Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the Student Subsection of the Education Section of the American Fisheries Society

6 September 2011, Seattle, WA

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM to allow for students to make their way from the Student Colloquium/Mentor luncheon.

J. Fischer introduced the guests in attendance:

W. Hubert
B. Fisher
J. Boreman
D. Parish
C. Paukert
S. Chipps
M. Quist

Current President W. Hubert briefly thanked J. Fischer for the introduction and urged students to become involved in Parent Society happenings, stating that the Student Subsection was a great place to start.

A quorum (> 15 members) was determined to be present (n = 24).

J. Fore made a motion to approve the agenda. R. Krogman seconded. The motion passed.

Minutes from the 2010 business meeting in Pittsburgh, PA could not be approved because they were not uploaded due to computer problems.

J. Fischer commented on the mid-year and annual governing board meetings. The most important development was the automatic inclusion of all student members in the Student Subsection. This should bring awareness of the subsection to student members and simplify communication channels. The addition of all student members does not change the minimum needed for quorum.

J. Fischer commented on the 2010 and 2011 Student Colloquia/Mentor Luncheons, which were an overall success. Organization of the colloquia/luncheons is one of the basic responsibilities of the Student Subsection.

J. Fischer commented on the most recent student subunit-sponsored colloquia, which took place at South Dakota State University and at the University of Idaho (Moscow, ID). The Education Section is willing to donate $500.00 to subunit-sponsored colloquia.

J. Fischer gave an update of recent Student Angles articles in Fisheries magazine. Current Subsection executive committee members wish to encourage the submission of Student Angles.
J. Fischer commented on the student reviewer database for AFS journals, indicating that the database has been restructured and that it is now self-updatable.

D. Dembkowski gave the Treasurer’s report. The balance as of 8/24/2011 was $2999.20.

Canadian, North Central, and Northeastern division student representatives were not in attendance and thus no reports were submitted. D. Dembkowski submitted the Southern Division report on behalf of T. Stubbs. Happenings are business as usual in regards to student-related happenings throughout the Southern Division. N. Kendall submitted the Western Division report, speaking about the 2011 Student Social and the Student Colloquium in Moscow, ID.

M. Quist briefly spoke about the importance of students to the overall AFS mission and thanked all present for being involved. As newly elected President of the Education Section, he is urging students to become more involved in AFS and cited the Student Subsection as an excellent place to start. He also explained benefits of the Student Subsection, which largely involved professional network development.

J. Fischer announced online election results for the 2011 term and introduced the positions:

President: J. Fore  
President-elect: D. Dembkowski  
Secretary/Treasurer: L. Pierce  
Canadian Student Representative: S. Wilson  
North Central Student Representative: C-A. Hayer  
Northeastern Student Representative: L. Jesovich  
Southern Student Representative: J. Young  
Western Student Representative: C. Smith

J. Fore thanked J. Fischer for his hard work as President and made a few comments on what he would like to achieve during his term. He would like to promote student colloquia throughout the divisions and see more student involvement in Subsection happenings. Because all student members of the Parent Society are now automatically members of the Student Subsection, he would like to increase Subsection awareness and increase the responsibilities of the student division representatives to act as communication channels between and among the executive committee and all student members. Overall he is open to ideas and looks forward to a productive year.

J. Fischer commented on the need for further integration of students at society levels (i.e., parent, division). He stressed what J. Fore brought up in his comments as new President; that the role of student division representative should be re-evaluated to facilitate communication between the executive committee and newly included student membership.

J. Fischer expressed the need for an “Instructions for Authors” document for Student Angles articles.
J. Fischer commented on student events on the docket for the 2012 Parent Society meeting in Minneapolis, MN. The Subsection would like to sponsor a resume and AFS Certification booth, wherein we would solicit volunteers from state/federal agencies to review student resumes and members of the AFS professional certification review board to speak about the importance of certification and provide tips on courses or service to help students become certified associate fisheries professionals. This effort would likely be a joint venture between the Student Subsection and the Equal Opportunities Section.

J. Fischer commented on the potential inclusion of non-students in Subsection leadership roles. This comment stemmed from the interest of a young professional member in filling the role of division representative. Overall there was no disinterest in the idea, but members of the Education Section executive committee in attendance agreed to discuss the idea further outside of the business meeting. Thus, the topic was tabled until a future meeting.

J. Fischer expressed the need for an updated website. R. Krogman volunteered to serve as webmaster.

J. Fischer solicited for volunteers for editors of the Education Section newsletter. Volunteers were: L. Pierce, C-A. Hayer, and S. Avery-Goem.

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

Respectfully submitted by Dan Dembkowski, 14 September 2011