



NEWSLETTER

Animal Behavior Society

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Regina H. Macedo, Secretary

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publication

Raphael I. Dias, Editorial Assistant

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VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! 2010 ABS ELECTIONS

Please take the time to vote in the upcoming election! Electronic information and ballot are enclosed in this newsletter. You can vote by e-mail, using the paper ballot OR you can *vote online*, provided the Central Office has your e-mail address and you have approved its use for this purpose. **If you vote by regular mail, your name MUST be on the envelope.**

CANDIDATES FOR 2010 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

See biographies of candidates at end of the newsletter with the ballot on the next to last page.

Second President-Elect: John Byers
Robert Seyfarth

Parliamentarian: Peggy Hill
Brian Wisenden

Member-at-Large: Kevin McGraw
Tamra Mendelson

2009-2010 ABS OFFICERS

President: Michael Ryan, Section of Integrative Biology C0930, 1 University Station, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, USA. Phone (512) 471-5078, E-mail: mryan@mail.utexas.edu.

First President-Elect: Susan Foster, Department of Biology, Clark University, 950 Main St., Worcester, Massachusetts 01610-1473, USA. Phone (508) 793-7204, E-mail: sfoster@clarku.edu.

Second President-Elect: Joan Strassmann, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology – MS-170, 130 Anderson Biology Lab, Rice University, Houston, Texas 77005-1892, USA. Phone (713) 348-4922, E-mail: strassm@rice.edu.

Past President: Molly Morris, Department of Biological Science, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701, USA. Phone (740) 593-0337, E-mail: morrism@ohio.edu.

Treasurer: Philip Stoddard, Department of Biological Sciences, Florida International University, Miami, Florida 33199, USA. Phone (305) 348-0378, E-mail: stoddard@fiu.edu.

Secretary: Regina H. Macedo, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade de Brasilia, Brasilia, DF 70910-900, Brazil. Phone (+55-61) 3307-2265, E-mail: rhfmacedo@unb.br.

Program Officer: Dario Maestriperi, Evolutionary Biology and Neurobiology, The University of Chicago, 5730 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA. Phone (773) 834-4104, E-mail: dario@uchicago.edu.

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Executive Editor: William Searcy, Department of Biology, University of Miami, 1301 Memorial Drive, Coral Gables, Florida 33124-0421, USA. Phone (305) 284-2065, E-mail: wsearcy@miami.edu.

Members-at-Large:

Alex Basolo, School of Biological Sciences, Nebraska Behavioral Biology Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0118, USA. Phone (402) 472-2720, E-mail: basolo@cricket.unl.edu.

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Historian: Lee Drickamer, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-5640, USA. Phone (520) 523-0388, E-mail: Lee.Drickamer@nau.edu.

DIRECTION OF CORRESPONDENCE

ABS Newsletter and general correspondence concerning the Society should be sent to Regina H. Macedo, rhfmacedo@unb.br. Deadlines are the 15th of the month preceding each Newsletter. The next deadline is **15 January 2010**. 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.animalbehavior.org/>

Animal Behaviour, manuscripts and editorial matters: Animal Behavior Society, 402 N Park Ave., Bloomington IN 47408, USA. E-mail: aboffice@indiana.edu, Phone (812) 856-5541, Fax (812) 856-5542.

Change of address, missing or defective issues: Animal Behavior Society, 402 N Park Ave., Bloomington IN 47408, USA. E-mail: aboffice@indiana.edu, Phone (812) 856-5541, Fax (812) 856-5542.



Fátima Arruda makes a presentation to a packed room in the Teaching Animal Behavior Workshop at the 2009 ABS Meeting in Pirenópolis.

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR FOR KIDS: ABS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD

Each year, the Education Committee presents an award for an outstanding children's book that emphasizes

animal behavior. This year, we received 60 submissions from 23 publishers in the United States and Canada. The review committee (Sue Margulis, Danielle Lee, Wendy Hein, and John Roche) completed first round evaluations and narrowed the field to four finalists. The Committee then solicited reviews from children in grades 3-5, and donated all submitted titles to neighborhood schools (this year, over 240 books, with an estimated value of over \$4000). Nearly 250 students reviewed the finalists, and selected the 2008 winner: "*Animals at Play*." Reviews of the four finalists follow.

Animals at Play

By Marc Bekoff.

Published by Temple University Press, 2008

Review by John Roche, Northeastern University

When you toss a ball of yarn to a cat, does the cat ignore the yarn, dismissing it as unimportant, as being unrelated to food, survival, and reproduction? No. Instead, cats generally show great interest in balls of yarn; they pounce and toss and roll and swipe—that is, they *play*.

Play, so familiar and enjoyed by us human animals, is also extremely common in non-human animals, including cats. In *Animals at Play*, author and ethologist Marc Bekoff provides children and adults with an in-depth introduction to play in animals. He describes some of the specific play behaviors scientists have observed in a range of animals, including members of the dog family, the cat family, bears, apes, monkeys, marine mammals, and marsupials.

While describing the specifics of play in individual species, Bekoff simultaneously presents more general aspects of play behavior. For example, animals seeking to initiate play with members of their species often have behaviors that "invite" play, and the other individual can then join in or decline to participate. Larger and older animals "hold back" when playing with smaller and younger animals. Animals use very different behaviors when playing than when fighting. Also, if while playing, an animal accidentally harms another individual, the first animal will sometimes display a behavior analogous to apologizing in humans, giving a signal indicating that the harm was not intended. For example, if a playing elephant inadvertently strikes a fellow elephant with its tusk, it may "apologize" by softly touching the other elephant with its trunk.

Observers of play in animals, and readers of this book, will wonder: Is all this play of any benefit to the animals doing the playing? Playing certainly provides opportunities for learning survival-related physical and social skills, and it supplies exercise that strengthens muscles that will be needed to obtain food and avoid

predators. It is unknown whether play was selected for by natural selection because it provides these benefits, or whether it arises simply because it is fun, and then provides these benefits as a byproduct. But either way, ethologists know that play is widespread among animals.

Animals at Play is an exceptional book. It combines accessible and enjoyable prose and pictures with in-depth and accurate scientific information. As one third grader participating in the review commented, "I loved it because it tells you everything in a fun way." The book helps readers develop new insights into play behavior in specific, and extends their thinking about the behavior of animals in general. *Animals at Play* is sure to trigger an informed interest in animal behavior in many young people. As another third grader commented, "This was a great kids' book that a lot of kids will enjoy."

Ookpik: The Travels of a Snowy Owl

By Bruce Hiscock

Published by Boyds Mills Press, 2008

Review by Sue Margulis, Canisius College

I suspect everyone remembers the first time they saw a snowy owl. Ookpik was inspired by such an experience in the life of the author, Bruce Hiscock. The book provides a fictionalized account of the life of a snowy owl, from hatching on the Arctic tundra, to a lengthy journey south in search of food and territory, and back again. The book's lovely illustrations and compelling story take the reader along with Ookpik on his journey south. From an Inuit village (where the children call him "Ookpik," the Inuit word for snowy owl), to farmlands and city streets in New York (where birders come to ogle him), readers are drawn into the life of the snowy owl.

In addition to its descriptive and highly readable account of the behavior of snowy owls, the book also provides an important conservation message through its depiction of the challenge faced by Ookpik as he seeks suitable habitat for hunting, nesting, and resting. The message is clear, but not overpowering, such that the book remains positive and child-friendly. As one third grader said: "Ookpik is very descriptive and it has good pictures. It tells a lot about owls."

Wolfsnail: A Backyard Predator,

By Sarah Campbell

Published by Boyds Mills Press, 2008.

Review by Wendy Hein, Oregon State University

What future scientist could pass up a book featuring a creature that is slimy and eats its own kind? In this real-life adventure, we follow a day in the life of the wolfsnail, *Euglandina rosea*, as it forages in its

backyard habitat. It encounters another snail, and we watch nature take its course slowly over multiple full-color, glorious pages. In the end, all that is left is an empty shell...

The book is aimed at young readers, from grades K-2. The text is large, and the story is strictly straightforward. There are only one or two sentences per page, with a glossary for new words like "cannibal" and "mucus" – sure to be a hit at recess. Older readers and the truly infatuated will appreciate the excellent resource section in the back of the book, featuring factoids and web sites for further inquiry. The wolfsnail is well known in ecological circles for decimating Hawaii's native snail populations, and this famous example of biocontrol-gone-awry is briefly recounted in this section.

What sets this book apart from many other submissions is that it is photographed, not drawn. These are real pictures, expertly composed. There is no exaggerated illustration or fanciful scenery. The slime glistens on bright green leaves, and the iridescent body of the wolfsnail will be a pleasant surprise to those who assumed snails had no aesthetic value. This is one kid's book that parents won't mind leaving out on the coffee table.

Wolfsnail is a solid freshman effort from husband-and-wife team Sarah and Richard Campbell. It has already won several awards for Boyds Mills Press (a sister company to the publisher of Highlights magazine), and is a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book. Hopefully we can look forward to future installments from this team showcasing nature, beautiful in tooth and claw.

The Puzzle of the Platypus: And Other Explorations of Science in Action

By Jack Myers

Published by Boyds Mills Press, 2008

Review by Danielle Lee, University of Missouri at St. Louis

It isn't often that children get a chance to read fun stories about science and scientists. The scientific process can be hard to explain to students and often there is a failure to comprehend how scientists follow their curiosity to solve problems and learn more about animals and nature. But I suppose it takes a scientist who appreciates the joys and challenges of science discovery to present these tales with wonder and creativity. Dr. Myers, a biologist and science writer, served as the science editor of Highlights for Children Magazine writing numerous science stories for the periodical. This book is a collection of eleven of his most touching stories of animal behavior and science discovery. Each story is an account of current

animal behavior research from science journals and textbooks translated into four-to-six page short articles with original illustrations for young readers. The introductory illustration for each story is a fun summary of the story with colorful accompanying illustrations that detail the work of the scientists. This book introduces readers to a variety of animals from around the world, including hibernating polar bears, enigmatic platypuses, gregarious cliff swallows, clever crows, and deducing dolphins. For students who are warming up to reading, this book offers short, yet engaging stories for active little minds who find it hard to read an entire book in one-sitting. Youngsters can revisit the book several times to enjoy the pictures, read the stories, and reflect on the scientific challenges and successes of each tale. The book is ideal for students in grades 3-6 and a great story-time book for younger students.



From left to right: Andy Sih, Mike Webster and Molly Morris at 2009 ABS meeting in Pirenópolis.
(photo contributed by John Byers)

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR 2010 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; **Distinguished Teaching Award** - distinguished contributions in teaching animal behavior to undergraduates.

All members of the society are encouraged to prepare and submit nominations for these 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. It 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 (except for the Distinguished Teaching Award; see below) should be sent to ABS Past President, Molly R. Morris, Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, Athens Ohio 45701, USA. E-mail: morrism@ohio.edu. **Deadline: 1 February 2010.**

Recipients of last year's Exceptional Service Award and this year's Distinguished Animal Behaviorist Award, Exemplar Award, Quest Award and Exceptional Service Award will be announced and honored at the banquet during the 2010 annual meeting at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg VA.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD

PLEASE NOTE THE CRITERIA HAVE BEEN BROADENED IN ORDER TO RECOGNIZE A GREATER RANGE OF TALENTED MEMBERS. The recipient of this award receives recognition, a plaque from the Society, and the opportunity to organize an education-related event at the following annual meeting. It is easy to know about our colleagues' research by reading publications; it is much more difficult to know about their teaching excellence. We rely on nominations. **PLEASE NOMINATE QUALIFIED COLLEAGUES FOR THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD.** Selection of the award recipient will be made by the Animal Behavior Society Education Committee and approved by the Executive Council. The award recipient will be announced at the annual meeting of the Society.

Deadline: Nominating letters (or the form at the end of the Newsletter) should be submitted by **31 March 2010** to Penny Bernstein, pbernste@kent.edu. Questions can also be directed to Jennifer Mather, mather@uleth.ca.

Although e-mail copies are acceptable by the deadline, hard copies of letters of nomination with signatures are required before final considerations can be made.

Criteria and Procedures

1. Nominees must be current members of the Animal Behavior Society. (Note: current officers and committee chairs are not eligible for nomination.)
2. Nominees must have demonstrated highly effective and innovative teaching in the classroom or in an informal education setting (e.g., zoos, aquaria, museums, 4-H programs, research labs and field stations, and environment centers). They should have a

reputation among peers and students for excellence in educating people about animal behavior.

3. Persons wishing to nominate an individual for the award should submit a one-page nomination letter providing evidence to support the nomination. The letter should also include names of at least two additional peer reviewers, and two current or former students or program participants. If students are under 18 years old, the student/participant references should be accompanied by, or attached to, a letter from the appropriate teacher or youth program coordinator. (Note: Department chairs, directors, supervisors, or colleagues may be helpful sources for this information if you are not at the same institution as the person you are nominating.)

4. The Education Committee will solicit appropriate supporting materials, including those indicated in nominating letters (e.g., documentation of other teaching awards, peer and student evaluations, additional references, evidence of innovation in curriculum development, development of educational tools, programs, or multimedia products, or other appropriate indicators of superior educating).

5. If you would like to **renominate** an individual for the award, please submit a letter indicating that you are doing so and provide any additional information you feel might be helpful to the committee. Please also include the date of the original nomination. Names of additional peer or student reviewers may also be provided.

NOTICE!

Issues of the ABS Newsletter are published *first* on the ABS Web page. To get ABS news *fast*, point your browser to: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/> and select News and Announcements from the left menu.

**ABS STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS
DEADLINE 30 DECEMBER 2009**

JOINT APPLICATION PROCESS:

**STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS, E.O. WILSON
CONSERVATION AWARD, CETACEAN
BEHAVIOR & CONSERVATION AWARD**

Applicants for the following grants may apply via a single application process: ABS Student Research Grant; E. O. Wilson Conservation Award; George W. Barlow Award; Amy R. Samuels Cetacean Behavior & Conservation Award; Developing Nations Research Grant. Application materials to be submitted through ABS website: <http://animalbehaviorsociety.org>. This grant site is scheduled to open on Monday, 2 November

2009 and will close on Wednesday, 30 December 2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Submissions will not be accepted after the closing date. Students who have paid their society dues in full prior to Friday, 18 December 2009 will be eligible to submit a grant application. Applications can be submitted by logging in through the ABS website. If you have any questions about your membership or the submission process, contact the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) prior to Friday, 18 December 2009. Potential applicants for these grants may contact ABS Senior Member-at-Large Alexandra Basolo (University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0118 or abasolo@unlserveunl.unl.edu) with questions regarding application content or the grant review process.

ABS Student Research Grant

ABS Student Research Grants for graduate student research are awarded at a level of US\$500 to \$2000 each, depending on referee evaluations. Applicants must: (1) be currently enrolled in a graduate program; and (2) be active student members of ABS, enrolled or renewed by Friday, 18 December 2009, and (3) have contacted the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) to activate their grant account by Friday, 18 December 2009. The deadline for receipt of completed submissions is Wednesday, 30 December 2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Late submissions will not be accepted. All applicants must arrange to provide a letter of support from an advisor or other scientist. All applications will be reviewed by members of the ABS Student Research Grant Committee, and decisions will be announced in April 2010. (Also refer to the first paragraph of this announcement.)

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 US\$2000 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. Applicants must: (1) be currently enrolled in a graduate program, (2) be active student members of ABS, enrolled or renewed by Friday, 18 December 2009, and (3) have contacted the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) to activate their grant account by Friday, 18 December 2009. The deadline for receipt

of completed applications is Wednesday, 30 December 2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Late submissions will not be accepted. All applicants must arrange to provide a letter of support from an advisor or other scientist. All applications will be reviewed by members of the ABS Student Research Grant Committee, and decisions will be announced in April 2010. (Also refer to the first paragraph of this announcement.)

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. Applicants must: (1) be currently enrolled in a graduate program, (2) be active student members of ABS, enrolled or renewed by Friday, 18 December 2009, and (3) have contacted the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) to activate their grant account by Friday, 18 December 2009. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is Wednesday, 30 December 2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Late submissions will not be accepted. All applicants must arrange to provide a letter of support from an advisor or other scientist. All applications will be reviewed by members of the ABS Student Research Grant Committee, and decisions will be announced in April 2010. (Also refer to the first paragraph of this announcement.)

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. This year, a grant of up to US\$500 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 (enrolled or renewed by Friday, 18 December 2009), and (3) have contacted the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) to activate their grant account by Friday, 18 December 2009. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is Wednesday, 30 December 2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Late submissions will not be accepted. All applicants must arrange to provide a letter of support from an advisor or other scientist. All applications will be reviewed by members of the ABS Student Research Grant Committee, and decisions will be announced in April 2010. ASAB members planning to apply for this grant must contact the Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) prior to Friday, 18 December 2009 to be able to submit an application through the ABS web site. (Also refer to the first paragraph of this announcement.)

Note: Applicants may receive only one of the following grants in a lifetime: ABS Student Research Grant; E. O. Wilson Conservation Award; George W. Barlow; Amy R. Samuels Cetacean Behavior & Conservation Award).

Animal Behavior Society Developing Nations Research Grant

ABS announces the annual Developing Nations Research Grant Competition. The funds 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.)

The following nations shall not be considered developing nations: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Grants are awarded for research to be conducted within a 1-year period from the date of receipt of this grant.

Applicants must be active members of ABS (i.e., enrolled or renewed by Friday, 18 December 2009) and have contacted the ABS Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) to activate their grant account by Friday, 18 December 2009. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is Wednesday, 30 December

2009 (midnight, Eastern Standard Time). Late submissions will not be accepted. All applicants must arrange to provide a letter of support from an advisor or other scientist. All applications will be reviewed by members of the ABS Student Research Grant Committee, and decisions will be announced in April 2010. (Also refer to the first paragraph of this announcement.)

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, Molly Morris, Department of Biological Science, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701, USA. Phone: (740) 593-0337, E-mail: morrism@ohio.edu.

CALL FOR SYMPOSIA FOR THE 2010 AAAS MEETING

ABS is striving to expand awareness of its excellent science via symposia for the annual AAAS meeting. The target date for the next symposium is 2010. Anyone interested in organizing a symposium for the meeting please contact Dario Maestriperi, dario@uchicago.edu



Jeff Podos presenting a talk about vocal performance in songbirds at the 2009 ABS meeting, Pirenópolis.

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. These awards are restricted to Latin American graduate students enrolled in programs in Latin American institutions, who will be presenting a talk/poster at the ABS meeting. 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. The deadline for applying is **15 MARCH 2010**.

You may apply for a Latin American Travel Award once you have successfully submitted an abstract for a talk or poster, via the 2010 meeting web page. To apply for a Latin American Travel Award, please submit by email *a single electronic file* (.pdf is preferred) that contains the following materials, to Member at Large, Dr. Jeff Podos (jpodos@bio.umass.edu): (1) a copy of the abstract of your talk or poster; (2) a short CV (two pages maximum); (3) a brief statement (one page maximum) explaining how the meeting will enhance the applicant's career development; and (4) an itemized budget estimating travel costs, the amount of funds available or requested from other sources, and the amount requested from ABS.

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 is **31 MARCH 2010**. Applications should be emailed to ABS Treasurer, Dr. Philip Stoddard (stoddard@fiu.edu). Please include in the subject line "ABS Diversity" followed by your name. Preference is given to individuals presenting research results.

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 who are of African, Asian, or Latin American descent or of Native American heritage. Citizens (graduate students or established professionals) of Latin American countries and non-white citizens of African countries are also encouraged to apply.



ABS 2009 meeting student volunteers toast a job well done at the banquet in Pirenópolis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABS 2010 MEETING AT THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

The 2010 ABS annual meeting will be held on the historic campus of the College of William and Mary, hosted by John Swaddle and Dan Cristol, from July 25 to 29. Founded in 1693, William and Mary is the second oldest university in the US and situated in scenic Williamsburg, Virginia (www.wm.edu). This is an easy drive from many of the big East coast cities, and from the Carolinas, and we have three nearby airports. The meeting program is shaping up and will include a couple of plenary talks and three symposia. We hope to be sending out an email about estimated registration and housing costs very soon, and will also be keeping people up-to-date about the developing academic program. For now, please save the date and we hope to see people in sunny Williamsburg in the summer.

2010 WARDER CLYDE ALLEE COMPETITION

The 2010 Warder Clyde Allee Competition for Best Student Paper will take place July 25 to 29 at the College of William and Mary, in Williamsburg, Virginia. All eligible students are encouraged to participate. The following rules govern the Allee Award for best student paper presented in the Warder Clyde Allee session at the annual meeting:

Eligibility requirements: Any independent graduate student research (including, but not limited to, the doctoral dissertation) is eligible. The work presented may be part of a larger collaborative effort, but the student should have the principal responsibility for the

conceptualization and design of the research, the collection and analysis of the data, and the interpretation of the results. The entrant cannot have been awarded the Ph.D. Degree before the preceding ABS annual meeting (for the 2010 competition, this date is June 22, 2009). An individual can enter the session only once per lifetime.

To enter: Students must indicate their desire to be considered for the competition by checking the appropriate box on the abstract submittal form for the annual meeting; submit an electronic version of their paper, which includes their addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses; fill out a signed and dated form indicating that they meet all eligibility requirements (to be supplied to entrants after receipt of their papers); present a spoken version during the 2010 Annual Meeting; attend both the Allee welcoming dinner on the evening before the competition day and the banquet during the Annual Meeting. The spoken portion of the competition is limited by the number of papers that can be presented on the day assigned for the competition. Applications for the 2010 competition, including the written paper, will be due one month before the meeting abstract submission date, which will be posted at the meeting website (once determined). This will enable the Allee judges to evaluate the written papers and determine further eligibility. Applicants will be informed of status prior to the abstract submission due date for the meeting. The manuscript must be submitted in electronic PDF format, of no more than seven double-spaced, line-numbered, text pages, and no more than a total of four tables and/or figures (this limit does not include abstract, references, or acknowledgments), must be received by ABS 2nd President-Elect Joan E. Strassmann, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University, MS 170, 6100 Main St., Houston TX 77005 USA (strassm@rice.edu). Electronic submission is required.

If you do not receive acknowledgement of receipt within 7 days, please send a follow-up query. Papers MUST be formatted using the instruction for authors for a research paper in the journal *Animal Behaviour* to insure eligibility. Check instructions at the site: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/622782/authorinstructions. If significant new results arise after submission, students may submit a one-page addendum to their papers up to 30 days before the first day of the Annual Meeting. Questions should be addressed to Joan E. Strassmann, strassm@rice.edu.

GENESIS AWARD POSTER COMPETITION

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. A complete set of judging criteria can be requested from the Education Committee Chair, Jennifer Mather, mather@uleth.ca.

UPDATED GUIDE TO PROGRAMS IN ANIMAL BEHAVIOR AVAILABLE

An updated PDF version of the *Guide to Programs in Animal Behavior* has been posted to the web (see <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABSEducation>). The Guide is intended to aid students interested in pursuing undergraduate or graduate opportunities in animal behavior. It is meant as a **first step** in choosing an appropriate program. While the Guide focuses on graduate programs, undergraduates should also find the information helpful since most universities with significant graduate programs will also have undergraduate courses and electives taught by animal behavior faculty.

Each program listed in the Guide contains:

- a) A general overview of the program, including specialized focus(es);
- b) Web page URL for additional program information;
- c) Degrees offered;
- d) Special facilities of interest to animal behavior researchers;
- e) Application deadline information;
- f) Contact information for queries.

Listings are organized by country, state/province, and institution. Entries are program-level (i.e., a university offering degree-granting programs through both Biology and Psychology will have two listings). Currently the listings include institutions in the US and Canada. We will add institutions in Mexico, Central and South America in future versions. Our intent at this stage is to make a base guide available and expand/correct listings on a continuing basis. Please send corrections, deletions, or new programs for the Guide to the Education Committee chair, Dr. Jennifer Mather, mather@uleth.ca. Depending upon demand, we may make a printed version available through the Central Office (aboffice@indiana.edu) in 2010. A searchable online version of the Guide is in the works

now and should be available soon. Contact Shan Duncan at aboffice@indiana.edu.



From left to right: Jerry Wilkinson, Troy Murphy and Gail Patricelli during the 2009 ABS meeting, at Pirenópolis. Camelia Lamey in the background. (photo contributed by John Byers)

JOIN AN ABS COMMITTEE!

Would you like to volunteer for one of the society's active committees? This is an important and rewarding way to participate in the business of the society, and we need your help! Committees include Membership, Policy, Public Affairs, Education, Latin American Affairs, Conservation, Animal Care, Film and others.

Contact ABS President Michael Ryan, Section of Integrative Biology C0930, 1 University Station, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, USA. Phone (512) 471-5078, E-mail: mryan@mail.utexas.edu.

OPPORTUNITIES

Postdoctoral Fellowships in Evolutionary Biology and Related Fields

We are now accepting proposals for Postdoctoral Fellowships at The National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent). We are looking to fund innovative approaches to outstanding problems in evolutionary biology. **Proposals are due December 1, 2010.** For more information, please see our website at <https://www.nescent.org/science/proposals.php>.

Call for Proposals: Sabbatical Scholars and Collaborative Working Groups

Proposals for Sabbaticals and for collaborative working groups (Working Groups and Catalysis Meetings) are now being accepted at The National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent). We are looking to fund innovative approaches to outstanding problems in evolutionary biology. In particular, proposals that have

a clear interdisciplinary focus, or involve evolutionary concepts in non-traditional disciplines, are strongly encouraged, as are proposals that demonstrate international participation and a mix of senior and emerging researchers, including graduate students. Proposals for Working Groups and Catalysis Meetings are accepted twice a year, with **deadlines on June 10 and December 1**. Proposals for Sabbaticals may be one semester to a full year (deadlines June 10 and December 1) or they may be for short-term visits (2 weeks to 3 months; deadlines on January 1, April 1, July 1 and September 1). For more information, please see our website at <https://www.nescent.org/science/proposals.php> <athttps:%5C--www.nescent.org-science-proposals.php>.

Seeking Clinical Behaviorist

Our multi-doctor, mixed animal veterinary hospital is expanding and we would like to provide behavior consultation and training for our patients. We are located in the beautiful rocky mountains of Colorado, near Aspen. Please contact us at lamshuman@comcast.net if you are interested in discussing this position.

2011 ABS MEETING

Organizing Symposia and Paper Sessions

To organize a symposium, an invited paper session, or a workshop for the ABS Annual Meeting, you should contact the Senior or Junior Program Officers to discuss your ideas. We will first make sure that there are no potential conflicts with the topic that you are considering. Then we will ask you to prepare a pre-proposal and submit it to the Junior Program Officer. Organizers often find that consultations with the Program Officers are helpful when drafting the pre-proposal. The pre-proposal should be a page or two summarizing your intent for the session, and suggesting potential participants.

A symposium should be a profound and stimulating review of an important subject area that currently is a major focus of research. It should be a thorough treatment of past work and current research advances, and should be of general interest to the majority of ABS members.

An invited paper session is a special grouping of papers that focus upon empirical results relating to a particular topic. Usually there is no all-encompassing historical-theoretical perspective, although the organizer(s) may wish to summarize the individual papers or arrange them according to some theme.

Pre-proposals for the 2011 meeting are due before the annual meeting at the College of William and Mary in 2010 and will be circulated to the Executive Committee prior to the Annual Meeting and then discussed at the EC meeting.

The 2011 meeting is scheduled for 25-30 July. The JPO encourages potential organizers to begin discussions about proposals for that conference. Further information can be found on the ABS website or by contacting the ABS Program Officers: Dario Maestriperi, Evolutionary Biology and Neurobiology, The University of Chicago, 5730 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL 60637, Phone: (773) 834-4104, Email: dario@uchicago.edu; and Maydianne Andrade, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Toronto Scarborough, 1265 Military Trail, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1C 1A4. Phone (416) 287-7425, E-mail: mandrade@utsc.utoronto.ca

MEETINGS

2010: 25-31 July, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

2011: 25-30 July, Animal Behavior Meeting – International Ethological Conference joint meeting at Indiana University, IN.

OTHER US MEETINGS

2010: SICB Annual Meeting, 3-7 January, Seattle, Washington. Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel and Washington State Convention and Trade Center. Check site at www.sicb.org/meetings/2010

2010: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 18-22 February, San Diego, California.

2011: SICB Annual Meeting, January, Salt Lake City, Utah.

2011: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), 17-21 February, Washington, DC.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

2010: 5th International Frugivory and Seed Dispersal Symposium & Workshop. Montpellier, France, June 10th - 13th. www.fsd2010.org

2010: 25th International Ornithological Congress, 22-28 August, Campos do Jordão, Brazil. Additional details at <http://www.ib.usp.br/25ioc>.

2010: 13th International Behavioral Ecology Congress, 26 September-1 October, Perth, Australia.

For meeting details, check the conference website:
www.isbepert2010.com.



Travis Boyd, after a tough 5 km race in the afternoon heat in the hills of Pirenópolis!

CANDIDATES FOR THE 2010 ELECTION OF ABS OFFICERS

The order in which candidates are listed may influence voting. Please avoid this bias in making your choice. This year the candidates are listed in REVERSE alphabetical order

Second President-elect:

Robert M. Seyfarth

Education: B.A. 1970, Harvard University; Ph.D. 1976, Cambridge University; Postdoctoral Fellow, 1977-1981, Rockefeller University.

Current Position: Professor of Psychology, University of Pennsylvania.

Research Interests: Animal communication and cognition, social organization, primate communication and the evolution of language.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1976; elected ABS Fellow 1997; John Simon Guggenheim Fellow 1995-96; elected Fellow of the American Psychological Association 1996 (Division 6, Comparative Psychology); elected Fellow, American Psychological Society 2007. NIH Study Section on Biobehavioral Regulation, Learning, and Ethology, 2001-2004. Associate editor, *American Journal of Primatology*, 1989-2003; member of the editorial board, *Primates*, 2008-present.

John Byers

Education: B.A. Biology 1970, Swarthmore College. Ph.D. Zoology 1980, University of Colorado.

Current Position: Professor of Zoology, Dept. Biological Sciences, University of Idaho.

Research Interests: sexual selection, behavioral development, mammalian play behavior, maternal care, life history evolution.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1975. ABS Program Officer 1992-1995. Allee judge 1990, 1999, 2009. Founders' judge 2008. Associate Editor, *The American Naturalist*, 1997 – 2000. Associate Editor, *Animal Behaviour*, 2005 – 2006. Panelist, NSF Bioinformatics Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, 1999 – 2005. Panelist, NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant Program, 2002 – 2003. Panelist, Environmental Protection Agency STAR graduate fellowship program, 2002, 2004, 2005. NSF Program Director of Animal Behavior, 1999-2000 & 2006-2008. The Wildlife Society Book of the Year Award, 1998. Elected a Fellow of the ABS 2001. ABS Exemplar Award 2008.

Parliamentarian:

Brian Wisenden

Education: B.S. 1985, University of Guelph; M.S. 1988, Lakehead University; Ph.D. 1993, University of Western Ontario; Postdoctoral Fellow 1993-1995, University of Saskatchewan; 1995-1997, University of Kentucky; 1998, University of Alberta.

Current Positions: Aug-May: Professor, Biosciences Department, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN; June (2000-present): Instructor of a summer field course in Animal Behavior at the Itasca Biological Field Station, University of Minnesota.

Research Interests: Behavioral ecology of fishes, parental care, mating systems, chemical ecology of predator-prey interactions, parasite-host interactions.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1988, ABS Student Research Grant Reviewer 2009, Reviewer for NSF and NSERC Animal Behavior research proposals, 2001-2006: Associate Editor of *Behaviour*, 2006 – present: Editor-in-Chief (the Americas, Australia, New Zealand) *Behaviour*, peer reviewer of 15-20 additional manuscripts per year for a variety of behavioral journals other than *Behaviour*.

Peggy Hill

Education: B.S. in Education 1975, The University of Tulsa; M.S. in Natural Science 1977, The University of Tulsa; Ph.D. in Zoology 1996, The University of Oklahoma.

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Tulsa.

Research Interests: Bioacoustics, vibrational communication, mating systems, female choice, conservation, evolution.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1994; Diversity Committee member since 2001; *Animal Behaviour* reviewer; Genesis Award judge 2002; Allee Award judge 2003; Undergraduate Travel Award grant co-PI 2002 to present and meeting organizer 2002, 2007, 2008; Student Research Grant Reviewer 2003, 2006, 2008, 2009; SICB Division of Animal Behavior Program Officer 1998-2001; NSF Panelist for Animal Behavior 2001-2002, 2005 and CAREER 2004; NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Panel 2001, 2003-2009; Reviewer for 10 other journals and 4 other national/international granting agencies

Member-at-Large:

Tamra Mendelson

Education: B.S. Wildlife Ecology, Certificate in Environmental Studies 1991, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Ph.D. Zoology 2001, Duke University; Postdoctoral Associate 2001-2004, Department of Biology, University of Maryland, College Park.

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Research Interests: The role of communication in speciation.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1995. Recipient of ABS Student Research Grant 2000.

Kevin McGraw

Education: B.Sc. Biology (1997), St. Lawrence University; M.Sc. Zoology (1999), Auburn University; Ph.D. Behavioral Biology (2003), Cornell University; Post-doctoral Fellow Animal Science (2004), University of California-Davis.

Current Position: Associate Professor, School of Life Sciences, Arizona State University.

Research Interests: Communication, sexual selection, color signaling.

ABS and Related Activities: ABS member since 1998; Recipient of ABS Outstanding New Investigator Award, 2005; Recipient of American Ornithologists' Ned K. Johnson Young Investigator Award, 2005; ABS

Board of Consulting Editors, 2005; Elective Member, American Ornithologists' Union, 2006; Referee for ABS Student Grant program, 2008 & 2009; Judge for Allee Competition, 2009 ABS Meeting; Symposium Coordinator, 2009 ABS Meeting; Associate Editor for *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* (2005-present), *Functional Ecology* (2006-present), *The Auk* (2008-present), and *Condor* (2008-present).

DID YOU KNOW?

Purchases via the [Amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) or Powell's Books links on our web pages contribute up to 7.5% of the total to ABS. If you have books to order and would like to contribute to the society's efforts at the same time, please use the links.

See <http://www.animalbehavior.org/> for details.

ABSnet

THE ELECTRONIC MAIL NETWORK OF THE ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY

ABSnet provides a fast electronic forum for animal behaviorists, and others interested in the study of animal behavior, in a digest or newsletter form. ABSnet provides job announcements, requests for information, computer related news (virus and bug alerts), appropriate software and hardware reviews, and news of Society activities and business. ABSnet is not an interactive, listserv-type discussion group, but rather a moderated forum for the exchange of information of interest to animal behaviorists. The digest or newsletter does not replace the official Society newsletter sent to all Society members via regular mail. Questions? To SUBSCRIBE to ABSnet, go to <http://www.animalbehavior.org> and click on the News and Announcements link on the left, then on the Subscribe/Unsubscribe link under ABSNet and fill out the Web-based form. Links to post an article or view the archives are also available.

**MAIL BALLOTS IN AN ENVELOPE BEARING YOUR NAME TO:
REGINA MACEDO, ABS SECRETARY, DEPARTAMENTO DE ZOOLOGIA – IB,
UNIVERSIDADE DE BRASILIA, BRASILIA, D.F., 70910-900 BRAZIL
OR BY E-MAIL TO: rhfmacedo@unb.br**

BALLOTS RECEIVED AFTER 31 JANUARY 2010, CANNOT BE COUNTED

You may cast write-in votes. We are electing three officers (terms begin at the end of the annual meeting). All ABS members (regular members, student members, joint members, and active fellows) may vote. Results will be announced in the February newsletter. All ballots will be destroyed after they are verified and counted.

ABS OFFICERS

Vote for one candidate for each office by placing an X in the blank following your choice. The candidate with the most votes will win the election. In case of a tie, a run-off election will be held.

FOR SECOND PRESIDENT-ELECT:

Robert M. Seyfarth _____
John Byers _____
Write-in _____

FOR PARLIMENTARIAN:

Brian Wisenden _____
Peggy Hill _____
Write-in _____

FOR MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

Tamra Mendelson _____
Kevin McGraw _____
Write-in _____

**The order of listing of candidates may influence voting. Please avoid this bias in making your choices.
This year the candidates are listed in REVERSE alphabetical order.**

RETURN THIS BALLOT NO LATER THAN 31 JANUARY 2010.

Distinguished Teaching Award Call For Nominations Form

To nominate a colleague for the ABS Distinguished Teaching Award (one of the career awards), answer as many of these questions as you can. Use the back if you need more space, and feel free to attach additional pages as required. Department chairs, directors, supervisors, or colleagues may be helpful sources for some of this information if you are not at the same institution as the person you are nominating. Please submit by **31 March 2010** to Penny Bernstein, pbernste@kent.edu, Assoc. Prof. Biological Sciences, Kent State University Stark Campus, 6000 Frank Avenue, N. Canton, OH 44720. Questions can also be directed to Jennifer Mather, mather@uleth.ca.

The Education Committee will solicit supporting materials, including those indicated in nominating letters (e.g., a teaching CV, documentation of other teaching awards, peer and student evaluations, additional references, evidence of innovation in curriculum development, development of educational tools, programs, or multimedia products, or other appropriate indicators of superior educating).

Name of Nominee: _____

Do you know that the nominee is a current member of ABS? (NOTE: Nominees must be current members of ABS, and current officers and committee chairs are not eligible; we can check if you are unsure).

Yes No

Nominees must have demonstrated a sustained record of highly effective and innovative teaching in the classroom or in an informal education setting (e.g., zoos, aquaria, museums, 4-H programs, research labs and field stations, and environment centers).

In what setting does the nominee teach animal behavior, and what evidence can you provide that this teaching is highly effective and/or innovative?

Nominees should have a reputation among peers and students for sustained excellence in educating people about animal behavior. What evidence can you provide that this nominee has such a reputation?

If possible, please provide names of at least two additional peer reviewers:

If possible, please provide names of at least two current or former students or program participants.

If this is a re-nomination, what was the date of the original nomination?

Please also include any new information you feel might be helpful to the committee.

Name of Nominator: _____

Signature of Nominator: _____ Date: _____

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Online renewal and information re. Required Member Info and Privacy Policies is available at <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABSCentralOffice/> and upon request.

Required Information

Full Name (include titles):

Last (family) name, first name, titles

Affiliation:
(University, Company, Organization
with which you are currently
affiliated.)

E-Mail (required for web access):
We do NOT provide email addresses
to other organizations)

Mailing Address:
(for general correspondence)

We occasionally rent our mailing list to
carefully screened publishers. Check
below if you wish to be excluded.

Exclude me from mailing list

Journal Delivery:

- Online Journal (no paper issues)
- to Mailing Address above
- to Address below

Member Information (Optional) - Enter whatever you wish to include in Directory

OFFICE Phone:

HOME Phone:

CELL Phone:

FAX Number:

Newsletter Delivery:

- Members receive online access to quarterly newsletters. Check here to receive paper copy

Pay dues online at: <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Members/>

OR

Return form with payment to: **Animal Behavior Society**
402 N Park Ave
Bloomington IN 47408-3828

phone: 812-856-5541
fax: 812 856-5542

