpose is to encourage excellence in graduate student research in the field of animal behavior. This grant will be given annually to one top-ranked proposal in the Student Research Grant cycle in accordance with the most recent ABS Student Research Grant competition rules.

**AMY R. SAMUELS CETACEAN BEHAVIOR & CONSERVATION AWARD**

The purpose of the Amy R. Samuels Cetacean Behavior & Conservation Award is to provide financial support for graduate students studying cetacean behavior and/or cetacean conservation in natural environments. The goal of this grant is to encourage original and significant research that focuses on endangered populations or species, or on critically important problems in cetacean behavioral biology. A grant of up to $2000 USD will be made to a successful applicant. The grant must be used for field research; it cannot be used for laboratory research. This grant will be awarded only if there are proposals deemed worthy by the committee in any given year. Thus, there may be years in which no award is made. Eligible applicants must: (1) be enrolled in a Masters or Doctoral Program in a University accredited by a regional college association, (2) be members in good standing of one of the following professional societies: Animal Behavior Society or Association of the Study of Animal Behaviour. ASAB members planning to apply for this grant must contact the Central Office (info@animalbehaviorsociety.org) prior to the submission deadline (specified above) to be able to submit an application through the ABS web site.

**DAVID S. TUBER AWARD**

The David S. Tuber award was created to promote excellence in research into Applied Animal Behavior.

Named in honor of David S. Tuber (1942-1995) this award was created by Victoria L. Voith & Peter L. Borchelt, editors of the book "Readings in Companion Animal Behaviour" for his seminal contribution to the field of clinical animal behavior. David S. Tuber was one of the first behaviorist to apply the principles of animal behavior to the behavioral problems of companion animals.

**DEVELOPING NATIONS RESEARCH GRANT**

Funds for the annual Developing Nations Research Grant Competition are intended to provide financial support for scientific studies of animal behavior conducted by current Animal Behavior Society student members, as well as more established researchers, who are residents of a developing nation and are conducting research at an institution in a developing nation. Please note that developing nation student members of ABS are also eligible to apply for the annual Student Research Grants Competition, and are eligible to receive both a Developing Nations Research grant and a Student Research Grant, but not in the same year.

ABS uses the World Bank’s classification of nations by income (excluding all “high-income” and OECD member economies) to identify Developing Nations. Please refer to the following website to check that your nation qualifies: [http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups](http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups). Grants are awarded for research to be conducted within a 1-year period from the date of receipt of this grant.

**ABS 2016 TRAVEL RELATED GRANTS AND AWARDS**

**LATIN AMERICAN TRAVEL AWARD**

The Latin American Travel Awards are intended to encourage greater participation of Latin American researchers in ABS meetings, by helping to defray the costs of international travel, housing and/or meals at meetings. The deadline for applications is the last day of abstract submissions, February 28, 2017.

Given the eligibility criteria below, priority will be given to Ph.D. students who are attending an ABS meeting for the first time and who have not received a Latin American Travel Award in previous years. Award values vary according to funds available. Candidates are prioritized according to the quality of their abstracts and CVs.

Eligibility: Latin American Travel Awards are restricted to Latin American graduate students enrolled in programs in Latin American institutions, who will be presenting a talk/poster at the annual ABS meeting.

Applications consist of:
1. Your submitted abstract, including the title
2. Your curriculum vita (CV)
3. A brief statement about your previous attendance at ABS meeting and previous Latin American Travel Awards
Award(s)

Checks in US dollars for the amount of the award will be mailed directly to recipients following announcement of the results. Applicants are responsible for currency exchange and any bank fees.

Applicants will be able to apply for the Latin American Travel Award through the online abstract submission system.

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT

The Graduate Student Travel Grant award is intended to provide financial support for graduate students to attend and present at the annual Animal Behavior Society meeting by helping to defray the costs of travel, housing and/or meals at the meetings.

The deadline for applications is the last day of abstract submissions, February 28, 2017.

Priority will be given to Ph.D. students who are attending an ABS meeting for the first time. Award values vary according to funds available. Candidates are prioritized according to the quality of their abstracts and CVs.

Eligibility: Graduate Student Travel Awards are restricted to graduate students who will be presenting a talk/poster at the annual ABS meeting and who are active members of ABS. Receiving this award does not preclude students from applying for additional funding from ABS.

Applications consist of:

1. Your submitted abstract, including the title
2. Your curriculum vita (CV)
3. Justification for request for support, including information about whether support for attendance is covered by other sources
4. A brief statement about your previous attendance at ABS meetings

Applicants will be able to apply for the Graduate Student Travel Grant through the online abstract submission system.

CAREGIVER TRAVEL GRANT

The Caregiver Travel Grant award is intended to provide financial caregiving support for active ABS members to attend and present at the annual ABS meeting. 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).

The deadline for applications is the last day of abstract submissions, February 28, 2017.

Award values vary according to funds available. Candidates are prioritized according to their need, abstract and CVs. Preference will be given to applicants who are presenting their work.

Eligibility: Caregiver Travel Grant Awards are for ABS members who will be attending the annual ABS meeting. Receiving this award does not preclude ABS members from applying for additional funding from ABS.

Applications consist of:

1. Your submitted abstract, including the title
2. Your curriculum vita (CV)
3. Justification for request for support (one paragraph)
4. A brief statement about your previous attendance at ABS meetings

Applicants will be able to apply for the Caregiver Travel Grant through the online abstract submission system.
Send general correspondence concerning the Society to Sue Bertram, 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 January 15, 2017. 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.

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Announcements

ABS NEWSLETTER ON ABS WEBSITE

Issues of the ABS Newsletter are published first on the ABS Web page. To get ABS news fast, point your browser to: http://newsletters.animalbehaviorsociety.org

ABS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ABS Financial statement is available to all ABS members upon request. Please contact the ABS Central Office (info@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, Past President: Emília P. Martins, Indiana University- Bloomington, E-mail: president@animalbehaviorsociety.org

YOUR PAPER YOUR WAY

To make article submission more convenient for authors, Elsevier has a new policy: You may choose to submit your initial manuscript as a single Word or PDF file to be used in the refereeing process. References can be in any consistent style and tables and figures can be embedded in the text. Only when your paper is at the revision stage will you be required to put your paper in the "correct format". For more information please visit the Preparation section in Guide for Authors on line.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Consider giving your students and graduate students a gift membership to the Animal Behavior Society. It doesn’t cost much, supports your society, helps out our youngest members, and keeps our society growing. Simply contact the Central Office for more information on how to gift a membership: info@animalbehaviorsociety.org

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE: ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR MONOGRAPHS

Elsevier is pleased to announce that the retro-digitization project for the Animal Behaviour Monographs (Volumes 1-6, 18 PDFs, 1968-72) is now complete and they are all available online: e.g. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00661856. These are now available to all ABS and ASAB members and subscribers and those receiving gratis access. Among the many significant contributions that are now available is Jane Goodall’s classic monograph, The Behaviour of Free-living Chimpanzees in the Gombe Stream Reserve, Volume 1, Part 3, Pages 161-311 (1968). The Animal Behaviour Monographs represent precious (and previously largely unavailable) historical content that is now easily accessible online for posterity.

FOLLOW ABS ON FACEBOOK
Go to 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 our wall and share their ABS-related photos and experiences. Invite all your friends to help continue to expand the society!

JOIN AN ABS COMMITTEE!

If you would like to volunteer for one of the society’s active committees listed below, contact ABS President Emilia Martins Indiana University - Bloomington, E-mail: president@animalbehaviorsociety.org

ABS STANDING COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS 2015-2016

**Animal Care Committee:** Alexander Ophir, Department of Psychology, Cornell University, 224 Uris Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853, US. E-mail: animalcare@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Conservation Committee:** Misty McPhee, Asst. Prof. Environmental Studies and Biology, 3448 Sage Hall, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI 54901, US. E-mail: conservation@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Nominations Committee:** Emilia Martins, Department of Biology, Indiana University- Bloomington. E-mail: nominations@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Education Committee:** Susan W. Margulis, ABEC Department, Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14208, US. E-mail: education@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Film Committee:** Barbara A. Clucas, Department of Wildlife, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521, US. E-mail: film@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Applied Animal Behavior Committee:** Robin L. Foster, Department of Psychology CMB 1046, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA 98416-0001, US. E-mail: appliedanimalbehavior@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Public Affairs Committee:** Patricia Brennan, Psychology Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, US. E-mail: publicaffairs@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Board of Professional Certification Subcommittee:** Crista Coppola, Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist, Dog and Company Behavior Consulting, US. E-mail: caab@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Latin American Affairs Committee:** Lilian Tonelli Manica, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, PR 81531-990, BRAZIL. E-mail: latinamericanaffairs@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Student Research Grants Committee:** Beth Jakob, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences Tobin Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003, US. E-mail: studentresearchgrants@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Advancement and Investment Committee:** Jeff Galef, 82 Fountain View Lane, Durham, NC 27705, USA and Robert Seyfarth, Department of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104, US. E-mail: advanceandinvest@animalbehaviorsociety.org

**Diversity Committee:** Daniel Howard, Department of Biological Sciences, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 03824, US. E-mail: diversity@animalbehaviorsociety.org

PROPOSE A SYMPOSIUM FOR ABS 2017

If you'd like to propose symposia for the 2018 conference, please complete and submit our Symposium Proposal Form before May 31, 2017: goo.gl/1zzW04

If you have any questions, please contact the Program Officer: Dr. Mark Hauber, E-mail: progofficer@animalbehaviorsociety.org.

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING


OTHER MEETINGS

January 4-8, 2017: Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) - Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, Meeting Website. Abstract Deadline will be Thursday 1 September 2016.

February 16-20, 2017: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) – Annual Meeting: Serving Society Through Science Policy, Boston, MA.

July 30 -August 4, 2017: Behaviour 2017, a joint meeting of the 35th International Ethological Conference (IEC) and the 2017 Summer Meeting of the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) in Estoril, Portugal.


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## Membership Vote

**PENDING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS VOTING TO COMMENCE SHORTLY**

Following the postcard ballot vote to amend Article 11 of the constitution, we will vote on Article 4. If Article 11’s amendment passes, we will hold the vote electronically; if it does not pass, we will hold it via mail.

The proposed changes to Article 4 of the constitution are:

### Article 4: Officers

**Section 1.** The officers of this Society are: President, First President-Elect, Second President-Elect, Past-President, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Executive Editor, Secretary, Public Affairs Officer, and Graduate Student Representative.

**Section 3.** Term of Office: The term of office shall be one year for President, First President-Elect, Second President-Elect, Past-President, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, President, and Program Officer-Elect. The term of office shall be two years for the Graduate Student Representative. The term of office shall be three years for Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Executive Editor, and Public Affairs Officer. All terms will commence following the last date scheduled for the annual meeting, at which time the terms of the outgoing officers will end. The expiration date of the terms of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be arranged so only one is elected in any one year. A Program Officer-Elect shall be elected every year, becoming Program Officer the following year. A Second President-Elect shall be elected each year, becoming successively First President-Elect, President, and Past-President. In the cases of death or resignation of the President or First President-Elect, these offices shall be filled by the above stated succession. Other offices becoming vacant shall be filled by special election of the membership. Officers are eligible for re-election, but are limited to two terms in any one office.

**Current Constitution:**

### Article 4: Officers

**Section 1.** The officers of this Society are: President, First President-Elect, Second President-Elect, Past-President, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Executive Editor, and Secretary.

**Section 3.** Term of Office: The term of office shall be one year except in the case of Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and Executive Editor, whose terms shall be three years each, and the Program Officers whose terms shall be four years each. All terms will commence following the last date scheduled for the annual meeting, at which time the terms of the outgoing officers will end. The expiration date of the terms of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be arranged so only one is elected in any one year. A Program Officer shall be elected every other year. A Second President-Elect shall be elected each year, becoming successively First President-Elect, President, and Past-President. In the cases of death or resignation of the President or First President-Elect, these offices shall be filled by the above stated succession. Other offices becoming vacant shall be filled by special election of the membership. Officers are eligible for re-election, but are limited to two terms in any one office.
Consider subscribing to ABS News and receive announcements, or visit the ABS News page to view up-to-date opportunities listed:

http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org/web/news.php

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SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

The 13th Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser was held by University of Washington graduate student Saethra Fritscher at the 2016 Annual ABS meeting in Columbia, Missouri. We raised a total of $1621, with $25.00 to the Barlow Award, $410.50 to the Latin American Initiatives Fund, and $1185.50 to the Graduate Student Research Award. Thank you to all who participated!

We look forward to another excellent fundraising opportunity at our 54th Annual ABS meeting at the University of Toronto’s Scarborough Campus in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from June 12-16, 2017. Anybody wishing to send donations ahead of their arrival at the conference or those wishing to donate but not able to attend should contact Saethra Fritscher at sfrits@uw.edu by May 1, 2017.

2016-2017 ABS OFFICERS

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First President-Elect: Jeffrey Podos, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, E-mail: preselect1@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Second President-Elect: John P. Swaddle, College of William and Mary, E-mail: preselect2@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Past President: Emília P. Martins, Indiana University- Bloomington, E-mail: pastpresident@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Secretary: Sue Bertram, Carleton University, E-mail: secretary@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Treasurer: Gil G. Rosenthal, Texas A&M University - College Station, E-mail: treasurer@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Program Officer: Mark E. Hauber, Hunter College, E-mail: progofficer@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Program Officer-Elect: Jonathan Pruitt, University of Pittsburgh, E-mail: progofficerelect@animalbehaviorsociety.org

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Historian: Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, University of Missouri- St. Louis, E-mail: historian@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Members-at-Large:

Beth Jakob, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, E-mail: mematlarge1@animalbehaviorsociety.org

Emily DuVal, Florida State University, E-
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**Memorials**

Stuart A. Altmann, PhD

Written by Zuleyma Tang-Martinez, ABS Historian

Photos from the Internet

The ABS is deeply saddened to report that one of its founders and legendary members, Stuart Allen Altmann, died from complications of Alzheimer's disease in Princeton, NJ, on October 13, 2016. He was 86. Stuart was born in St. Louis MO, but was raised in Los Angeles, CA.

After completing his undergraduate and Master's education at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA), Stuart studied the mobbing behavior of birds under the mentorship of George Bartholomew; however his education was interrupted when he was drafted into the army for 2 years. In 1956, at the end of his military service, Stuart made his way to Panama to study howler monkeys, and subsequently published a still celebrated paper on their vocalizations. He then attended Harvard University where, in 1960, he completed his Ph.D. on rhesus macaques (in Cayo Santiago, Puerto Rico), working under E.O. Wilson. Stuart began his academic career at the University of Alberta, then moved, in chronological order, to Yerkes National Primate Research Center at Duke University, the University of Chicago, and, finally, to Princeton University. At Princeton, he became an Emeritus Professor but also continued to lecture in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. A pivotal moment for Stuart was meeting Jeanne Altmann (another renowned and esteemed member of ABS) in 1958, while both were working at NIH. They married in 1959. Together, in 1963-1964, they established the now famous Amboseli National Park baboon study in Kenya, which currently probably is the world's longest continuous field study of a primate.

Stuart was a brilliant scientist who combined insights from natural history with predictive mathematical models, followed by rigorous hypothesis testing using quantitative, state-of-the-art ecological and behavioral techniques. His major research interests were animal communication, the evolution of mating systems, foraging, dominance relationships, and the model of "priority of access", which he originated. In his own words, from his web page at Princeton, “…I consider the central problem of behavioral ecology: the ways in which an animal's behavior and social relationships are adapted to the two-fold problem of getting access to essential resources and simultaneously avoiding excess exposure to hazards … My research focuses on naturalistic behavior as an adaptive process.”


In addition to being a Founder, Stuart was intimately involved with the ABS for many years. Most notably, he was President from 1977-1978 (Presidential sequence 1976-1979) and was one of the first members to be elected a Fellow of the ABS, in 1969. From 1993 to 1996, Stuart provided particularly important service as Chair of the ABS Ethics Committee. During this time, he published a total of 8 insightful and original essays on professional ethics in various issues of the ABS newsletter. From a personal perspective, during the time that I was president of ABS (1993-1994), Stuart was a trusted and judicious advisor on various ethical issues that came before the Executive Committee. His wisdom, accompanied by compassion, were hallmarks of his approach to ethical problems and his advice was invaluable to the society.

Stuart was a Renaissance Man and had another side that many ABS members did not know about: he was an artist and an expert potter – and he gave away his beautiful pots for free! Sue Margulis (a former student of Jeanne’s) writes; "His ‘2 for the price of none’ pottery sales were a real high in graduate school. Stuart always said that he got...
his pleasure from creating his art and he was happy giving it away so that others could also get pleasure from it. It was an honor to have him on my graduate committee, I feel so fortunate to have known him, and to be able to call him a friend. Stuart maintained pottery studios at his homes in Chicago and Princeton and was a regular exhibitor at crafts fairs. Other interests included growing an apple orchard and keeping detailed notes on the tastes, textures, and productivity of the different varieties; making apple cider; photography (especially of his grandchildren); music from a variety of cultures and traditions; and storytelling. He enjoyed listening to music and singing until the very end of his life.

Perhaps the greatest tribute I can pay Stuart is to say that he was a real "mensch", a caring and generous man who was the epitome of honesty and personal integrity. I think I speak for many in my generation of animal behaviorists when I say that Stuart Altmann was a role model both as scientist of the highest caliber and as a human being. His passing represents a major loss of a giant in our field.

ABS extends condolences to Jeanne, his loving wife, scientific partner, and collaborator of 57 years; to his children, Michael and Rachel; to his grandchildren; and to other family members and colleagues. The family has requested that donations in memory of Stuart be made to the Fanconia Anemia Research Fund (http://fanconi.org) or to the Penland School of Crafts (http://www.penland.org).

Edward H. “Jed” Burtt, Jr., PhD
Written by Zuleyma Tang-Martínez, ABS Historian
Photos from the Internet

Long-time ABS member and world-renowned ornithologist, Edward H. “Jed” Burtt, died on April 27, 2016, at his home in Delaware, Ohio. Jed had waged a life-long battle with osteogenesis imperfecta (“brittle bone” disease), but never let this disability slow him down, instead leading an active and productive life as an accomplished scholar, mentor, and teacher. Jed was born on April 22, 1948 in Waltham, MA. He attended Bowdoin College for his B.A. in biology and then completed his Ph.D. in 1977, working with the legendary Jack Hailman at the University of Wisconsin. That same year he began his 37 year biology career at Ohio Wesleyan University until his retirement in 2014. During his time at Ohio Wesleyan, he served several terms as department chair and was much loved by both colleagues and students.

Jed had two passions in life (other than his family, of course): Birds and teaching: he began birdwatching as a young child – accounts differ as to whether he first became intensely interested in birds at the age of 2 or at the age of 4. In either case, he soon became the local “enfant savant” of birds and bird behavior and had visited virtually all the Massachusetts birding hot spots before he left for college. His interest in avian biology – especially feathers and colors – resulted in his dissertation on the evolution of color in the Parulidae or wood-warblers. This research culminated in a 126 page publication in Ornithological Monographs. Much of his subsequent research focused on the fascinating discovery that bacteria found in feathers can degrade the feathers and affect the coloration of birds. He went on to become the world’s expert on this interaction and also studied the defenses of birds to feather-degrading bacteria and the possible influence of the bacterial flora on sexual selection. His research on the microbiology of feathers also led to a patent on a technique for composting feather waste products at poultry farms. Jed travelled to all seven continents pursuing his research, as well as birdwatching. He published numerous scientific papers and several books. His last book, published in 2013, was Alexander Wilson: The Scot Who Founded American Ornithology (co-authored with W.E. Davis, Jr.).

Jed was an inspired and devoted teacher. In his own words, “Awakening a passion in a young person and helping each student fulfill a newly formulated dream is the essence of teaching. There is no higher calling, no greater purpose in life.” Jed’s excellence in teaching was recognized in 2011, when he was named “Ohio Professor of the Year” by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. His exemplary commitment to involving undergraduates in research, led the Wilson Ornithological Society to establish the “Jed Burtt Mentoring Grants” program in his honor.

Earlier in his career, Jed was very actively involved in the ABS and was a regular participant at ABS meetings. He served as ABS Parliamentarian from 1983 to 1989; he also was a member and/or chair of the following ABS committees: Policy and Planning; Organization and By-Laws; Ethics; and Education. In 1994, Jed was elected a Fellow of the ABS in recognition of his outstanding scholarship and other contributions to the field of animal behavior.

Jed also had a distinguished history in ornithological societies. He served as president of both the Wilson Ornithological Society and the American Ornithologists’ Union and was elected a Fellow of both societies. In 2013,
he received the Margaret Morse Nice Medal, a lifetime achievement award, from the Wilson Ornithological Society. Jed’s achievements and remarkable career as best summarized by two colleagues. Former ABS Historian and friend, Lee Drickamer, states: “He was a tireless advocate for ornithology and a revered teacher at Ohio Wesleyan University for four decades - a fine naturalist and great mentor of literally dozens of undergraduate students”. Ohio Wesleyan colleague, Tom Wolber, says: “Jed Burtt was an exemplary teacher, an exceptional scholar, and (perhaps most importantly) a warm and wonderful human being. He will be missed by many.”

Jed will be fondly remembered by his many friends in ABS. The ABS offers sincere sympathies to his widow, Pam, his children, Jeremy and Michelle, and other family members, as well as Ohio Wesleyan colleagues. Donations in Jed’s memory may be sent to the William D. Stull Endowment Fund for the Ohio Wesleyan Natural History Museum, which Jed curated for many years.

Benson Earl Ginsburg, PhD
1918-2016: A Pioneer in Behavior Genetics
Written by Dr. Steven Maxson
Photo by Dr. Steven Maxson

Benson was born on July 16, 1918 in Detroit Michigan. His mother Sonia and father Morris were recent immigrants from Russia. Benson married Pearl on August 29, 1941. She was his companion and friend for 57 years. He is survived by his three daughters (Judy, Debbie, and Faye) by three grandsons, three granddaughters and three great grandchildren.

In 1939, he graduated cum laude from Wayne (State) University, and in 1941, he received a Masters degree from Wayne (State) University. His Masters thesis was titled, “Stock Fertility and Gene Drift in Drosophila melanogaster”. This work led to a summer course in the Zoology Department of the University of Chicago. Benson stayed on to become a graduate student of the population geneticist and zoologist, Sewall Wright. His doctoral research was on the biochemistry of coat color genes. The title of his Ph.D. thesis was, “The Effects of the Major Gene Controlling Coat Color in the Guinea Pig on DOPA Oxidase Activity in Skin Extracts”. He received his doctorate in 1943. His interest in gene-gene interactions and their role in development and evolution began with his research in Wright's laboratory.

While a doctoral student, he also became interested in the genetics of behavior. Wright had several lines of guinea pigs that differed in coat color. Individuals from one of these lines would attack any hand put into the cage. Wright asked Ginsburg if he could breed this behavior out of this line. Wright agreed. During this period, Ginsburg also worked with W. C. Allee, another member of the Zoology faculty. Allee was interested in the evolution of social behavior both cooperative and competitive, and one focus of his research was the genetics of aggression. He invited Ginsburg to study strain differences in aggression of male mice. Ginsburg found that males of C57BL10 inbred strain were more aggressive than those of the C3H strain and that the males of the C3H strain were more aggressive than those of the Bagg albino strain (now BALB/c). This was considered evidence of a genetic effect on intermale aggression. About the same time, Paul Scott found that the males of the C3H strain were more aggressive than Bagg albinos and that Bagg albinos were more aggressive than C57BL10s. Prior to publication (Ginsburg and Allee, 1942, Scott, 1942, each replicated his own finding in Allele's laboratory. Some years later, it was shown that the difference in strain rank order was due a subtle difference in handling of the mice. Ginsburg transferred his mice from cage to cage in a small box or by letting them walk from cage to cage, whereas Scott used forceps to pick the mice up by the tail for transferring from cage to cage. This was the beginning of Ginsburg's interest in genotype by environment interactions.

During World War II, he served in the U.S. Chemical corp. In 1946, Benson returned to the University of Chicago where he resumed his research on genetics of behavior and also turned his attention to undergraduate teaching. He helped to develop an undergraduate program in the natural sciences which he later chaired. Among his many honors, he twice received the Quantrell Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching from The University of Chicago. He also served as Professor of Biopsychology and Biology in the graduate school of the University of Chicago. In 1963 he was appointed William Rainey Harper Professor of Biology, a post he held until 1968 when he left the University of Chicago to organize and chair the graduate Department of Biobehavioral Sciences at the University of Connecticut.

He and his family summered in Bar Harbor, Maine beginning in 1946. As a summer investigator in the Division of Behavioral Studies of The Jackson Laboratory, he studied audiogenic seizures, aggression, and effects of early experience in mice and rabbits. He also took part in behavioral studies with dogs. Among his colleagues at the lab were Paul Scott, John Fuller, Calvin Hall, Betty Beemen, Victor Denenberg, and Seymour Levine.
On the basis of his research and studies to date as well as the current state of genetics, Benson authored the article , Genetics as a Tool in the Study of Behavior (1958). This was just five years after the publication of Watson and Crick's model of the structure of DNA and its implications for gene replication, mutation and function. In this paper, Ginsburg cogently argued that in the context of evolution, genetics is a way of defining natural units of behavior, of getting at their underlying mechanisms of behavior, and of studying the effects of non-genetic variables on behavior. These were guiding principles for research in his laboratory. Another is summarized in this quote from that paper. “All aspects of the organism may be thought of as 100 percent genetic but not 100 percent determined.”

In 1968, Benson authored another seminal paper. This was entitled “Breeding Structure and Social Behavior in Mammals: A Servo Mechanism for Avoidance of Panmixia”. In it, he proposed that evolution by group selection could be much faster than by individual selection. Group selection would also preserve co-adapted interacting systems of genes. He argued that a role of mammalian social behavior was to divide the gene pool into selectable groups. The ideas in this paper informed most of his subsequent canid research. At the University of Connecticutt, there was a kennel for coyotes, wolves and coyote x beagle crosses as well as a compound for a pack of wolves. He also worked for many years developing and supervising a breeding program for Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael, California.

In 1969, Benson left the University of Chicago and along with colleagues founded the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences at the University of Connecticut. This was an inter-disciplinary department bringing together those with expertise in biology, psychology, and anthropology. Its focus was graduate training and interdisciplinary research. He was its department head from 1969 to 1985. Over one hundred doctoral students and many Masters students were trained in the Department of Biobehavioral Sciences.

About 1990, Benson worked with psychologist Ross Buck on the communication gene hypothesis. This hypothesis guided much of their research on human behavioral genetics. After Benson retired in 1997, he was a very active professor emeritus: teaching courses, doing research, supervising graduate students, serving on university committees and more. As a Senior Research Professor of Psychology, he had appointments in both the graduate school and the medical school. He participated actively in the 2006 meeting of the Behavior Genetics Association and the 2010 International Society for Research on Aggression meetings at the University of Connecticut.

Among Benson's many achievements is his major role in the founding of the Behavior Genetics Association in 1971. In 1980, he received its Dobzhansky Memorial Award for lifetime contributions in behavior genetics. In 2001, he received a similar award from the International Behavioral and Genetics Society. He also received the Centennial Alumni Award from Wayne (State) University, and he was a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the University of Chicago’s Medical Alumni Association. He was a fellow of AAAS, American Psychological Society, Animal Behavior Society, and International Society for Research on aggression, and Center for the Advanced Study of the Behavioral Sciences (in 1956 and in 1965). He was member of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2002, his colleagues and students honored him with a two day festschrift at the University of Connecticut.

He affectionately gave his time, his support, his knowledge and his wisdom to his many students and colleagues, who reciprocated in many ways.

References