

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Student Subsection of the American Fisheries Society

31 August 2009

The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm. K. Schneider noted that many students were not in attendance because the Best Student Paper symposium was meeting concurrent with the Subsection.

K. Schneider introduced the guests in attendance:

W. Hubert, President-Elect of the AFS

T. Kwak, Past-President of the Education Section of the AFS

S. Chipps, President of the Education Section of the AFS

W. Hubert thanked K. Schneider for the introduction and mentioned that the Subsection was near and dear to him as he has been involved in fisheries education for many years. W. Hubert mentioned that talking to students was more interesting than talking to “old people”; all old people talk about is “hip replacements and the drugs they take.” W. Hubert implored students to introduce themselves and get involved.

A quorum (>15 members) was determined to be present (n = 22 members).

M. Colvin made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

M. Wuellner made a motion to approve the minutes from 2008. Q. Phelps seconded. The motion passed.

K. Schneider discussed items that she was able to accomplish during her presidency of the subsection: contacted presidents of individual units to update the webpage; began a Google discussion group of current news, interesting stories, and other info (K. S. also mentioned that AFS parent-society officers check the group as a means to check student opinions). K. S. also mentioned the colloquium on Tuesday afternoon/evening. K. S. announced that Loligo donated \$500 to the Student Subsection.

M. Wuellner discussed a survey that was sent out to presidents and advisors of student subunits asking for help. Ideas for public outreach, website creation, and pictures from meetings were top on the list. M. Colvin mentioned that he had packets for student subunits available in his hotel room.

M. Colvin commented on the good work done by K. Schneider and M. Wuellner as past presidents. He asked for any ideas on how to improve the Subsection and any constructive criticisms. He appreciates the work we do for student subunit members.

T. Kwak spoke offering thanks to the Subsection for all of our work. He commented on the fact that next year scheduling will be more involved with setting up the Subsection meeting and other student-focused symposia. He mentioned that the members of the Subsection are leaders and that involvement in the Subsection is a CV builder. T. Kwak also mentioned that student membership in AFS is creeping downward and that young, professional members are dropping. The Education Section has over \$200K in their treasury that can be used for the Subsection, too. T. Kwak also pushed for students to participate in the student/mentor lunch. T. Kwak closed by thanking K. Schneider and M. Wuellner and congratulated the Subsection for having a waxing membership.

K. S. then discussed the changing demographics in sections. She suggested that the Subsection continues to use Students' Angles to highlight the subunits and how the subunits relate to students (scholarships, etc.).

S. Ranney gave the Treasurer's report: balance of \$3,599.60.

A. Colotelo (Canadian representative) gave her report that a kids fishing day which included urban fishing, ecology and biology lessons was a great success.

T. Neebling (North-Central representative) reported that the 2nd Annual Midwest Student Colloquium is happening this year. It will be at Kansas State the following year. Student Colloquiums allows most students to give talks.

K. Schneider mentioned that most subunits are active and those that aren't are asking for help.

S. Chipps then spoke about students needing a place for their "career home" and suggested that the Subsection is a good place to start. He mentioned that the student evaluation forms are still in development. C-A. Hayer led a brief discussion on the student evaluations, indicating that it's difficult to get the moderators of symposia to announce when students are giving talks; apparently, the moderators did not get the email to announce when students are speaking. S. Chipps then thanks the Subsection for their hard work.

M. Wuellner then asked for nominees for Subsection officers and Division officers.

The new officers are: President-elect	Jesse Fischer
Secretary-treasurer	Joe Gerken
Canadian Rep	Connie O'Connor
North-Central rep	Tony Sindt
Southern rep	Amy Spencer
Western rep	Matt Corsi

A question was brought up regarding the function of the Subsection. The subsection is designed to bring initiatives to the AFS governing board to increase student involvement and allow the student voice to be heard. On a more local level, subunits are designed for community outreach; the subunits are the real workers of the Subsection and the Subsection acts as the managers. The

Subsection organizes the student colloquium at the Annual Meeting and informs the students of the opportunities. The Subsection is the voice of the students on the Governing Board.

M. Quist mentioned that the Subsection is NOT a small voice on the governing board; the governing board listens to the Subsection. In fact, it was the Subsection that got the Young Professional rate for membership in the AFS. K. Schneider added that students are a key part of the AFS.

J. Gerken made a plug for students to come to the student colloquium at K. State.

J. Fischer (Co-editor of the Ed. Section newsletter) suggested that students contribute to the newsletter.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.