

# American Society of Mammalogists



Annual Reports of the Trustees, Standing  
Committees, Affiliates, and Ombudspersons

92<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Peppermill Resort Spa & Casino, Reno, Nevada  
June 2012

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# I. Secretary-Treasurers Report

## American Society of Mammalogists

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In 2011 the Society had a decrease in net membership. Membership figures are summarized and presented in Table 1.

The number of nominees, **238** (Table 2), has decreased compared to the total from last year, **240**, and the number of reinstated members **43** (Table 3), has decreased compared to the **70** that were reinstated during 2010.

The names of the **4** members reported to have died during the past year are listed in Table 4. It is important that everyone take a moment at some point during the meeting to look over these names and reflect on their contributions to the Society.

There were **469** dropped delinquents from the Society in 2011 (Table 5).

The past year has brought no new Patron Members. The Society welcomes **7** (Table 6) new Life Members. Thank you for your support and lifelong commitment to the Society.

Today there are **634** Life Members and **56** Patron Members who make up 27% of our organization and are instrumental in the success of the Society.

Over the course of the year, the Society's general operating account took in revenues of **\$239,544.67** and had expenditures of **\$323,547.96**. The timing of the revenues and expenditures of the Society made it necessary for the trustees to transfer **\$89,034.13** from the reserve account.

The **Future Mammalogist's Fund** received contributions of **\$6,859.00** this year. This remains a very beneficial fund for the Society and all contributions are welcome.

The **Latin American Student Field Research Fund** received contributions of **\$1,100.00**. The Society will continue to provide awards from the LASFRF, so continued contributions from the membership would be greatly appreciated.

The **African Student Fund** received contributions of \$3,040; the **Oliver Pearson Fund** received contributions totaling **\$1,075.00**; the **ASM General Contribution Fund** received **\$1,515.00** in donations and the **ASM Century Club** received **\$400.00** in donations.

This money is greatly appreciated by the Society and we as a Society thank everyone for his or her generosity over the past year.

Finally, I would like to thank the membership and leadership for the support and trust they have given me as Secretary-Treasurer of the American Society of Mammalogists.

Sincerely,

Ronald A. Van Den Bussche  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Membership Figures - Table 1**

<b>Membership</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	
Nominees	243	207	239	297	335	343	304	291	235	240	238	(Table 2)
Reinstated	10	4	14	1	12	8	12	19	60	71	43	(Table 3)
Deaths Reported	-9	-16	-15	-9	-9	-5	-13	-7	-9	-15	-4	(Table 4)
Resignations	-7	-28	-16	-18	-6	-1	0	0	-3	0	0	
Dropped Delinquents	-210	-176	-134	-209	-242	-308	-268	-260	-467	-420	-469	(Table 5)
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>-184</b>	<b>-124</b>	<b>-192</b>	

<b>Status of Members</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Honorary	13	14	14	11	13	16	16	17	17	16	16
Patron	62	64	64	64	65	65	64	63	60	59	56
Life	615	635	643	650	658	655	654	655	617	629	633
Emeritus	158	160	160	158	158	158	154	147	114	114	111
Annual	2743	2722	2807	2904	2653	2986	3049	3429	1853	1723	1575
<b>Total</b>	<b>3591</b>	<b>3595</b>	<b>3688</b>	<b>3787</b>	<b>3547</b>	<b>3880</b>	<b>3937</b>	<b>4311</b>	<b>2661</b>	<b>2546</b>	<b>2391</b>

<b>Subscriptions</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Active	1116	1122	1055	970	931	846	781	709	629	532	476

<b>Mailing Lists</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Total Membership	3591	3595	3683	3788	3547	3880	3937	4311	2661	2546	2392
Members Not Receiving the Journal	-622	-716	-672	-834	-571	-877	1087	1834	-548	-584	-653
Members Receiving the Journal	2969	2886	3011	2954	2975	3003	2850	2477	2113	1962	1739
Active Subscriptions	1140	1146	1055	970	931	846	781	709	629	532	476
<b>Total</b>	<b>4109</b>	<b>4032</b>	<b>4066</b>	<b>3924</b>	<b>3906</b>	<b>3849</b>	<b>3631</b>	<b>3186</b>	<b>2742</b>	<b>2494</b>	<b>2215</b>

**Nominees-Table 2**

Mounir Abi-Said	Jonathan Harris	Erin Posthumus
Isha Alexander	Scott Harris	Amanda Potter
Holli Altobello	Anthony Hartman	Lisa Powers
John Jude Andersen	Jessica Healy	Jonathan Pridham
Daniela Arenas Viveros	Amy Heilman	Meredith Purcell
Donald Armentrout	John Henderson	Nathan Ramsay
Francisca Astorga	Steven Heritage	Zachary Randall
V Awasthi	Jacqueline Ho	Aspen Reese
Megan Baker	Rachael Hoch	Amy Remer
Ruben Barquez	Caldonia Hubbard	Adam Remmel
Carolyn Bauer	Gilson Jack Ximenes	Stephen Rice
Joseph Belli	Katherine Ingram	Kristen Richardson
Riley Bernard	Francesca Jordan	Drew Ricketts
Julie Beston	Stephanie Irvin	Jody Rintoul
Paul Bobick	Mari Ishida	Bridget Roberts
Paula Bohaska	Adolfo Jesus	Rachel Roberts
Mark Bohrer	Frida Johannesdottir	Melissa Rogalla
Kaeda Boyles	Patricia Jones	Charnee Rose
Miguel Briones	Shin-Ichiro Kawada	V Roth
Thomas Britt	Bryan Kluever	Norma Salcedo
Kristin Brzeski	Brooks Kohli	Jessica Sandstrom
Madeline Burchard	Karen Kracko	Carlo Santo
Brandon Calderon	Ewa Krzyszczyk	Tim Sattler
Angelo Capparella	Ipek Kulahci	Raymond Scheibel
Fiona Caryl	Patrice Kurnath	Christopher Schell
Amanda Cheeseman	George Lai	Gerrit Schipper
Hsiang Ling Chen	Jenny Lancaster	Emily Scobie
Erin Clancey	Joanna Larson	Juliana Senawi
Kate Cleary	Diane Laush	Daniel Shaw
Elizabeth Congdon	Derek Lee	Caleb Shields
Scott Cooney	Jacqueline Lee	Katie Simmons
Daniel Corral	Ohsun Lee	Leah Simoni
Crystal Cox	Matthew Leslie	Jarid Simons
Jeremy Crawford	Solomon Leung	Nicholas Skaff
Maria Cuevas	David Levering	Jason Smith
Raquel Da Silva	Han Li	Stephanie Smith
Sagar Dahal	Eric Lindemann	Anna Staneva
Jillian Davis	Stacy Lindshield	Jeff Stetz
Ted Dealey	John Lisek	Justin Stevenson
Jill Deppe	Travis Livieri	Garrett Street
Jonathan Derbridge	Amanda Lowe	Angela Szesciorka
Randy Do	Jacob Lucero	Patricia Tachinardi
Caroline Drago	Ann Macleod-Lambert	Matt Talluto
Shannon Dundas	Matthew Macmanes	Mauro Tammone
Lindsey Eastman	Chris Madson	Carlos Tello
Mallory Eckstut	Karen It Testing Maenza	Juan Tello
Aaron Facka	Jason Malaney	Courtney Thomason
Andrea Falcetto	Philip Manlick	Marie Tipps

**Nominees-Table 2 Cont.**

Lisa Ferguson	Jeff Manning	Ivanna Tomasco
Lisa Ferguson	Roberto Martinez-Gallardo	Anne Trainor
Mary Ferrara	Felipe Martins	Allison Treadway
Danilo Flores	Ryan Mcdonald	Catherine Tredick
Sean Foley	S. McFarlane	Jessica Trevino
Adam Ford	T.J. McGreevy	Wendy Tubbs
Tavis Forrester	Dana McLaughlin	Amy Colleen Ulappa
Rodney Foster	Rick Meril	Bernardo Urbani
Melissa Fowler	Christopher Merkord	Jamie Utz
Cheryl Frederick	Vladimir Monakhov	Jorista Van Der Merwe
Jake Garcia	Bianca Montero	Johanna Varner
Hayden Gardner	Michael Morrison	Ashlee Vaughn
Brian Gaston	Jennifer Murrow	Katherine Vecchi
Brian Gatza	Alexis Mychajliw	Rodrigo Vega
Joseph Gindele	Christine Nichols	Petra Villette
Daisy Gomez-Ruiz	Audrey Nickles	Sara Weaver
José González-Maya	Savanna Niec	Caitlin Wells
Miranda Goodrich	Paula Noonan	Tory Westall
Francois Gould	Kira Olheiser	Nicholas Whitten
Ambre Graham	Dara Orbach	Jennifer Wiley
Karissa Green	Jay O'Sullivan	Chad Williamson
Julia Greenberg	M. Aaron Owen	Cassie Wilson
Wesley Greentree	Melissa Pardi	Evan Wilson
Emma Grigg	Richard Parkhill	Robert Wyr
Craig Gritzen	Sara Parsons	Patrick Yamnik
Catherine-Isabelle Gros	Gilberto Iii Perez	Leah Yandow
Sergio Guerrero	Jessica Perry	Andrew Yoak
Leticia Gutierrez	Matthew Petelle	Sara Zaleski
John Hackemer	Joseph Petty	Mirka Zapletal
Keith Hamm	Douglas Phillips	Christine Zolnik
Ashley Hammond	Reese Phillips	István Zselicki
Kimberly Harle		

**Reinstated Members- Table 3**

Phillip Alviola	Jennifer Kanine	Brent Sewall
Michael Buchalski	Eva Kneip	Claudio Sillero-zubiri
Juan Campos	Jennifer Korn	Amy Skibiel
Christopher Comer	Sara Krause	Jim Sparks
Arthur E. Davenport	Dawn Larkey	Ted Stankowich
Natalie Dawson	Thomas Lovejoy	Keir Sterling
Stacy Deruiter	Matthew Mauldin	John Stoddard
Aziza Doumani	Toni Morelli	Rebecca Terry
Holly Edwards	Ian Morrow	Tad Theimer
Antonio Guillen	Jose Ohana	Robert Trujillo
Christopher Habeck	Jean Perry	Janeth Vela
Bernal Herrera	Brett Riddle	Jennifer Verdolin
Kyndall Hildebrandt	Evelyn Rios	Don White
Samantha Hopkins	Leslie Rodman	Clare Whittaker
Tereza Jezkova		

**Deaths Reported- Table 4**

Larry N Brown, Life Member  
John E Du Pont, Life Member  
Elisabeth K V Kalko, Regular Member  
Frederick H. Test, Life Member

**Dropped Delinquents- Table 5**

Omar Abu-Eid	Nicholas Green	Brian Prochazka
Joseph Accomando	Renato Gregorin	Alison Pruett
Anang Achmadi	Laura Grieneisen	Zhuding Qiu
Amanda Adams	Aryeh Grossman	Cheryl A. Quade-Leu
Adam Ahlers	Daniel Grout	Jessica Quinn
Nathan Alexander	Jose Guerrero	Gabor Racz
A. Alldredge	Mark Gumbert	Jennifer Ramirez
Dylan Allen	Werner Haberl	Diana Raper
Diego Alvarado	Luke Hacker	Susan Raymer
Adriana Alvarez Del Villar	Winifred Hallwachs	Steven Reagan
Paulo Celio Alves	Amy Halsall	Terry Reas
Justin Anderson	Laurissa Hamilton	John Rebar
Hermann Ansorge	John Hanson	Jan Reber
Marco Apollonio	Tom Harrington	Kent H. Redford
Lily Arias	Nyeema Harris	Serena Reeder
Peter August	John Hart	Joseph Reeve
Patryce Avsharian Wiseman	Tamera Hartline	Jonathan Reichard
Kyle Axe	James Harvey	Lilly K. Rendt
Gwen Bachman	Kenny Hayes	Carol Rizkalla
Christopher Bachmann	Michelle L. Haynie	Trina Roberts
Amy Baird	Anne-marie Hodge	James Robins
Vickie Bakker	James Hodson	Jasmin Robinson
Brannon Barr	Aaron Hogue	Arthur Rodgers
Anita Barstow	James Honey	Torrey Rodgers
Heather Barton	Kris Hundertmark	Keely Roen
Maddalena Bearzi	Gary Huschle	John Roese
Molly Bechtel	Ali Hussein	Katherine Rollins
Calah Beckwith	Christopher Jacques	Mikael Romich
Robert Belden	Everett W Jameson	Sean Rooney
David Belt	Sharon Jansa	V. Roth
Candace Bennett	Kurt Jenkins	Patricia Ruback
John Berini	Jonathan Jenks	Manuel Ruedi
Patricia Black-Decima	Timothy Jessen	Robert Russell
Wade Blanchard	Chelsea Jones	Toni Ruth
Kevin Blecha	Blaise Kadjo	Ana Sallenave
James Bodkin	Haakon Kalkvik	Christie Sampson
Sergio Borgia	Kimberly Kanapeckas	Peter Sandbol
Charles Borrego	John P. Karges	Gary Santolo
Rafael Borroto	Daryl R Karns	Maria Santos
Todd Bowsher	Carl Kaster	Renae Sattler
Carl Brandon	Emily Kay	Dino Scaravelli
Joel Brant	Karry Kazial	Alec Schmidt
Elizabeth Braun De Torrez	Mark Keith	Michael Schneider

**Dropped Delinquents- Table 5 Cont.**

Urs Breitenmoser	Kenneth Kellner	Brenda Schrecengost Wasler
Jenna Brightmire	Laura Kent	Misti Schriener
Kim Briones	Graham Kerley	Orlando Schwartz
Amber Brooks	Brandon Kilbourne	Kathleen Scott
David Broussard	Stephen King	Kim T. Scribner
Casey Brown	Kathryn Kisner	Linda Searles
Sarah Brownlee	Marcelo Kittlein	Rita Seger
Joseph Busch	Ann Knox	David Sempek
Chelsea Butcher	Kevin Kohl	Kathryn Shaw
Lynne Cann	Charles Kontos	Jeremy Shipley
Ernesto Capanna	Carey Krajewski	Donald Shure
Isabella Capellini	Rachel Kristiansen	Bernard Sietman
Ana Paula Carmignotto	Amy Kuczynski	Eduardo Silva
Ela Carpenter	Kaori Kusumoto	Elis Marina Silva
Marc Carrasco	Lindi Lagman	Nancy Simmons
Gabriela Castellanos	Vaughan Langman	Teri Slatauski
Riccardo Castiglia	Theresa Larson	Sarah Smiley
Nikki Castleberry	Sara Laux	Jaya Smith
Ivan Castro-Arellano	Peter Leimgruber	Kimberly Smith
Veronica Castro-Reyes	Meghan Leiper	Rosemary Smith
Lisa Cawthen	Herwig Leirs	Tyler Smith
Adalberto Cesari	George Leoniak	Peter Smits
Brian R. Chapman	Elaine Leslie	Nancy Solomon
Amanda Chappell	Thais Lira	Moira Sombra
B. Diane Chepko-sade	Richard E. Lizotte	Gina Sorrentino
Elizabeth Cherry	Kathleen Lo Giudice	Kristin Speros
Stephen Chester	Nikhil Lobo	Elizabeth St Clair
Sarah Christopher	Robert Lonsinger	Carisa Stansbury
Luis Chumacero	Lynn Lucas	Jennifer Steele
Richard L Cifelli	Joshua Lucero	Michael A. Steele
Vesna Cilic	Lucia Luna	Denise Stetson
Laura Cincotti	Juan Luque-Larena	Monica Stewart
Mary Clark	William J. Lynn	Jay Storz
Sieara Claytor	S. Lyons	Megan Strauss
Mark Clementz	Janet Maclean	Bronson Strickland
Tyler Cochran	Kishio Maeda	Su Su
Christopher Conrod	Karen Maenza	Franz Suchentrunk
Stephanie Coppeto	Karen It Testing Maenza	Steve And Amy Sullivan
Raymond Coppinger	John Major	Felina Swaba
Aaron Corcoran	Naghma Malik	Alexandra Swanson
Gerardo Cordero	Hugo Mantilla-meluk	Maryke Swartz
Gerardo Cordero	Nakedi Maptula	Maressa Takahashi
Natalia Cortes-Delgado	Ramona Maraj	Seiki Takatsuki
Barbara Costa	Cynthia Marks	Katherine Talbott
Leonora Costa	Helene Marsh	Dawn Tanner
Suzanne Cox Griffin	Karl Martin	Irma Tapia
Aaron Craft	Cindy Mathiasen	Daniel Taub
Bogdan Cristescu	John May	Ryan Taylor
Matthew A. Cronin	Robert McCleery	Richard H. Tedford

**Dropped Delinquents- Table 5 Cont.**

Todd Cross	Keri Mcfarlane	Sam R. Telford
Jason Damm	Jim I. Mead	Erik Terdal
Christopher Daniels	L Mech	Hoang Thang
Ana Davidson	Sarah Medill	Kanchan Thapa
Abby Davis	Rachel Menegaz	Maurice Thomas
Leo Davis	Michael Mengak	Tom Thorpe
Debra De La Torre	Henry Messing	Leigha Tingey
Amy Dechen Quinn	Rachel Meyers	Ignacio Torre
Justin Dellinger	Andre Meylan	Beth Townsend
Roger Denome	Georgies Mgode	Eric Triezenberg
Catherine Depeine	Anne miller	Sara Trubac
Andrew Derocher	Jacqueline Miller	Chiachun Tsai
Elizabeth A. Desy	Jennifer Miller	Yi-jiun Tsai
Eric Dewar	Les Misch	Stephanie Tsepelis
Mario Di Bitetti	Robert A. Mize	David Valenzuela Galvan
Elizabeth A. Dickerson	Vladimir Monakhov	Timothy Van Deelen
Cheryl Dikeman	Kevin Monteith	Marius Van Der Merwe
Rajith Dissanayake	Stephen J. Montgomery	Robin Vaughn
Mark Ditmer	Marianne Moore	Marianela Velilla
Michael Dixon	Robert Moore	Cecilia Vigil
William Dodge	Meghan Moran	Sergio Vincon
James Dolan	Heather More	Georgina Voegele
Andrew Dosmann	Michelle Morton-Matcham	Maarten Vonhof
Samuel Dupre	Robert Moses	Robert Voss
Kimberly Durham	Michael Moulton	Kevina Vulinec
Matthew Durnin	Isabel Moya	Guy D. Wagner
Markus Dyck	Kasey Moyes	Douglas Waid
Carla Ebeling	Alan Muchlinski	Juliann L. Waits
Christopher Effken	James Mueller	Christopher Walker
Dennis Eger	Agusti Munoz-Garcia	Justine Walker
Morgan Elfelt	Kevin Murray	Rachel Walsh
Richard Erickson	Robert Murray	Judith Wan
Stephen Etter	Tyler Musselman	C Ware
Matt Falcy	Robyn Nadolny	Dreux J. Watermolen
Laura Farrell	Richard L. Neumann	Elizabeth Watson
Lesley Farrow	Liisa Niva	Suzanne Watts
Andre Felton	Marcelo Nogueira	Paul Webb
Jesus Fernandez	Mauricio Nunez Regueiro	Matthew Weekes
Francesca Ferrara	Holly Ober	Marc Weinberger
Krista Fish	Lisa O'bryan	Brandi Welch
Aaron Foley	Georgina O'Farrill	Amanda Wendt
Adam Ford	Link Olson	Rachel Wheat
Marissa Foster	Ioannis C. Ondrias	Jericho Whiting
Rodney W. Foster	Yuiti Ono	Justin Wilde
S.e. Fragedakis-tsolis	Dave Onorato	Aryn Wilder
Mark Fraker	Miguel Ordenana	Elizabeth Williams
Gregory Franckowiak	Robert Osborn	Pamela Williams
Nathan Fuller	Richard Ostfeld	Lisa Winhold
Tim Fullman	Marcy Ostroff	Michael Winterrowd

**Dropped Delinquents- Table 5 Cont.**

Matthew Fuxjager	Stephane Ostrowski	Brent Wolf
Ronald Gaby	Catherine Ovens	Randall Wolfe
Marek Gebczynski	James G Owen	David K. Woodward
Gregory Geise	Lorelei Patrick	Jeffrey Wright
Fritz Geiser	Karla Pelz-Serrano	Katherine Wynne-Edwards
Diane Gendron	Rucha Vinod Pendke	Dou-shuan Yang
James Gilbert	Kameron Perensovich	Kian Peen Yeo
Jason Gilbert	Andrea Pesce	Takashi Yokoyama
R. Bruce Gillie	Michael Petriello	Julie Young
Anthony Giordano	Joseph Poissant	Megan Youngblood
Philip S. Gipson	Aaron Poole	Jaime Zambrano
Pablo Goncalves	Steven Presley	Roman Zhitelew
Robin Graham	Amanda Price	Irving Zucker
Ashley Gramza	Jeffrey Priest	Erin Zylstra
Heather Green		

**Members Completing Life Memberships- Table 6**

Donna D Baird	Shin-Ichiro Kawada	Bradley Swanson
Judith Eger	Isaac Ortega	Simon Townsend
Carlos Ludica		

## II. ASM Board of Trustees

**Members:** F. Choate, P. Sudman (Chair), and R. Van Den Bussche.

The ASM Trustees manage contributions and other revenues of the Society in an effort to assist with a wide variety of Society functions from assistance with publication costs and student awards, to helping to balance the budget. Together these funds are referred to as the ASM Reserve Fund. After reaching a high of \$3,738,275 in October of 2007, the historic economic downturn of 2007 through 2009 resulted in a loss of close to 50% of the net asset value of the ASM Reserve Fund. Recovery from the recession has been slow, with a highly volatile market – as such, many mutual funds and other investment vehicles have hedged on the side of caution. As such, our recovery has not been as dramatic as either the Dow Jones Industrial Average, or the S&P 500. By 31 December 2011, both of these indices had risen by approximately 88% from their lows on 9 March 2009, while the ASM Reserve Fund has increased by only 54%. Comparing 31 December 2011 with 31 December 2010, the S&P was flat, the Dow increased by 5.7%, and the ASM Reserve Fund net value decreased by 0.7% (note from the table below that allocations to operations exceeded incoming funds). The following figures track the Reserve Fund values as well as revenue inputs and expenditures over the past three years.

STATUS OF ASSETS	31 DEC 2009		31 DEC 2010		31 DEC 2011	
	Market value	%	Market value	%	Market value	%
Cash and MM Funds	134,083.18	4.7	103,243.09	3.3	51,389.14	1.8
Stocks	1,043,273.58	36.9	1,332,225.02	43.0	1,240,807.31	42.4
Corporate Fixed Income	50,562.50	1.8	0	0.0	0	0.0
Mutual Funds	1,538,815.33	53.5	1,572,032.97	50.7	1,547,875.06	52.9
Unit Investment Trusts	87,200.09	3.1	91,362.65	3.0	84,794.39	2.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,812,807.96</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3,098,863.73</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,924,865.90</b>	<b>100</b>
Life/Patron Payments	12,731.13		12,065.38		9,268.83	
Meeting Residuals	0		65,667.47		18,500.00	
Received from Allen Press	30,884.95		43,851.36		44,110.25	
Royalties	1,672.60		2,221.60		2,051.35	
GROSS VALUE	2,858,096.64		3,222,669.54		2,998,796.33	
Allocation to Operations	40,000.00		101,039.59		89,034.13	
<b>NET PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>2,818,096.64</b>		<b>3,121,629.95</b>		<b>2,909,762.20</b>	

Although the Trustees pool the individual accounts listed below for investment purposes, they are tracked separately. Their year-end value is calculated by adding the value of donations to the total for the previous year and then adding or subtracting the percent increase or decrease of the Reserve Fund as a whole. As of 31 December 2011, those funds were allocated as follows:

#### RESERVE FUND INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

FUND	31 Dec 2009 MARKET VALUE	31 DEC 2010 MARKET VALUE	31 DEC 2011 MARKET VALUE
Future Mammalogists Fund	444,834	505,706	483,900
J. A. Allen Fund	393,229	435,580	411,123
L Amer Stud. Field Res. Fund	55,607	73,901	70,852
Pearson Fund	177,820	198,596	188,520
ASM Fellowship Fund	27,743	30,731	29,006
Century Club	4,550	6,190	6,242
SAREM	0	5,538	8,267
Unspecified contributions	24,966	96,671	95,890

The Pooled Income Fund was developed as an investment option for donors who wish to contribute to the American Society of Mammalogists and obtain a tax advantage for doing so but continue to receive income from their contributions. At the end of each calendar year, the Trustees disperse all the interest and dividend income to the shareholders (donors) in the fund in proportion to their percent ownership. At the death of a shareholder, their percentage of the fund is transferred to the Reserve Fund. Prospective donors to the Pooled Income Fund can obtain information about this investment option from any of the Trustees.

The Pooled Income Fund was established on 1 October 1998 with an initial market value of \$10,206. Factors that affect the value of the fund are contributions, market performance, dispersements, and death distribution.

STATUS OF ASSETS	ANNUAL SUMMARY		
	2009	2010	2011
Value as of 1 January	\$36,853	\$41,127	\$44,879
Plus Contributions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Less Income Dispersement	(\$1,741)	(\$1,945)	(\$1,885)
Gain (Loss) Due to Market Performance	\$3,640	\$5,697	\$362
Value as of 31 December	\$41,127	\$44,879	\$43,356
Change in Value for Year	\$1,899	\$3,770	(\$1,523)
% Yield	4.7%	4.7%	4.2%

### **III. Standing Committees**

#### **Animal Care and Use Committee**

**Committee Members:** D. S. Carroll, B. J. Danielson, J. W. Dragoo, M. R. Gannon, W. L. Gannon, D. W. Hale, C. McCain, D. K. Odell, L.E. Olson, S. Rissing, R. S. Sikes (Chair), R. M. Timm, S. A. Trewitt, and J. E. Whaley.

#### **Mission:**

The ACUC acts as a resource for issues concerning the use of animals in research. The Committee maintains information on the ASM website regarding animal use and compliance and publishes revised guidelines regularly. The committee responds to inquiries from Society members, IACUC staff, government, and other agencies regarding appropriate use of wild mammals in research. We also provide comments on proposed changes to animal-use regulations.

#### **Information Items:**

- (1) The 2011 edition of the *Guidelines* has been widely distributed. Reprints with covers have been provided at a number of IACUC-focused professional meetings and have been well received.
- (2) Judging from citation data, the 2007 and 2011 “Guidelines of the American Society of Mammalogists for the Use of Wild Mammals in Research” have been accepted as standards by practicing mammalogists around the world. As of April 2012, these editions collectively have been cited in 101 journals indexed by the Web of Science other than the *Journal of Mammalogy*.
- (3) Sikes (representing the ASM) and Ellen Paul (representing the Ornithological Council) co-organized and hosted “A walk on the wild side: a conference on IACUC oversight of wildlife research” held in Albuquerque, NM, 26-28 October 2011. Seven members of the ASM Animal Care and Use Committee were present and participated in presentation of the conference program. The conference brought together investigators, IACUC members, and federal workers involved with oversight of animal use. Financial support for the conference was provided by the National Science Foundation, the U. S. Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Inspection Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U. S. D. A. Forest Service, Los Alamos National Laboratories, the National Institutes of Health Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, the New Mexico Consortium, and the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC International).
- (4) Sikes (representing the ASM), Ellen Paul (representing the Ornithological Council), and Stephen Beaupre (representing the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists) prepared and submitted a manuscript to AIBS *BioScience* entitled "Standards for wildlife

research: Taxon-specific guidelines vs. PHS Policy." This document argues for formal recognition of taxon-specific guidelines in Public Health Services policy as the appropriate standards for wildlife research as opposed to the ILAR *Guide for the care and use of laboratory animals*.

- (5) In February 2012, Sikes (representing the ASM) and Ellen Paul (representing the Ornithological Council) met with Dr. John Wingfield, Assistant for the NSF Biological Sciences Directorate, regarding opportunities to increase recognition of taxon-specific guidelines as the appropriate standards for federally funded research with wild taxa.
- (6) The application by the ASM to become a member organization of the AAALAC International was approved by the AAALAC Board of Trustees in their meeting of September 2011, in Washington, D.C. The ASM ACUC committee chair attended the annual meeting after approval of ASM's application.
- (7) The 2011 edition of the *Guidelines of the American Society of Mammalogists for the use of wild mammals in research* was reviewed and accepted by AAALAC International as a reference resource with three clarifications and two exceptions.
- (8) The committee chair hosted a breakout session on IACUC oversight of wildlife protocols at the Annual Meeting of the Scientist Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) held in San Antonio, TX in December 2011.
- (9) The committee chair served as session coordinator and panelist for a double session on IACUC oversight of wildlife protocols at the annual PRIM&R (Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research) IACUC conference held in Boston in March 2012.
- (10) Over the past year the committee provided comments to IACUCs and investigators on issues ranging from acceptance of data from previous studies exempt from IACUC review to recommendations regarding thoracic compression. The committee regularly provides comments and opinions to ASM members, IACUCs, and other interested parties seeking expertise on non-laboratory species.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Robert S. Sikes, Chair  
([rssikes@ualr.edu](mailto:rssikes@ualr.edu))

## Archives Committee

**Historian:** R. M. Timm (Chair)

**Archivist:** A. L. Gardner

### Information Items:

- (1) All of past president J. Knox Jones' correspondence from Texas Tech University, the University of Kansas, and his military career has been assembled and organized for transfer to the Archives at the University of Kansas. Thus, Jones' entire correspondence for his professional career is now together in the KU archives and available to researchers.
- (2) The Committee assisted with the preparation of the obituary for Jerry R. Choate. It appeared in the December 2011 [JM 92:1418–1432] issue of the *Journal*.
- (3) The Committee assisted with the preparation of the obituary for Donald F. Hoffmeister. It will appear in an upcoming issue of the *Journal*.
- (4) The Committee worked with the Honorary Membership Committee to produce the medallions for the two awards and with the Grinnell Award Committee to produce the award.
- (5) The Committee received correspondence and photographs of interest for the ASM's archives including Guy Cameron's presidential correspondence. These will be sorted, labeled, and sent to Archivist Gardner for inclusion in the Smithsonian's Archives.
- (6) Archivist Gardner continued to sort, process, organize, and prepare material for transfer to the Smithsonian Archives.

### Action items:

- (1) Funds will be needed in the future for scanning historical photographs from the archives for use on other committee's web pages but that project awaits decision by the web page committee and the ASM President.

### Respectively submitted,

Alfred L. Gardner, Archivist

Robert M. Timm, Historian, Chair

([btimm@ku.edu](mailto:btimm@ku.edu))

## Checklist Committee

**Committee Members:** R. E. Barry, P. Bloomer, G. N. Bronner, R. L. Brownell, Jr., M. D. Carleton, D. P. Domning, A. L. Gardner, C. P. Groves, K. M. Helgen, H. N. Hoeck, M. E. Holden, S. S. B. Hopkins, R. Hutterer, P. D. Jenkins, C. W. Kilpatrick, C. A. Matthee, J. G. Mead, G. G. Musser, L. E. Olson, J. L. Patton, D. M. Reeder (Chair), A. L. Roca, D. A. Schlitter, A. C. Schunke, N. B. Simmons, A. T. Smith, R. W. Thorington, Jr., G. Veron, D. E. Wilson.

### **Mission:**

The Checklist Committee was established by the Board of Directors in 1980 to provide advice on Mammal Species of the World. The Checklist Committee is charged with compiling and updating the publication, Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference.

### **Information Items:**

(1) The Checklist Committee was established by the Board of Directors in 1980 to provide advice on Mammal Species of the World. The Checklist Committee is charged with compiling and updating the publication, Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference. The first edition was edited by J. H. Honacki et al. (1982) and published by Allen Press and the Association for Systematics Collections. The first edition recognized 4170 species. Current authors for Mammal Species of the World (MSW) make up the checklist committee. MSW contains the names of all currently recognized species, nested in a taxonomic hierarchy that includes at a minimum Order, Family, and Genus.

(2) The second edition was edited by D. E. Wilson and D. M. Reeder (1993) and published by Smithsonian Institution Press. The second edition recognized 4629 species, including 172 species newly described since the first edition.

(3) The third edition, also edited by Wilson and Reeder, was published as a two-volume set by Johns Hopkins University Press in mid-December 2005. Since its publication in mid-December 2005, 2200+ copies have been sold. MSW3 includes common names, authorities for synonyms, and the recognition of subspecies. Other fields include type species for genera, type locality, distribution, and conservation status for species, and synonyms and comments fields for all taxa. MSW3 also contains an extensive bibliography (~ 9400 references) and an index of scientific names (~ 32,000 valid names and synonyms). MSW3 recognizes 5416 species and is currently available online at [www.bucknell.edu/msw3](http://www.bucknell.edu/msw3). This fully searchable and downloadable database went online summer 2007, and receives approximately 11,000 hits daily. The Bucknell MSW3 database was replaced by a newer version at Smithsonian Institution in May 2011 – which is available at: <http://www.vertebrates.si.edu/msw/mswcfapp/msw>. Features of this site include: enhanced data exports that allow results to be formatted for xls spreadsheets and pdf, a dynamic taxonomy tree browser, advanced search features and species links to corresponding NMNH collection records. Given some glitches with the Smithsonian site, the Bucknell site still remains open.

(4) The checklist committee is currently working on MSW4, which we anticipate will be produced both in hard copy and as a searchable database.

**Action items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
DeeAnn M. Reeder, Chair  
([dreeder@bucknell.edu](mailto:dreeder@bucknell.edu))

## Conservation Committee

**Committee Members:** L. C. Arias, B. S. Arbogast, B. J. Bergstrom (Chair), A. D. Davidson, N. Dawson, A. W. Ferguson, A. T. Ford, B. J. Gaston, A. J. Giordano, T. J. Jessen, R. A. Medellin, A. Morzillo, R. A. Ojeda, L. A. Randa, S. R. Sheffield.

### **Mission:**

The Conservation Committee (CC) was established by the ASM in 1927, a few years after the Society passed a resolution condemning the unscientific and propagandistic extermination campaign against predators at its 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in 1924. First known as the Conservation of Land Mammals Committee, the committee's name was changed to the Conservation Committee in 2002 to reflect the fact that it dealt with conservation issues that included all mammals. In 2002–2003, the Aldo Leopold Conservation Award subcommittee that CC had recently established was moved to full standing committee status. The CC promotes research, education, and science-based solutions to conservation and management of native mammals in North America and globally.

### **Information Items:**

(1) The CC welcomed new members Lily Arias, Brian Gaston, and Adam Ford in 2011-2012; Roxy Larsen rotated off the committee, and we thank her for her service.

### **(2) Activities of the ASM CC during 2011-2012:**

(a) In early March 2012, the committee drafted an ASM Presidential position letter, which was signed by President Mares, and submitted through the Federal Register during the Public Comment period on a proposed rule by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to change the interpretation of “a significant portion of its range,” a phrase in the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that is part of the definition of both endangered and threatened species. We opposed the changed interpretation, which would consider only the current range of the species, and not its historic range, in determining when a species should be listed. We felt the revised interpretation could preclude listing a species, in some cases, until it reached the critical point of being at risk of global extinction. The letter can be read here:

[http://www.mammalsociety.org/uploads/committee\\_files/USFWS%20Policy%20ASM.pdf](http://www.mammalsociety.org/uploads/committee_files/USFWS%20Policy%20ASM.pdf)

(b) In late March 2012, the committee drafted an ASM Presidential position letter, which was signed by President Mares, and submitted through the Federal Register during a Public Comment period in which USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) requested input from stakeholders on suggestions for re-prioritization of its programs and budget. We urged APHIS to institute reforms to its Wildlife Services (WS) agency, in which WS would take a more science-based approach to wildlife conflict management; monitor impacts of its lethal control campaigns on affected populations; account for the ecosystem values (e.g., trophic cascades, nutrient effects) of such keystone species as prairie dogs and gray wolves before targeting them for lethal control; and to discontinue lethal control when not demonstrably efficacious and necessary and wherever mortality of non-targeted species is significant, especially those that are state or federally listed. We urged more funding for non-lethal control methods and research and less for lethal control, except in the cases of invasive exotic species. The letter can be read here:

[http://www.mammalsociety.org/uploads/committee\\_files/ASM-Federal%20wildlife%20control%20letter\\_0.pdf](http://www.mammalsociety.org/uploads/committee_files/ASM-Federal%20wildlife%20control%20letter_0.pdf)

An extensive, three-part investigative series on WS was published in the Sacramento Bee several weeks after ASM's letter was submitted; several members of ASM were quoted in that article, and ASM's long-standing involvement in this issue was noted. As of this writing, the committee is continuing to send ASM's letter to additional recipients and to consult with other societies, conservation NGOs, and members of the press.

(c) Although the committee briefly discussed the call for comments on the 15-year Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), the short lead time precluded preparation of an official Society response. Instead, in November 2011 several committee members, as individuals, co-signed a letter to USFWS supporting "Alternative E" as the best hope of preserving polar bear and other species of Arctic mammals; this involves designating three Wilderness Study Areas and including the Canning River in the National Wild and Scenic River System, but also adding NWSRS status for the Jago River to Alternative E, given the latter's value to musk ox and risk of potential oil and gas development.

(d) The CC continues to follow the fragile recovery of the Mexican gray wolf. The USFWS released only one captive-bred wolf into the wild in the past several years, despite the fact that only six breeding pairs now exist in Arizona and New Mexico and the small population is at risk of inbreeding. CC plans to work with The Wildlife Society this summer to draft a joint letter or resolution urging continuation of captive releases to restore genetic health to this critically endangered subspecies.

### **(3) Follow-up on Previous Issues:**

The Northern Rocky Mountain gray wolf was delisted by Congress, effective May 2011; in the year since the first legislative delisting of an endangered species in the 37-year history of the ESA, more than 400 wolves have been killed in the state of Idaho, alone. In February 2012, WS agents shot 14 wolves from aircraft in the Lolo National Forest, and Idaho officials have left the

hunting and trapping season open in the Lolo zone through June (into the denning season). This, plus a liberalization of bear and mountain lion hunting regulations in the area, is being done to boost elk populations, a goal that we questioned in our letter to WS. Also, 166 wolves were killed by hunters in Montana, which has closed its season. Meanwhile, USFWS announced on 30 April 2012 that it approves of Wyoming's wolf management plan, which allows wolves to be killed year-round, without license, and by any means necessary, throughout 86% of the state.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Brad Bergstrom, Chair  
([bergstrm@valdosta.edu](mailto:bergstrm@valdosta.edu))

## **Conservation Awards Committee**

**Committee Members:** R. T. Bower, P. D. Moehlman, K. M. Helgen, T. E. Lacher, Jr., W. P. Smith, T. J. O'Shea, V. Sánchez-Cordero (Chair).

### **Mission:**

This Committee administers two awards, the Aldo Leopold Conservation Award and the William T. Hornaday Award. These awards were established by the ASM Board of Directors in 2002. The Aldo Leopold Award was created to recognize a well-established individual who has made a lasting scientific contribution to the conservation of mammals and their habitats. The William T. Hornaday Award was created to recognize a current graduate or undergraduate student who has made a significant contribution as a student to the conservation of mammals and their habitats.

### **Information Items:**

(1) The Conservation Awards Committee solicits nominations for the Leopold Conservation Award and the Hornaday Student Conservation Award. This year there were no nominations submitted for the Hornaday Award, and one nomination submitted for the Leopold Award. Nomination for the Leopold Award was received and evaluated by the Committee. The Committee supported the nomination of the nominee for the Leopold Award unanimously, and the nomination was forwarded to the ASM Board of Directors for their consideration. The Award will be presented at the banquet at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

### **Action Items:**

(1) Budget request of \$300.00 for the Leopold Award plaque.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
V́ctor Sánchez-Cordero, Chair  
([unmpres@unm.edu](mailto:unmpres@unm.edu))

## Coordination Committee

**Committee Members:** R. E. Barry, Jr., C. N. Jacques, J. A. Jenks (Chair).

**Mission:**

This committee was established as the *ad hoc* Committee Review Committee in 1998 by the President and charged to formalize mission statements, clarify responsibilities of each standing committee, and to prepare a working document entitled, "Duties and Responsibilities of Standing Committees," for distribution to officers, board members, and committee chairs. In 2000, this committee was made a standing committee, Committee on Committees, by the Board of Directors. Following the 2003 meetings, the name was changed to Coordination Committee.

**Information Items:**

(1) Committee worked to compile the 2011 Annual Reports Document (Board Book). Our committee appreciates timely report submission by committee chairs.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Jonathan A. Jenks, Chair  
([Jonathan.Jenks@sdstate.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Jenks@sdstate.edu))

## Development Committee

**Committee Members:** R. J. Baker, J. Kenagy, A. V. Linzey, , D. J. Schmidly, M. R. Willig (Chair), and D. E. Wilson.

**Mission:**

The Development Committee was established as an *ad hoc* committee in 1989 and became a standing committee in 1993. The mission of this committee is to promote the development of the Society through various forms of planned giving such as bequests, trusts, and gifts of cash or other assets. Coordination is required with other committees and informal groups that have related functions. The Development Committee activated the Pooled-Income Fund in 1998.

**Information Items:**

(1) The Committee Chair collaborated with the President and Secretary-Treasurer to ensure improved communications with donors and potential donors. Donors to the Society are now formally acknowledged for their generosity in the *Journal of Mammalogy*. As a policy, the Secretary-Treasurer and the President write letters of gratitude to donors. The Committee will

advance a number of development activities to increase support for the Society and its important activities in research, education, and outreach.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Michael R. Willig, Chair  
([Michael.willig@uconn.edu](mailto:Michael.willig@uconn.edu))

## **Education and Graduate Students Committee**

**Committee Members:** C. P. Bloch, B. S. Coyner, A. J. Edelman, W. S. Fairbanks, E. J. Finck (Chair), H. C. Lanier, R. J. Larsen, B. R. McMillan, B. S. Pasch, and N. D. Whitten.

### **Mission:**

The Committee on Education and Graduate Students assists students of mammalogy in making informed choices of career, improving their scientific expertise, and helping them find funding for research and employment in the discipline. To those ends, the committee prepares and distributes brochures, holds periodic workshops, provides evaluations of student presentations at the Annual Meeting, and conducts various mentoring/networking activities.

### **Information Items:**

(1) Evaluation of student presentations continues to be an extremely popular program among students. At the 2011 Annual Meeting in Portland, 134 student presenters were evaluated by 46 evaluators. We expect a similar number of requests for student evaluations at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Reno. Elmer Finck will continue with the arduous task of assigning evaluators to each presentation, and Brock McMillan will compile and send the evaluations back to the students.

(2) The “Meal with a Mammalogist” program is currently being organized by Sue Fairbanks. The program is in its 18th year and continues to be popular among both students and scientists. We thank all the scientists who have participated in this program over the years. At last year’s meeting our scientists included: Robert Anderson, Jeffery Bradley, George Feldhamer, James Hallett, Doug Kelt, Enrique Lessa, Christie McCain, Sue McLaren, Peter Meserve, Karen Munroe, David Reed, Felisa Smith, Brad Swanson, Dirk Van Vuren, and Don Wilson. We encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to spend time with these scientists. Each year, members of the E&GS Committee nominate scientists to be part of the program and we welcome and encourage nominations from all ASM members, particularly students.

(3) This is the 18th year the Committee will sponsor a luncheon hosted by the President of the Society for Plenary Session speakers.

(4) The committee also hosts an Annual Social for student attendees at the Annual Meeting. The purpose of the mixer is to allow student attendees at the meeting to meet other students (future colleagues) and establish networks of collaboration and support.

(5) Elmer Finck continues to coordinate the distribution of the “Careers in Mammalogy” brochure, “The Science of Mammalogy” brochure, and the general information brochure.

(6) Our committee also is looking into the possibility of offering a writing seminar and other professional development workshops targeting our student members and coordinated with annual meetings.

**Action Items:**

(1) The Education and Graduate Students Committee requests \$750 to 1) pay for meals of scientists participating in the *Meal with a Mammalogist Program* and 2) to cover the expenses of the Student Social/Mixer at the 2013 Annual Meeting. This requested support has been provided for the past several years, but has increased because we will not have a meal plan and costs are up because of the future selected venues.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Elmer J. Finck, Chair  
([efinck@fhsu.edu](mailto:efinck@fhsu.edu))

## Grants-in-Aid Committee

**Committee Members:** J. Boyles, R. M. Brigham, B. Butler, L. N. Carraway, C. J. Conroy, T. L. Derting, J. W. Drago, J. A. Esselstyn, K. E. Galbreath, S. Gehrt, J. R. Goheen, G. D. Hartman, V. Hayssen, C. Himes, S. R. Hooper, D. M. Kaufman, J. L. Koprowski, H. C. Lanier, J. Light, S. C. Loeb, K. Mabry, B. McMillan, M. Matocq, M. L. McKnight, R. W. Norris, E. C. Oaks, D. K. Odell, D. Post, A. W. Reed, D. M. Reeder, T. E. Roberts, R. K. Rose, K. C. Rowe, R. L. Schooley, P. T. Stapp, R. D. Stevens (Chair), K. D. Stone, H. H. Thomas, M. B. Worrell.

**Mission:**

The Grants-in-Aid Committee reviews applications for grants-in-aid and fellowships in mammalogy (American Society of Mammalogists Fellowship in Mammalogy and the Albert R. and Alma Shadle Fellowship in Mammalogy) and either selects recipients for these awards or recommends recipients for these awards.

**Information Items:**

(1) Membership on the Committee is currently 39 members. Cody Edwards, Loren Hayes, John Kie, and Bill Kilpatrick left the Committee during the last year. Thanks to these four gentlemen for their dedicated service to the Grants-in-Aid Committee. Two new members were added

(Hayley Lanier, Diane Post). We are always looking for additional members. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on this committee.

(2) We received 74 applications for Grants-in-Aid for 2012, below the average of approximately 100 applications received over the past few years. The budget for Grants-in-Aid was set by the Board at \$52,500 for 2012. The committee ranked the 74 proposals and 34 were selected for support based on their average ranking. The quality of the proposals continues to improve. The diversity and high quality of research activities proposed by the student members of ASM is very impressive. Each committee member was asked to review and rank 13 to 14 Grants-in-Aid applications. The committee members continue to make an effort to provide each applicant with some constructive comments on his/her proposal. Names of the students who have received a 2012 Grant-in-Aid are attached to the end of this report.

(3) The recipient of the 2012 Elizabeth Horner Award for the lowest ranking (best) Grant-in-Aid proposal is Andrea Bailey (University of Minnesota).

(4) In 2011, 11 fellowship applications were received and reviewed. The 2011 ASM Fellowship recipient was Bret Pasch from the University of Florida. The Shadle Fellowship recipient was Justin Lack from Oklahoma State University. The fellowship applications received for the 2012 competition will be distributed to committee members electronically and nominees will be selected during a closed session at the Annual Meeting. The amount of the American Society of Mammalogists Fellowship in Mammalogy will be \$15,000 and the Albert R. and Alma E. Shadle Fellowship in Mammalogy will be approximately \$4,000 in 2012.

**Action items:**

**(1) 2013 Budget Request**

Grants-in-Aid of Research 33 x \$1,500	\$52,500
Horner Award	\$500
ASM Fellowship	\$17,500
Banquet tickets for GIA recipients (10 X \$30)	\$300
Total Request	\$70,800

**(2) 2012 ASM Grants-in-Aid Recipients**

**Andrea Bailey**, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, University of Minnesota, \$1500 + Horner Award (\$500) = \$2000;  
The function of pregnancy coloration in social mammals.

**Danielle Adams**, Department of Biology, University of Maryland, \$1500:  
Infidelity and sexual conflict in the greater spear-nosed bat (*Phyllostomus hastatus*).

- Carolyn Bauer**, Department of Biology, Tufts University, \$1500:  
Does plural breeding with communal care buffer post-natal stress in the caviomorph rodent, *Octodon degus*?
- Kayce Bell**, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, \$1500;  
Lousey and wormy chipmunks: host-parasite geographic variation and co-divergence in western North America.
- Kristin Brzeski**, Department of Renewable Natural Resources, Louisiana State University, \$1500;  
Examining genetic variation in pre-Columbian red wolves (*Canis rufus*).
- Joseph Burger**, Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, \$1500;  
Experimentally testing the costs of exotic ectoparasites in *Octodon degus*.
- Gerald Carter**, Department of Biology, University of Maryland. \$1500;  
Will vampire bats decrease food donations to partners that don't reciprocate?
- Jeremy Chase Crawford**, Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley, \$1500;  
Characterizing the innate and adaptive immune systems in a novel example of mammalian sociality: a next-generation approach.
- Jonathan Derbridge**, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, Wildlife Conservation and Management Program, University of Arizona, \$1500;  
Using experimental removals and stable isotope analysis of diet to determine mechanisms of competition between an endangered tree squirrel and a syntopic non-native competitor.
- Shelly Donohue**, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Vanderbilt University, \$1500;  
Assessing feeding ecology and evolutionary history of the bear family using dental microwear texture analysis.
- John Doudna**, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology, Iowa State University. \$1500;  
Anthropogenically-induced adaptations in prairie deer mouse skull morphology.
- Sheena Faherty**, Department of Biology, Duke University, \$1500;  
Unlocking the genetic code of hibernation: an investigation of free-ranging dwarf lemurs in Madagascar.
- Brian Gaston**, Department of Biological Sciences, Fort Hays State University, \$1500;  
Comparison of managed versus unmanaged free-roaming cat populations.

- Rebecca Green**, University of California, Davis, \$1500;  
Microclimate Conditions of tree cavities used as reproductive dens by fishers (*Martes pennanti*) in the southern Sierra Nevada.
- Chun-Chia Huang**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, \$1500;  
Changing the face of farmer-wildlife conflicts: the economic potential of bat-discarded coffee beans in Southwestern Sumatra.
- Eric Keen**, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego, \$1500;  
Whales in fjords: fin whale habitat use and vocalization in the developing coastal corridor of British Columbia.
- Elizabeth Kierepka**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, \$1500;  
Phylogeography of a wide-ranging specialist, the American badger (*Taxidea taxus*) in North America.
- Bryan Kluever**, Wildland Resources, Utah State University, \$1500;  
The relationship between artificial water sources and the ecology of kit foxes and coyotes on the U.S Army Dugway Proving Ground.
- Ipek Kulachi**, Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, \$1500;  
Transmission of novel information across social networks of ring-tailed lemurs (*Lemur catta*).
- Matthew Mauldin**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, \$1500;  
Temporal and geographical comparison between hybrid zones of two species of woodrats (genus *Neotoma*).
- Haley Obrien**, Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, \$1500;  
Assessing variation in artiodactyl thermoregulatory cranial vasculature: correlations with intrinsic and extrinsic factors.
- Nicte Ordonez-Garza**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, \$1500;  
Rodents as a phylogeographical model for understanding species diversity in the Mesoamerican Highlands.
- Jesse Patterson**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Calgary, \$1500;  
The effects of ectoparasitism on the fitness and behaviour of North American red squirrels.
- Kendra Phelps**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, \$1500;  
Conserving cave bats in the Philippines: assessing the impact of cave disturbance on bat communities.

**Erin Posthumus**, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, Wildlife Conservation and Management Program, University of Arizona, \$1500;  
Can red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) middens affect species diversity? A test of the keystone species concept.

**Emma Roberts**, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, \$1500;  
The utility of zonadhesin in examining a potential isolating mechanism in three pairs of rodent species.

**Melissa Roberts**, NZP-SCBI-CCEG/NMNH VZ-Division of Mammals, Smithsonian Institution, \$1500;  
Phylogenetics and biogeography of Sundaland tree squirrels.

**Torrey Rodgers**, Department of Animal Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, \$1500;  
Ocelot kin-structure and socio-spatial organization from noninvasive genetic sampling and camera-trapping.

**Jennifer Schieltz**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, \$1500;  
How do body size and mode of digestion affect the response of wild grazers to cattle grazing?

**Sarah Smiley**, Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University, \$1500;  
Physiological and behavioral responses of rodents to rattlesnakes: evidence of ongoing selection in a predator-prey system?

**Lucy Tran**, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, \$1500;  
Testing the role of flexible folivory in shaping a primate distribution.

**Danielle Tufts**, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, \$1500;  
High altitude adaptations in North American mammals (*Ochotona* and *Marmota* spp.).

**Rachel Walsh**, Department of Integrative Biology, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, \$1500;  
Understanding range shifts by chipmunks in Yosemite: impacts of habitat use, temperature, and interspecific interactions.

**Elizabeth Warburton**, Department of Biological Sciences, Western Michigan University, \$1500;  
Elucidating patterns of host susceptibility in *Eptesicus fuscus*, a white-nose syndrome affected species.

**Respectively submitted,**  
Richard D. Stevens, Chair  
([rstevens@lsu.edu](mailto:rstevens@lsu.edu))

## **Grinnell Award Committee**

**Committee Members:** E. Lessa, M. S. Hafner, P. Myers, D. J. Schmidly (Chair), and P. D. Sudman.

### **Mission:**

The purpose of this committee is to solicit nominations for and select a recipient of the Joseph Grinnell Award. The Joseph Grinnell Award honors individuals who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to education in mammalogy over a period of at least 10 years.

### **Information Items:**

(1) This year the Committee received five nominations for the Joseph Grinnell Award. The Committee unanimously and enthusiastically supported the nomination of one of the nominees and it was forwarded to the ASM Board of Directors for their consideration. The award will be presented at the banquet at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada.

### **Action Items:**

(1) Budget request of \$350.00 to produce the Grinnell Award.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
David J. Schmidly, Chair  
([unmpres@unm.edu](mailto:unmpres@unm.edu))

## **Honoraria Committee**

**Committee Members:** L. Dizney, V. Hayssen (Chair), S. Jansa, M. C. Kalcounis-Ruppell, J. Light, M. Matocq, J. Reichard, T. Roberts, R. Rowe, J. Smith, P. Stapp, K. Thorington, S. Vignieri.

### **Mission:**

The committee's mission is to select students to be honored for their research in Mammalogy.

### **Information Items:**

(1) From 12 applications, the Honoraria Committee awarded 3 graduate honoraria, each for \$1000: the Anna M. Jackson Award to Lawrence "Mark" Elbroch (University of California,

Davis); the Elmer C. Birney Award to Eliecer Guterrez (City University of NY, and American Museum of Natural History); and the A. Brazier Howell Graduate Student Travel Grant to Nathan Upham (University of Chicago).

(2) From 2 applications the Committee awarded 1 undergraduate honoraria of \$500 to Aspen Reese (Yale University). The second applicant withdrew.

**Action Items:**

- (1)     \$3000   3 \* \$1000 for graduate travel awards (AM Jackson, B Howell, E Birney)  
          \$1000   2 \* \$500 for undergraduate travel awards  
          \$4000   Total budget

Justification: All funds requested are for the awards.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Virginia Hayssen  
([Vhayssen@email.smith.edu](mailto:Vhayssen@email.smith.edu))

## **Honorary Membership Committee**

**Committee Members:** B. D. Patterson (Chair), T. H. Kunz, G. Cameron, R. M. Timm, S. McLaren.

**Mission:**

The purpose of the Honorary Membership Committee is to present credentials of potential honorary members for consideration by the membership at the Annual Members' Meeting. Honorary Membership, which is the highest honor awarded by the American Society of Mammalogists, recognizes eminent mammalogists who have rendered "distinguished service to the science of mammalogy." The Honorary Membership Committee is composed of the five most recent past presidents and is chaired by the second-most senior member of that group. The committee welcomes nominations from ASM members. Nominations may be made to any committee member.

**Information Items:**

(1) Honorary Membership is the highest honor awarded by the American Society of Mammalogists, and is given in recognition of distinguished service to mammalogy. The latter commonly encompasses contributions in research, in teaching and mentoring students, and cultivating the science itself. The Honorary Membership Committee is composed of the 5 most recent past presidents and is chaired by the second-most senior one.

(2) Election as honorary member involves several steps. First, the Honorary Membership Committee considers the records of nominees, based on a letter of nomination, three supporting

letters, and a CV. Nominations supported by at least four committee members are forwarded to the Board of Directors for another set of votes. Nominated individuals approved by at least 3/4s of those Board members voting are brought before the membership at the Annual Members' Meeting. ASM members may elect nominees that have been approved by the committee and Board by a voice vote following a brief presentation of their credentials. This year, the committee considered several names and forwarded two for Board approval.

(3) Last year at the Annual Meeting in Portland, Paul Racey and Hans Kruuk were elected to Honorary Membership.

(4) The Honorary Membership Committee welcomes nominations from the membership. Please direct nominations to the Chair.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Bruce D. Patterson, Chair  
([bpatterson@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:bpatterson@fieldmuseum.org))

## **Human Diversity Committee**

**Committee Members:** R. P. Anderson, A. S. Chavez, L. J. Dizney, D. M. Kaufman (Chair), D. W. Kaufman, I. M. Ortega, K. C. Rowe, and C. W. Thompson.

### **Mission:**

The purpose of the Human Diversity Committee is to ensure active participation in the ASM by all members, regardless of gender, race, ethnic background, age, physical disabilities, or sexual preference. Further, we remind all ASM members that our ombudspersons (R. W. Thorington and F. A. Smith) are available to listen, mediate, or advise on issues regarding discrimination, inappropriate conduct, or other unprofessional behaviors (see *Journal of Mammalogy* 78:268 [1997]).

### **Information Items:**

(1) The HDC continues its efforts to promote and support diversity in all aspects of the ASM. During the last year, the committee was approached to help coordinate a planning discussion that would be focused on ensuring that students and professionals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) would feel welcome to be part of the ASM. In short, regardless of sexual orientation, ASM members and anyone attending the Annual Meeting should feel that this Society is a safe place with supportive colleagues. At the 2012 Annual Meeting, we will hold a “Diversity in Science: LGBT and Friends Roundtable and Mini-Mixer” (tentatively scheduled for 4:15-5:30 pm on Sunday, 24 June). The focus of this mini-mixer and discussion will be to (1) facilitate informal discussion and increase awareness, (2) provide a supportive environment and allow attendees to meet others interested in LGBT issues and those who want to ensure that

ASM is welcoming to all forms of diversity in science, (3) enable participants to highlight their own experiences, (4) understand challenges related to being LGBT in science, (5) gather information about potential solutions to issues faced by LGBT persons, (6) discover perceptions about academic and professional environments and attitudes (e.g., in the workplace), and (7) obtain feedback about whether professional societies (such as ASM) present themselves as welcoming and open organizations and what approaches might reinforce positive aspects or address any concerns. We wish to thank two anonymous sponsors who donated funds to provide refreshments for this combined roundtable and mini-mixer.

(2) The HDC is working to further develop our committee webpage (such as posting a history of past diversity-related activities) and is exploring ways that we can make available ASM-related diversity information (such as temporal changes in diversity and demographic patterns of ASM members and Annual Meeting attendees [e.g., from published sources as well as membership information and surveys of past annual meeting attendees]). Further, the committee is progressing with efforts to provide a clearinghouse webpage that will serve as a storehouse of information related to diversity. The aim of this webpage will be to provide information, data, and approaches to address the value, support, recruitment, and retention of human diversity in mammalogy and science. We plan to make this informational clearinghouse available (via the ASM website) later this summer.

(3) For the 2013 Annual Meeting, the HDC proposes two coordinated activities—(1) a diversity forum and panel discussion and (2) a members' mixer and diversity social. As a birthplace of equality, a center of learning and history, and a diverse city in and of itself (e.g., being comprised of significant populations of a variety of racial and ethnic groups), Philadelphia is an especially fitting site for this activity.

(a) The proposed forum would be focused on issues related to diversity in mammalogy and would include commentary by invited panelists (i.e., a group of ~5 members that includes one local panelist), as well as audience interaction, concerns, questions, and feedback. The format of this event would enable participants to have tremendous input into the breadth and depth of topics discussed. The purpose of this forum is to (1) present information, (2) provide a venue for the discussion of diversity concerns, (3) highlight personal experiences, (4) identify the current diversity issues that are of greatest concern to members, (5) ascertain challenges and potential solutions related to diversity in science, (6) review changing demographics in the ASM, (7) determine what approaches will maintain or enhance the Society's diversity outreach, and (8) catalyze continued and future discussion of diversity topics. The core of the panel would be formed by regular meeting attendees with relevant perspectives, interests, experiences, mentoring, development, and expertise related to diversity in mammalogy. In addition, the final member of the panel would be invited from the local Philadelphia area and would provide a unique perspective on and specific expertise related to diversity, learning, development, and/or science. We have been working closely with the Program Committee (related to the program and schedule) and hope to host this forum (followed by the social) during an evening at the Annual Meeting.

(b) The follow-up members' mixer and diversity social would be a broad, public social for meeting attendees and would be design to reinforce the forum program, to promote further discussion about diversity issues in a relaxed, open-ended atmosphere, and to empower members to voice diversity concerns. Further, by following the forum, it would aid participants in identifying other attendees with whom they might like to speak. This social would be very similar to a traditional meeting social in most respects (and the usual socializing would not be precluded). However, its name would highlight the importance of (and reiterate ASM's commitment to) diversity in mammalogy and science; the timing of the social (immediately following the forum) would facilitate continued interactions about diversity issues—particularly those catalyzed by the proceeding discussion, information, concerns, questions, approaches, and feedback (which would be fresh from the forum). Again, the importance of holding this event in the evening is that people are relaxed, there is ample social time with fewer constraints, and people are not pressured to get to the next item on their schedule.

(4) Finally, the HDC is developing a diversity symposium for the 2014 Annual Meeting; we envision capitalizing on local and/or regional aspects of the host location related to diversity in mammalogy or mammalian research (in addition to broader issues of diversity). In conjunction with the development of these ideas and other initiatives, we welcome involvement of additional members and seek feedback from those who have specific suggestions for approaches and activities to continue to increase the opportunities for and participation of those under-represented in the ASM, mammalogy, and science. We also would like to thank Chris H. T. Himes for his input and years of service on the HDC.

**Action Items:**

(1) A total allocation of \$2,750 is requested from the 2012 ASM budget to support proposed activities at the 2013 Annual Meeting.

(a) A request of \$750 to support the forum via the invitation of a local, Philadelphia-area panelist and provide necessary funding (including local travel, accommodations, and meals) for that panelist to attend the Annual Meeting and participate in diversity activities.

(b) A request of \$2,000 to help defray the costs of hosting the Members' Mixer and Diversity Social.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Dawn M. Kaufman, Chair  
([dkaufman@k-state.edu](mailto:dkaufman@k-state.edu))

## **Informatics Committee**

**Committee Members:** M. E. Hopton (Chair), C. A. Iudica, S. P. Maher, S. B. McLaren, D. K. Odell, I. M. Ortega, B. A. Roberts, B. J. Shaw.

**Mission:**

The Informatics Committee is responsible for addressing issues that arise with continuing changes in technology and information processing, retrieval, etc. as they relate to mammalogy. In recent years, the committee has been primarily involved with maintaining and further developing the Society's web site.

At the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting (2007) in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Board of Directors of the American Society of Mammalogists charged the newly redefined Informatics Committee to explore improvements including a redesign of the Society's web site and to maintain the existing web site during this period.

**Information Items:**

(1) The new ASM web site ([www.mammalsociety.org](http://www.mammalsociety.org) and [www.mammalogy.org](http://www.mammalogy.org)) went live on 17 March 2011.

(2) The redesigned ASM web site is hosted on a new server and with a new web hosting company (InMotion Hosting) to meet better the requirements of the new web site. Annual web hosting fees are \$468 per year.

(3) In September 2011, the servers at InMotion Hosting were hacked and more than 11,000 web sites were defaced. The ASM web site was offline for approximately four days (25-28 September). Informatics and InMotion Hosting worked to resolve the problem and restore our web site.

(4) Informatics paid design firm Acro Media to implement additional changes and fixes to the web site. This included an analysis of how the web site is used by visitors. This information will be used to tweak the current layout of the web site.

(5) For the past ~13 years, AIBS was the official registrar of both ASM web site domain names. As of February 2012, American Society of Mammalogists is the official registrant (i.e., owner) of both domain names ([mammalsociety.org](http://mammalsociety.org) and [mammalogy.org](http://mammalogy.org).)

(6) After receiving input from ASM membership, the next phase of the web site redesign is ongoing at an estimated cost of \$15,660.

(7) ASM has a presence on a number of social media including:

FaceBook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Society-of-Mammalogists#!/pages/American-Society-of-Mammalogists/217529044996521>

Google+

<https://plus.google.com/#s/american%20society%20of%20mammalogists67>

Twitter  
(@Mammalogists)

Integration of these social media into the ASM web site will occur after ASM leadership determines the appropriate level of monitoring necessary.

(8) Routine maintenance and updates were performed on an as-needed basis, including posting of Open Access articles published in the *Journal of Mammalogy* and *Mammalian Species*. Committee pages and membership listings were updated, as requested by President Mares. Leadership pages, including changes in Editors, Officers, and Elected Directors, were updated following the 2011 Annual Meeting.

(9) Online submission of fellowships administered by the Honoraria and Grants-in-Aid committees was conducted using the new web site.

(10) Requests for information, job postings, and announcements submitted to the web site were received by Dan Odell and routed accordingly. Odell received 60% more contacts during the past 12 months (288) compared to the previous year (174) through the old web site. Based on the contents of submissions, Odell thinks the increase was due to the redesign and increased visibility of the site.

(11) President Mares requested Informatics to identify potential functionality and estimated cost to implement. Working with Acro Media, Informatics identified a number of items that could interest ASM Membership (see below).

#### **Options/Suggestions for Phase 4 of ASM web site redesign provided by Acro Media, Inc.**

##### **(1) Social Media Integration:**

With the rise of social media as a method to share information, the use of outlets like Twitter, FaceBook, and Google+ could be ripe opportunities for generating more interest in the organization and attracting new Members. As well, with the development of ASM training videos and their subsequent posting on an ASM YouTube page, there is a prime opportunity to use several outlets to post information that will not only spark more interest in the organization as a whole, but also open discussion topics that heretofore have not been approached.

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

Twitter, YouTube skinning

- ASM branded creative content for Twitter and YouTube pages
- Consistent branding to drive exposure and recognition.

Integrated Twitter feed to ASM Web site.

- Twitter posts automatically updated to ASM site.

Media Page development within the site to share video and audio media straight from YouTube.

##### Cost

Full Social Media Integration would require the following estimated budget:

Twitter, YouTube skinning

- \$600—\$800 each

Integrated Social Media Feed

- \$750—\$1,500

Media Page Development & Integrated YouTube Player

- \$1,500—\$3,000

**(2) User-Generated Content:**

One of the largest challenges can be keeping individual Members engaged and included in relevant discussions. The use of user-generated content can be a key method to bring Members together, allowing individuals to express their points of view in an informal discussion with other like-minded Members.

The key to the success of Social Media is its ability to reach people across the world in a quick and efficient fashion, while giving individuals the opportunity to comment and join the debate. More user-generated content on the ASM Web site could provide an outlet and medium for ASM Members to engage in these discussions in a more familiar atmosphere among people that share their interest and passion for the study of mammals (Note that we suggest social media may serve this function).

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

Forum Integration

- Specific forums for Members to create topics, post comments, share information

User-submitted blog entries

- Blog page on the ASM site, specifically for Member article submission and posting

Cost

User-generated content options would require the following estimated budget:

Integrated Forum

- \$2,000—\$4,000 (depending on Forum Software)
  - Drupal Forum
  - vBulletin
  - phpBB

Blog Pages for User Submission

- \$1,500 for page creation
- \$1,000—\$3,000 for submission functionality and approval process.

**(3) Mobile Device Apps:**

Technology has continued to move forward at a blistering pace. Desktop computers gave way to laptops, and the mobility of laptops has graduated into the convenience of hand-held devices with amazing connectivity and browsing capability. With the wealth of information on the ASM Web site, there exists the opportunity to create Mobile Apps that Members may find interesting and useful.

While creating a separate Mobile version of the ASM Web site may not be appropriate, there could be use for a mobile app to search through the image gallery. Other options could be Members-only content fed through a mobile app, or even a publication library. With Mobile

technology, and the wealth of information on the ASM site, there is no shortage of appropriate options for an ASM Mobile app. As well, dependant on the goals of the organization, pricing and download of the app could generate some residual revenue for the ASM.

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

Mobile App Development

Submission to App Stores

#### Cost

Mobile App Development would require the following estimated budget:

Planning, Strategy & Layout

- \$5,000—\$7,500

Development, packaging, submission to App Stores

- \$10,000—TBA

#### **(4) Micro-Site Development**

Micro-site development can be used to promote a variety of topics that may not get appropriate attention as part of the larger ASM site. Potential ideas for micro-site use could be innumerable, as any significant event or research finding, or publication may be worthy of the added attention.

From an SEO standpoint, the use of Micro-sites can provide another entry point into the main ASM site – a benefit that can be used to attract potential Members whose areas of focus may be too specific to have browsed the ASM site directly, but who may find it interesting after having viewed a topic-specific micro site.

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

Micro Site Development

#### Cost

Micro Site Development would require the following estimated budget:

Site Construction & Design

- \$6,000—\$9,000

#### **(5) Offline Designs for Print & Promotion**

Aside from the serious nature of the discussions and events surrounding the ASM, sometimes nothing works as well to foster a sense of membership and belonging like simple promotional items. Mouse pads, t-shirts, coffee and travel mugs, screensavers and hats, can all be items that Members can wear and use on a daily basis that reinforces their sense of belonging and membership. Despite the simple and transitory nature of many promotional items, the use of well-designed memorabilia can make a huge difference.

As well, with the introduction of various pieces, there exists the opportunity for the ASM to generate additional revenue through the sale of items through the site.

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

Promotional item design

## Ecommerce Shopping Cart integration

### Cost

Design of items and Ecommerce integration would require the following estimated budget:

#### Promotional Item Design

- \$1,000—TBD (Dependant on items)

#### Ecommerce Integration

- \$3,000—\$5,000

#### Secure Certificate

- \$300—\$500/year

#### PCI Compliancy

- \$30—\$75/month

## **(6) HTML Newsletter Development**

Newsletter blasts are an easy way to keep Members up to date on developments and progress of the organization. It can also serve as a great way to generate a contact list of potential Members and provide them with an easy invitation to join. The appropriate use of a branded, HTML newsletter can help promote the ASM and maintain contact with current, new, and potential Members in a professional manner.

The solution for American Society of Mammalogists could include the following:

#### HTML Newsletter Design

#### MailChimp Account Setup

### Cost

HTML Newsletter Development would require the following estimated budget:

#### Newsletter Design

- \$1,000—\$1,500

#### MailChimp Account Setup

- \$750—\$1,000

#### Newsletter blast

- \$.04 per email (MailChimp rate)

## **(7) Support & Maintenance**

After the warranty – Acro Media offers a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to ensure your Web site continues running as good as the day it was born.

- Web site will be reviewed each month to ensure the site continues to work as expected as new content and functionality are added. The SLA also will ensure issues are caught as new versions of Web browsers are released and become popular.

### Cost

\$100-\$300 per hour

**Action Items:**

(1) A budget request of \$10,468 is requested from the 2012 budget. Hosting the ASM web site on a virtual private server currently costs \$468. This is an annual expense, but provides use of a server with sufficient resources to meet the demands of the new web site. The \$10,000 cost is a placeholder for potential expenses related to the Society's web site upkeep and added functionality. These funds would be used only if the remaining funds from the 2011 budget are used up and it is decided that additional functionality proposed by the design firm would benefit the ASM membership.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Matthew E. Hopton

[m.hopton@yahoo.com](mailto:m.hopton@yahoo.com)

## International Relations Committee

**Committee Members:** R. P. Anderson, B. H. Blake, S. R. Carroll, J. Goheen, D. A. Kelt, A. V. Linzey, I. Martinez-Serrano, R. A. Ojeda (Co-Chair), K. Rowe, D. A. Schlitter (Co-Chair), A. T. Smith, S. Solari, R. G. Trujillo, J. A. Wilson, S. M. Wisely.

**Mission:**

The Board of Directors established the International Relations Committee in 1960 to maintain and enhance communication between members of the Society and mammalogists outside North America. The mission of this committee is to advance the field of mammalogy by encouraging and facilitating international collaboration among members of the ASM and mammalogists from other countries.

**Information Items:****(1)- On-going initiatives:**

**(a) The Sponsored Membership Program:** This Committee has continued to receive nominations and requests, and has worked towards expanding the geographical distribution of these memberships. As a result of the Co-Chairs contacting heads of numerous national and regional mammal societies in developing countries, board members of the IFM, colleagues at universities and museums in developing countries, a large pool of names of deserving young mammalogists was generated. These candidates have been successfully sponsored. During the year, two additional candidates were nominated and sponsored, one from Nepal and one from Kenya, and a suitable candidate for an open sponsorship for a Russian was found. Currently 34 sponsored members from 20 countries are covered in the program. Members are encouraged to nominate suitable potential young individuals for sponsored memberships. Multiple year commitments from donating members would be helpful and additional sponsorships by members are always welcome.

**(b) The Buddy System:** The Buddy System was set up to provide assistance to international authors who are not native English speakers. The authors are referred to the Buddy System by editors after they have submitted a manuscript to the *Journal of Mammalogy* if the editor thinks that the English writing needs improvement. There are currently 54 people who have agreed to act as buddies when needed. An *ad hoc* subcommittee for this program continues working on finding better ways to advertise this service and to coordinate efforts. Barbara Blake, with the assistance of Alicia Linzey, promotes and coordinates this program with the Publications Committee.

In 2011, 7 manuscripts were reviewed by 8 “buddies” with one manuscript needing a second review. The outcomes of these 7 manuscripts were that 2 manuscripts were accepted and published, 1 was submitted after revision but rejected, 1 was resubmitted after revision and is awaiting a decision, and 3 were not resubmitted after review.

Geographically, these manuscripts came from Latin America (Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil), Europe (Poland), and Asia (China – 2, Japan). The accepted manuscripts were from Argentina and Uruguay. So far in 2012, only 1 manuscript from Finland has been reviewed and that author has not yet resubmitted the revised manuscript.

The IRC would like to recognize the following people for serving as buddy reviewers for 2011: Albert Beck; Nick Czaplewski; Elmer Finck; Enrique Lessa; Kirk Lin (Yu-Teh); Susan Loeb; Karen McBee; Robert Rose; and Monica Stevens.

The list of buddy reviewers is due for an update. It is especially helpful if buddy reviewers will list their area(s) of expertise when offering to serve as reviewers.

**(c) Links to Mammal Societies of the World:** Committee members continue serving as links with mammal societies throughout the world, providing information on mammal meetings to appear in the *Journal of Mammalogy* and other international publications as well. A specific subcommittee is working to maintain a list of international mammal societies and their web pages on the ASM website. This is an on-going task and we are looking for volunteers to assist in this interesting and important task (collecting and maintaining an up-to-date list of links to the mammal societies of the world). Contact the IRC Co-Chairs if interested.

**(d) International Meetings and the International Federation of Mammalogists (IFM):** Bill Lidicker continues as IFM President. The IMC-11 is scheduled for Belfast, Northern Ireland, in August 2013. There is now an IMC-11 website with a link at [www.qub.ac.uk/sites/IMC11/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/IMC11/). For more details, please see the separate report of the IFM representatives on the ASM website (see Report of the ASM Delegation to the International Federation of Mammalogists on page 75 of this document).

**(e) ASM Student Membership Award:** In 2008, the SAREM (Argentine Mammal Society) and the ASM Board established an Annual Award for the best student presentation at the SAREM Annual Meeting. The award is “a student - developing country – online only” for the ASM’s publications. The IRC was able to endow this award in 2011 through a generous contribution from Jim and Carol Patton so that henceforth the online membership award will be given to each

outstanding student for three years and the funding of the membership award will no longer come from the general fund budget. The awardee for 2011 was César Bracamonte from Argentina.

**(f) African National's Graduate Research Fund:** This Fund has been fully developed and added to the list of other funds found on the Society website and in the membership solicitations. Approaches for support of this Fund continue to be made to ASM members, corporations, foundations, societies, clubs, and individuals. It is a slow process that requires persistence and patience. If interested, please contact any member of the IRC for directions on how you can help make a contribution or solicit contributions to this new research fund.

**(2)- New Initiatives:**

**(a) IRC Facebook presence:** Discussions were held during the year on whether the IRC should develop a Facebook account. Since the Society was developing a Facebook page, the decision was to not do so with the IRC. But a Facebook page was set up for the IFM and is being managed by IRC Co-Chair Ricardo Ojeda of Argentina, a member of the IFM Board.

The Committee welcomes new initiatives from any members. The Co-Chairs would like to thank the support and commitment of all Committee members. Thanks to all!

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Ricardo Ojeda, Co-Chair & Duane A. Schlitter, Co-Chair

([rojeda@mendoza-conicet.gov.ar](mailto:rojeda@mendoza-conicet.gov.ar)) ([happygd@suddenlink.net](mailto:happygd@suddenlink.net))

## **Jackson Award Committee**

**Committee Members:** R. Baker, B. Blake, G. Cameron (Chair), A. Gardner, H. Genoways, G. Kaufman.

**Mission:**

The Jackson Award, established in 1977 by the American Society of Mammalogists, is charged with nominating a candidate for the H. H. T. Jackson Award, which recognizes individuals with a long and outstanding record of service to Mammalogy and the American Society of Mammalogists. To do so, the committee solicits recommendations, and evaluates candidates based on a letter of nomination, letters of support, and curriculum vitae. Ultimately, the Board of Directors votes on the Committee's nomination, and the award is presented formally at the Annual Banquet of the Society.

**Information Items:**

- (1) The Committee revised and updated the information describing this award on the ASM website.
- (2) The Committee did not receive any completed applications for the Jackson Award this year.
- (3) The Committee will discuss possible members for nomination at our Annual Meeting and will continue to solicit nominations from members of individuals who meet the criteria for this award.

**Action Items:**

- (1) No funds are requested this year.

**Respectively submitted:**

Guy N. Cameron, Chair  
([g.cameron@uc.edu](mailto:g.cameron@uc.edu))

## **Latin American Fellowship Committee**

**Committee Members:** J. A. Cook, M. M. Diaz, S. T. Álvarez-Castañeda, K. A. Ernest (Chair), E. A. Lacey, M. A. O'Connell, T. E. Lacher, Jr., S. Solari.

**Mission:**

The Latin American Student Field Research Award is made annually to support field research projects by Latin Americans in Latin America. Eligible students must be citizens of Latin American countries (excluding Puerto Rico) and currently enrolled in a graduate program. Projects must be field-oriented investigations of natural history, conservation, ecology, systematics, wildlife biology, biogeography, or behavior. The selection committee, whose membership reflects these diverse fields and has field experience in Latin America, considers each of these areas of research equally important. Five \$1,500 awards are granted each year. The Oliver P. Pearson Award supports a young professional who holds an academic position in a Latin American institution within 5 years of receiving a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. A single \$5,000 award is granted each year. In addition, up to \$2,000 are offered for the recipient to attend the mammal meetings of the year following the award.

**Information Items:**

(1) In 2011, we reviewed and ranked applications for the Oliver Pearson Award, and selected Dr. Sergio Solari (from Peru; now Assistant Professor at the Instituto de Biología, Universidad de Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia) as the recipient. We received 19 applications for the Student Field Research grants. Each committee member reviewed and ranked all applications. Based on average ranks, we awarded 5:

- Francisca Astorga (Chile), Ph.D. Program in Conservation Medicine at Universidad Andrés Bello, Chile. Project Title: Canids versus canids: peri-urban conflict of wild foxes and free-ranging domestic dogs in Central Chile.
- Loreto Correa (Chile), Ph.D. Program in Sciences specializing in Systematics & Ecology at Universidad Austral de Chile. Project Title: Mechanisms of regulation of litter size and sex ratio in *Octodon degus*: the impact of stress on the masculinization of females and their consequences on the stability of social groups
- Juan Diaz-Nieto (Colombia), Ph.D. Program in Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior at the University of Minnesota. Project Title: Diversification in the Neotropical Rainforests: species limits, phylogenetic relationships and describing new species of an American marsupial clade.
- Francisco Fonturbel (Ecuador), Ph.D. Program in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Universidad de Chile. Project title: Effects of habitat degradation on the monito del monte (*Dromiciops gliroides*) and its consequences on the seed dispersal interaction with an endemic mistletoe.
- Bianca Montero (Costa Rica), Ph.D. Program in Biological Sciences, North Dakota State University. Project Title: Influence of roosting ecology on the social behavior and communication strategies of two leaf-roosting bats, *Throptera tricolor* and *Myzopoda aurita*.

(2) Last year's request for an increase in budget from 5 to 7 Latin American Student Field Research Awards was approved, so we anticipate awarding 7 field grants this year.

(3) We have received 22 applications (in 2012) for the Latin American Student Field Research Awards and 2 applications for the Oliver Pearson Award. Committee members are currently reviewing applications, and recipients will be announced at the 2012 Annual Banquet in Reno.

(4) Committee Membership: Enrique Lessa and Jim Kenagy have rotated off the committee. We appreciate their contributions to the committee. New member Sergio Solari (the 2011 Pearson recipient) will join the Committee this year. The Committee recognizes the importance of a diverse committee membership, including Latin American biologists.

#### **Action Items:**

(1) We request a 2012 budget of \$10,500 to cover 7 Latin American Student Field Research Awards and \$7,000 (\$5000 award, \$2000 travel) for The Oliver P. Pearson Award. This is the same amount that was requested and approved for 2011.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
 Kristina A. Ernest, Chair  
[ernestk@cwu.edu](mailto:ernestk@cwu.edu)

## Legislation and Regulation Committee

**Committee Members:** R. T. Bowyer, R. W. Kays, A. Krevitz, T. J. McIntyre, D. Odell, T. J. O'Shea, E. A. Rickart, S. R. Sheffield, D. W. Sparks (Chair), W. T. Stanley, C. W. Thompson, R. M. Timm.

### **Mission:**

The Legislation and Regulations Committee was formed in 1976 to monitor and provide input into the state and federal regulation and legislation process on such issues as endangered species, trapping and harvesting regulations, and the use of animals for experimental purposes. The committee also interacts with the legislative monitoring groups of AIBS.

### **Information Items:**

(1) At present, an effective deadlock exists between the U.S. House of Representatives and the White House. As such, there has been much rhetoric on Capitol Hill, but little change in the US's major environmental laws. This may change dramatically during the upcoming election cycle. The Society should continue to pay attention to energy policies. Efforts continue to focus on ways to increase the extraction and use of North American oil. While the mainstream media and many environmental organizations have focused on efforts to expand production and access to the Canadian oil sands (this coverage is often linked to the Keystone Pipeline), and a resumption of off-shore oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico since the BP Horizon accident, there also has been a dramatic increase in production from on-shore sites. Several states including Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York have adopted or are considering new legislation to address potential environmental issues related to extracting natural gas from the Utica and Marcellus Shale layers that underlie much of northern Appalachia. As such, competition with natural gas (a commodity with a rapidly falling price), a loss of the production tax credit, and increased focus from conservation groups have led to a dramatic slowing in the development of alternative energy facilities especially wind and solar plants.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Dale W. Sparks, Chair  
([dsparks@environmentalsi.com](mailto:dsparks@environmentalsi.com))

## Mammal Images Library Committee

**Committee Members:** B. Blood, J. Bowman, B. D. Chepko-Sade, E. J. Finck (Business Manager), M. E. Hopton, D. G. Huckaby (Chair), J. A. Lackey, R. Larsen, S. K. Lyons, C. G. Mahan, L L. Master, R. L. Rehmeier, J. S. Scheibe, B. P. Tanis.

**Mission:**

The Mammal Images Library (MIL) maintains a collection currently totaling >1700 images of mammals representing >800 species. High-resolution images are available at a nominal charge for educational purposes. Most images in our collection may be used as illustrations for non-profit or commercial purposes depending on restrictions specified by contributors. Additional information about the MIL, including contact information for contributors, ordering information, and a complete listing of holdings, is available on the MIL section of the ASM web site at: <http://www.mammalogy.org/imagelibrary/index.html>.

**Information Items:**

- (1) The primary focus of the MIL Committee continues to be making available individual images. The table below compares the number of images sent and other information for the past seven years. The number of images sent does not include those low-resolution images downloaded directly from the MIL website, of which we have no record. Signed copies of the 2011 business report were sent to the ASM Secretary-Treasurer.
- (2) The MIL consists, at present, of images digitized from slides at a resolution of 4000 dpi. A lower-resolution of generally 750 x ca. 500 pixels at 300 dpi preview of each image, suitable for projection or web use, is available on the MIL web page free of charge and without requiring permission. A copy of the higher resolution image, with or without the label, is available upon request for most of the library, although we charge a royalty generally of \$50 each for commercial usage. We charge a \$3 handling fee for each high resolution image sent.
- (3) During January and early February 2011, the committee concentrated on finishing updating of the taxonomy and nomenclature of the library based on Wilson and Reeder (2005) and preparing it for installation on the new web site.
- (4) Once the updating was completed, the committee started adding new images to the library, which was last done in July 2001. The library had somewhat of a backlog of contributions in need of processing, some received as many as six years ago. During 2011, we increased the MIL numbers from 1585 to 1734, with additions from nine contributors. Among these 149 new images are 50 species, 18 genera, three families, and one Order new to the collection (see third page).
- (5) The MIL still lacks images of one of the 28 Orders, 29 of the 153 families, and ca. 80% of the 5416 species recognized in Wilson and Reeder (2005). We encourage all interested parties to consider contributing their high-quality images to the MIL. Please take a few minutes to review our holdings on the web page to determine if some images from your personal collection could improve the scope and quality of the MIL. Anyone interested in submitting images should contact the Committee Chair.

- (6) The Chair also prepared a desiderata list of most desired acquisitions and a special list of all taxa known from Australia not represented in the library. The latter is to be sent to all interested Australian mammalogists.
- (7) The committee thanks Brad Blood, Jeni Wong, and other employees of Psomas for digitizing most of the old contributor's agreement forms during 2011. Each committee member now has a complete set of the agreements.
- (8) The committee began work late in the year on a new Contributor's Agreement Form, which included completely digitizing it. The new form also will greatly simplify the nature of the agreement between contributors and the MIL.
- (9) The committee thanks Fort Hays State University for supporting the Business Office of the Mammal Images Library and for funding student support.
- (10) The committee purchased a new laptop computer, Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Elements 9, and a new external hard drive for use in processing and storing images.

Year	Images Sent	Gross Income	Expenses	Net Income	End of year account balance
2004	322	3045.40	2538.14	321.51	15,251.28
2005	183	566.65	1352.13	-785.48	14,465.80
2006	82	710.00	5975.59	-5265.59	9,200.21
2007	86	0.00	2693.31	-2693.31	6,506.90
2008	16	1280.00	1368.13	-88.13	6,418.77
2009	31	1503.05	25.00	1478.05	7,896.82
2010	18	469.00	0.00	469.00	8,365.82
2011	30	159.00	1399.91	-1240.91	7124.91

(11) NEW TAXA ADDED TO THE MAMMAL IMAGE LIBRARY DURING 2011

New order - Scandentia

New families

1. Monodontidae
2. Lepilemuridae
3. Pedetidae

New genera

1. *Beatragus*
2. *Elaphurus*
3. *Delphinapterus*
4. *Cardioderma*
5. *Mesophylla*
6. *Cryptonanus*
7. *Lestoros*
8. *Nasalis*
9. *Pygathrix*
10. *Lepilemur*
11. *Microryzomys*
12. *Neacomys*
13. *Ochrotomys*
14. *Oecomys*
15. *Mesomys*
16. *Arvicanthus*
17. *Pedetes*
18. *Tupaia*

New species

1. *Beatragus hunter*
2. *Damaliscus lunatus*
3. *Elaphurus davidianus*
4. *Felis margarita*
5. *Prionailurus rubiginosus*
6. *Delphinapterus leucas*
7. *Cardioderma cor*
8. *Artibeus gnomus*
9. *Lophostoma carrikeri*
10. *Mesophylla macconelli*
11. *Platyrrhinus masu*
12. *Sturnira tilda*
13. *Thyroptera lavalii*

14. *Lasiurus blossevillii*
15. *Myotis nigricans*
16. *Myotis oxyotus*
17. *Cryptonanus chacoensis*
18. *Marmosa demerarae*
19. *Marmosops noctivagus*
20. *Marmosops parvidens*
21. *Monodelphis emiliae*
22. *Monodelphis glirina*
23. *Lepus capensis*
24. *Lestoros inca*
25. *Alouatta pigra*
26. *Cebus cay*
27. *Callithrix intermedius*
28. *Nasalis larvatus*
29. *Pygathrix cinerea*
30. *Trachypithecus cristatus*
31. *Eulemur fulvus*
32. *Lepilemur leucopus*
33. *Callicebus brunneus*
34. *Microryzomys minutus*
35. *Neacomys spinosus*
36. *Ochrotomys nuttalli*
37. *Oecomys bicolor*
38. *Oryzomys russatus*
39. *Ctenomys opimus*
40. *Mesomys hispidus*
41. *Dipodomys microps*
42. *Microdipodops pallidus*
43. *Arvicanthus niloticus*
44. *Saccostomus mearnsi*
45. *Pedetes capensis*
46. *Callosciurus notatus*
47. *Marmota marmota*
48. *Paraxerus cepapi*
49. *Xerus inauris*
50. *Tupaia montana*

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
David G. Huckaby, Chair  
([dhuckaby@csulb.edu](mailto:dhuckaby@csulb.edu))

## Marine Mammals Committee

**Committee Members:** R. L. Brownell, Jr., C. M. Callahan, J. P. Dines (Chair), H. H. Edwards, T. J. McIntyre, D. K. Odell, T. J. O'Shea, C. W. Potter, S. Sheffield, and J. A. Thomas.

### **Mission:**

The marine mammals committee was formed in 1921 and Chaired by E. W. Nelson. It is the longest-standing active committee of the American Society of Mammalogists. Its mission is to maintain and encourage interest in marine mammals in the ASM, to provide the Society membership with information about marine mammalogy, including conservation and legislative issues, to spearhead resolutions and legislation involving marine mammals, and to serve as a liaison between ASM and the Society for Marine Mammalogy (SMM). Members of the Marine Mammals Committee are frequently active in both ASM and SMM.

### **Information Items:**

- (1) Members of the Committee have monitored and communicated with each other over the course of the year on issues pertinent to the conservation of marine mammals.
- (2) The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are required to publish Stock Assessment Reports for all stocks of marine mammals within U.S. waters, reviewing new information annually for strategic stocks and every three years for non-strategic stocks. The Draft 2011 Marine Mammal Stock Assessments for species under NMFS jurisdiction is available at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/sars/draft.htm>
- (3) In response to earlier petitions, NMFS issued a proposed rule in April 2012 to remove the eastern distinct population segment (DPS) of Steller sea lions from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. The eastern DPS of Steller sea lion occurs east of 144° W. The eastern DPS has recovered in numbers and in recent years has increasingly been seen as a competitor to commercial fishery operations in the Pacific Northwest. If the proposed rule goes into effect, the western DPS of Steller sea lion (found west of 144° W) will retain protection under the Endangered Species Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act will still apply to all populations of the Steller sea lion.
- (4) In October 2011, the District Court of the District of Columbia found that the USFWS violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) when it issued a special rule—known as a 4(d) rule—at the same time it listed the polar bear as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 2008. The special rule sharply reduced the full protections polar bears would have otherwise received when listed under the ESA. USFWS was faulted for not conducting proper NEPA analyses before issuing the rule. In April 2012, USFWS announced it was conducting NEPA analyses and proposed to issue essentially the same 4(d) special rule once the NEPA and environmental impact analyses are completed.
- (5) Since its inception in 2001, the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program has awarded more than \$40 million in competitive grants to organizations that respond

on behalf of NMFS to live and dead marine mammal strandings. The Prescott Grant Program has contributed to unprecedented improvements to the primarily volunteer stranding networks along the U.S. coast. Along with countless other vital programs that rely on Federal support, funding for the Prescott Grant Program was eliminated from the proposed 2013 Federal Budget submitted by the Obama Administration. While the appropriations committees of both the House and Senate have thus far indicated some funding to NMFS may be restored, it is unclear at this time if the Prescott Grant Program will be funded.

(6) According to NOAA marine mammal biologists and their local, state, federal and other research partners, bottlenose dolphins in Barataria Bay, Louisiana, are showing signs of severe ill health. Physicals of 32 live dolphins conducted as part of the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) process to study the effects of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill show that many of the dolphins in the study are underweight, anemic, have low blood sugar and/or some symptoms of liver and lung disease. Nearly half of the dolphins also have abnormally low levels of the hormones that help with stress response, metabolism, and immune function. Researchers fear that some of the study dolphins are in such poor health that they will not survive. Since February 2010, more than 675 dolphins have stranded in the northern Gulf of Mexico (Franklin County, Florida, to the Louisiana/Texas border)—a much higher rate than the usual average of 74 dolphins per year, prompting NOAA to declare an Unusual Mortality Event (UME).

#### **Action Items:**

(1) The Committee will be requesting that the Informatics Committee add the following informational links to the Marine Mammals Committee's webpage:

- Link to the NMFS Protected Resources page (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr>), which provides up-to-date information on marine mammal activities published in the Federal Register.
- Links to proposed legislation on marine mammal species found on [www.thomas.loc.gov](http://www.thomas.loc.gov)

**Respectfully submitted,**  
James P. Dines  
([jdines@nhm.org](mailto:jdines@nhm.org))

## **Membership Committee**

**Committee Members:** G. Cameron, S. Carroll, J. Eggleston, E. Finck, M. Gannon (Chair), J. Hanson, M. Haynie, D. Rogers.

#### **Mission:**

The Membership Committee tracks current membership trends in the Society and is involved with both membership recruitment and retention. In addition, the committee works with Allen Press to correct membership bookkeeping problems that arise.

**Information Items:**

(1) As requested by the ASM President, the Membership Committee spent its time working with the Ad Hoc committee on membership that was appointed by the President and chaired by the President elect. Two members of the standing Membership Committee served as liaison members on the ad hoc committee to facilitate communication between the two committees. The outcome of that collaboration will be reported by the Ad Hoc committee.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Michael R. Gannon

([mrg5@psu.edu](mailto:mrg5@psu.edu))

## **Merriam Award Committee**

**Committee Members:** R. T. Bowyer, G. Ceballos (Chair), K. E. Holekamp, S. A. Jansa, E. A. Lacey, T. E. Lacher, R. S. Ostfeld, M. R. Willig, D. E. Wilson.

**Mission:**

The responsibility of this committee is to solicit and evaluate nominations for the C. Hart Merriam Award and to select a recipient of the award to be announced at the annual banquet. The recipient is invited to present a plenary lecture at the meeting of the following year. As per a 1996 amendment of the originally defined award by the Board of Directors, the Merriam Award currently represents a focus on recognition for outstanding research contributions to mammalogy.

**Information Items:**

(1) The committee discharged its duty according to schedule. Four outstanding nominees were considered; nomination materials for one of these individuals were forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval. The recipient of the 2012 Merriam Award will be announced by the Chair of the Committee at the Annual Banquet.

**Action Items:**

(1) Request for \$60 for engraving and mounting of bison statue given to the Merriam Award recipient.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Gerardo Ceballos, Chair

([gceballo@ecologia.unam.mx](mailto:gceballo@ecologia.unam.mx))

## Nomenclature Committee

**Committee Members:** J. L. Eger, A. L. Gardner, H. H. Genoways, K. M. Helgen, R. W. Norris (Chair), J. L. Patton, R. H. Pine, D. M. Reeder, S. Solari, and P. Velazco.

### **Mission:**

Established in 1928, the Nomenclature Committee provides advice to Society members on problems regarding taxonomy and nomenclature.

### **Information Items:**

(1) The Committee has been reviewing the nomenclature of manuscripts with new species descriptions and those with extensive revisions for the Editor of the Journal of Mammalogy. In 2010-11, the Committee reviewed 4 such manuscripts.

(2) The Committee along with the Nomenclature Committee of the International Federation of Mammalogists continues to review nomenclature for Mammalian Species (2 accounts reviewed).

(3) The Committee continues to receive requests for information via the ASM website.

### **Action Items:**

(1) Request renewal of \$250 in support of the AAZN.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Ryan W. Norris, Chair  
([ryanwnorris@gmail.com](mailto:ryanwnorris@gmail.com))

## Planning and Finance Committee

**Committee Members:** E. J. Heske (Chair), D. M. Leslie, Jr., A. V. Linzey, S. B. McLaren, R. M. Timm, R. Van Den Bussche, M. R. Willig.

### **Mission:**

The Planning and Finance Committee was formed to develop the Annual Budget as a planning tool rather than as a spending plan. The original charges to this committee included: 1) Developing a philosophy and guidelines for use of the Reserve Fund, including the overall purpose, goals with regard to our Annual Budget, and guidelines defining how we will arrive at spending limits for each year (document approved by the Board in 1999); 2) Determining the cost of insuring officers and the Society to protect against legal action (has become a part of the Annual Budget); 3) Examining how the Society can become more relevant in terms of what it

offers members through its publications. This latter charge and the development of the annual budget, on behalf of the President, are now the ongoing duties of this committee.

**Information Items:**

(1) The preliminary, proposed 2013 budget for the American Society of Mammalogists will be circulated to all Board Members prior to the Annual Meeting.

(2) Two committee members (Heske, Van Den Bussche) participated in development of a report on responses to declining ASM membership, which included recommendations for Society publications. Those recommendations can be found in the report from the ad hoc Committee on ASM Membership Recruitment and Retention.

**Action Items:**

(1) At the upcoming Board meeting in Reno, Nevada the proposed budget for 2013 will be presented along with supporting documentation, reviewed, and acted upon.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Edward J. Heske, Chair  
([eheske@illinois.edu](mailto:eheske@illinois.edu))

## Program Committee

**Committee Members:** J. Braun (Chair), B. Blood, B. Coyner, L. Flaherty, M. Hamilton, E. Lacey, S. Loeb, K. Mabry, D. Odell, D. Post, M. Revelez, M. Schadler, B. Shaw, C. Thompson, P. A. Zollner.

**Mission:**

The Program Committee is responsible for the solicitation and acceptance of proposals for symposia and workshops, for advertising the meeting to other scientific societies, for soliciting bids to host meetings, and assisting meeting hosts in preparing for annual meetings.

**Information Items:**

**(1) *Sponsors and Exhibitors***

2012—Sponsorship and Exhibitors opportunities and benefits were developed and standardized to increase support and participation in the Annual Meeting by businesses, companies, organizations, and agencies. Business and company sponsorship increased for 2012. Sponsors and exhibitors have indicated that they are very positive about the change in venue for the Annual Meeting. Some sponsor categories included a discount for 2013 for participation in 2012.

2013—Several businesses and companies unable to commit for 2012 have verbally committed for next year. Revelez and Ballard will continue to develop the sponsor and exhibitor base, and a new focus on corporate sponsorship will be initiated this year.

**(2) Auction and Run for Research**

2012—An auction item donation receipt was prepared for use for the 2012 Auction.

2013—The Program Committee will work with the Development Committee regarding auctions and the Run for Research at future meetings as these events are fundraisers for the Future Mammalogists Fund.

**(3) Social Networking**

2012—Some social media communication will be introduced for the meeting in Reno.

2013—FaceBook, Google+, Twitter will be available for the 2013 meeting in coordination with the Informatics Committee. This will include a Blog Squad with at least 1 bilingual blogger.

**(4) Media and Public Relations**

2012—An Annual Meeting Media Policy was developed and a Media Contact/Public Information Officer (President Mares) was designated for the 2012 Annual Meeting. The policy was posted on the meeting website.

2013—Media and public relations activities will be expanded for the meeting in Philadelphia.

**(5) Grants**

2013—A link from the meeting website to the “Grants” page on the ASM website will be added.

**(6) Abstract Submissions**

2013—Instructions will be provided for submitting revised abstracts. New discipline choices will include informatics, museology, and outreach and education. For abstracts submitted by recipients of a previous year's award, submitters will be requested to add the following statement to the end of their abstract: "This research was supported by a [add award name] awarded to [award recipient] in [add year]." This will not only acknowledge recipients of awards in the program, but also will provide information about meeting attendance of award recipients.

**(7) Registration**

2012—Early Bird Registration was offered; 148 individuals took advantage of the special rates (56 students, 86 regular, 6 non-members).

2013—Registration cost for non-members will be increased by at least the cost of membership (\$100 for regular and \$75 for students), a link will be added to “Join ASM” on the ASM webpage, and a reminder will be added to register for tours, apply for student grants, make travel plans, and send an “invite a colleague to attend the meeting”.

**(8) Travel and Lodging**

2012—A mechanism for finding roommates was created.

2013—An email link will be added for non-US attendees to request a confirmation letter for visa applications.

**(9) Virtual Meeting**

2013—Live stream or post videos of the plenary and symposia presentations are planned. The meeting also may offer the opportunity for virtual posters—presentations by individuals that are not able to attend the meeting at a special registration rate.

**(10) Evaluation**

2012—Meeting attendees will be offered the opportunity to participate in a post-meeting survey.

**(11) Receptions**

2013—A reception for new members before the Opening Social has been proposed to the Membership Committee. A reception for donors as part of the Pre-banquet Social has been proposed to the Development Committee.

**(12) Speaker Highlights**

2012—Speakers for the Capstone, Plenary Sessions, and Symposia were highlighted on the meeting website.

**(13) Planning for additional meeting activities**

The committee is working with other committees to plan for symposia, workshops, social events, and activities for future meetings. For 2013, the committee has been contacted regarding the following meeting events.

Title: **Human Diversity Forum and Social**

Organizer: Human Diversity Committee

Title: **Public Education Committee Teacher Workshop**

Organizer: Public Education Committee

**(14) Meeting Venues for 2013 and 2014**

2013 – A report on the 2013 meeting in Philadelphia at the Philadelphia Marriott will be presented to the membership (Janet Braun).

2014 –Invitations will be presented for hosting the 2014 meeting in Oklahoma City or San Antonio (Janet Braun, Michael Mares).

**Action Items:**

**(1)** The Program Committee requests approval of the budget requested to support expenses associated with the following symposia, workshops, and social events at the 2013 meeting:

Title: **Ecological Niche Modeling: Concepts, Applications, Challenges, and Solutions (symposium and workshop)**

Organizers: Mariano Soley-G. and Robert P. Anderson

Requested Budget:

None

AV and laptops (added by Program Committee) \$2500

REQUEST: \$2500

Title: *White-nose Syndrome*

Organizer: DeeAnn Reeder

Requested Budget:

Registration:

Housing:

Meals:

Travel

REQUEST (estimated): \$3500

Capstone Speaker

REQUEST: \$1500

**TOTAL REQUEST: \$7500**

(2) The Program Committee requests approval of the budget requested to support expenses associated with site visits for the selection of the annual meeting venue:

REQUEST: **\$8000**

**TOTAL REQUEST: \$8000**

**Respectfully submitted,**

Janet Braun, Chair

[jkbraun@ou.edu](mailto:jkbraun@ou.edu)

## Public Education Committee

**Committee Members:** G. Feldhamer, D. Ginnett, A. Joachim, R. Larsen, M. Merrick, D. K. Odell, J O'Neill, B. D. Sasse, B. Shaw (Chair), S. Sheffield, K. K. Thorington, M. Wolf.

### **Mission:**

Established as a standing committee by the Board of Directors in 1993, the Public Education Committee seeks to make education about mammals accessible to grades K-12. Committee members foster outreach projects to raise awareness about mammals for students in their formative years. The committee coordinates its efforts with the assistance of other ASM committees, sister societies as well as elementary and high school science teachers.

### **Responsibilities:**

The Public Education Committee conducts several activities including the Public Education Partnership (PEP) that is an initiative to encourage activity and visibility of ASM members in their local K-12 classrooms. This initiative was launched at the 1995 Annual Meeting at the University of Vermont with 64 charter members.

## Information Items:

(1) State Lists of Mammals (George Feldhamer, Andrew Joachim, Roxy Larsen, Melissa Merrick, Michael Scott, Daniel Odell, Jennifer R. O'Neill, and Barbara Shaw): One of the PEC's long-term projects is to provide State List of Mammals for all 50 states. **Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference (3rd ed; MSW)** was published in 2005, and the state mammals lists are aligned to this taxonomic system. Members of PEC complete 25 State Mammal Lists prior to 2005. In addition, 4 states were completed with information before 2005 and therefore, were not posted online. None of these state lists have been updated with the **2005 MSW**, and therefore, all states need either writing or revising to reflect those changes. At the 2009 Annual Meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska, the Committee determined that the most reasonable course of action is to completely revise the way state lists are written. In place of the individual state spreadsheets, we are developing a single database of all species found within the United States. Once the database of species has been compiled, the individual state lists can be built by simply selecting on the state field for the mammals. We set a three-year deadline, with the completion of the database set for the ASM Annual Meeting in 2012.

The species lists developed in spreadsheets have been completed, and at the time of this report, we are actively engaged in standardizing each spreadsheet for insertion into a single database. We anticipate that at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Reno, we will have completed the off-line searchable database, compiled each state list from the database, and temporarily posted static state lists. We therefore respectfully request membership to review state lists looking specifically for incorrect or missing data.

(2) PEC is working with the Informatics Committee in the current state of website development on the online searchable database system. The final phase of this work will be to tie the Image Library into the database, so those photographs can be searched with the information provided on the state lists.

There are multiple benefits to this system.

- With the completion of the database, all 50 states are essentially completed.
- When the *Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference* is revised to the 4<sup>th</sup> edition, it will be a matter of making the appropriate species changes in the database (one time rather than 50 times for each state), and the list will be current within a matter of weeks (rather than years) after publication.
- The new ASM internet website can support a searchable database system. Therefore, mammal species of the United States can become a flexible tool for searching not only state mammal lists, but also individual species, genera, or families throughout the United States. This becomes a powerful tool for further PEC projects and programs.

(3) Science Fair Certificates: The Public Education Committee provides recognition to students participating in Science Fairs with a project related to mammals by awarding a Certificate of Achievement. Certificates were requested this year for the Blue Ridge Highlands Regional Science Fair. We would like to remind the membership to request the Certificate of

Achievement if you participate in a science fair, for any student who conducts research on mammals. Please email the Chair.

(4) Clearinghouse for K-12 Teachers: This program connects classroom teachers with mammalogists but is not used. We had no requests this year. We anticipate that this will change as the PEC is able to utilize the newly upgraded website.

(5) Other Projects in initial development: As the state list project is in the final phase of completion, PEC committee members have determined new goals of direction to support the mission statement of this Committee. The projects are:

- Citizen Science (Katherine K. Thorington – lead, Reginald Hoyt and Johanna Varner) Public Outreach and Tracking (hopefully a component of E-Mammal): One of the challenges of education through modern technology is how to get folks off of the computer looking at and exploring the natural world. The proposed project aims to heighten awareness of the mammals that share our neighborhood and landscapes by making tracking and track ID more accessible to the general public. A very little bit of knowledge about track and gate structure can be a powerful tool for both a scientist and an amateur naturalist. More exposure to tracking techniques and track and sign identification, of course, gives people a better understanding of the stories animal trails tell and better understanding of what the animal that left the tracks or signs was doing. The beginning steps of this process, how to measure and identify a track, how to find the next piece of information (footprint scrape mark, etc.) should be readily accessible to the public. The goals of this project are to find and implement ways that people can use photographs and descriptions to identify tracks and sign and get help with those identifications and/or confirmation of their identifications so that the tracking skills can improve. With the collective knowledge on passive track and hair traps within the ASM we should be able to provide instructions potentially including YouTube videos on how to make and use these traps. These tools should be aimed at both children and adults to get them tracking in their neighborhoods and sharing what they find with each other and the scientific community. One of my goals for the Committee to be bringing the public outreach mammal tracking project to the 2013 Philadelphia Annual Meeting as a poster to solicit involvement from the membership of the Society.
- Teacher Workshop 2013 (Andrew Joachim Verity Mathis, Virginia Naples, and Barbara Shaw): PEC has started initial communication with the Program Committee for holding a collaborative teacher workshop in Philadelphia, PA during and after the 2013 Annual Meeting in collaboration with either the Academy of Natural Science of Drexel University or The Franklin Institute. PEC anticipates offering graduate or continuing education credit with the host institution. The workshop would be over 2 days, including attending one day of the Annual Meeting (both papers and poster session) and the second day for material presentation on incorporating good mammal science in the classroom. One of the lessons will be scientific presentation through posters. We would like to ask members to donate their posters with ASM logo as well as their own university logo to the teachers taking the workshop. The posters would be used in the lesson as well as “parting gifts” from ASM to be displayed at the local schools.
- Conservation Education (Lily C. Aris, Steve Sheffield): Initial steps have been taken to work with the Conservation Committee to develop resources for K-12 educators, informal educators, and the general public on conservation issues. Now that Phase 1 of the upgrade is

completed, we can begin to develop this collaboration for K-12 and the public and the ASM Conservation Committee's projects.

### **Action Items:**

(1) In preparation for the teacher workshop in 2013, the Public Education Committee will require postage for mailing fliers, pre-meeting lesson plans, and other forms of advertisement. We request a \$25.00 budget to cover the cost of postage.

### **Respectfully submitted,**

Barbara J. Shaw, Chair

([Barbara.Shaw@colostate.edu](mailto:Barbara.Shaw@colostate.edu) or [sciencea2z@yahoo.com](mailto:sciencea2z@yahoo.com))

## **Publications Committee**

**Committee Members:** D. A. Kelt (incoming *Chair*), D. M Leslie (outgoing *Chair*), J. F. Merritt (*Journal Editor*), M. J. Hamilton (*Mammalian Species Editor*), B. Arbogast, H. Beck, A. G. Blake, B. H. Blake, L. D. Hayes, W. L. Gannon, J.M. Harris, L. D. Hayes, R. Janssen (interim AP Managing Editor), M. Kalcounis-Rüeggell, C. W. Kilpatrick, B. K. Lim, C. R. Maher, E. A. Mueller (outgoing AP Managing Editor), R. W. Norris, R. A. Ojeda, M. K. Oli, P. R. Owen, R. A. Powell, I. S. Prange, E. A. Rickart, V. Sánchez-Cordero, L. A. Shipley, W. P. Smith, P. T. Stapp, M. A. Steele, R. D. Stevens, B. J. Swanson, D. H. Van Vuren, S. M. Wisely, N. Woodman, D. A. Zegers.

### **Mission:**

The Publications Committee oversees the Society's publications, including the *Journal of Mammalogy*, *Mammalian Species*, and Special Publications. The Committee sets editorial policy for the Society and nominates editors for approval by the Board of Directors. The Committee is typically composed of current editors, who are involved in reviewing and accepting papers and the technical production of the publications.

### **Information Items:**

(1) Highlights of the activities of the Publication Committee over the past year include: (a) arranging for the printing and distribution of the 2011 *Mammalian Species* Archive book, (b) approval of a third updated *Mammalian Species* account on 13-lined ground squirrel (originally no. 103), and (c) recruiting additional Associate Editors and a new Editor for Reviews for the *Journal of Mammalogy*.

(2) In 2010, the Society established a Fast Track option for rapid online publication of new taxa. Although the Publication Committee looks forward to capitalizing on this venue for facilitating the rapid publication of new taxa, to date we have received no submissions for Fast Track publication.

(3) The past year has been one of transition as Chip Leslie gradually vacated his role as Chair, mentoring Doug Kelt as he gradually learns the ropes. Chip Leslie served as Journal Editor from 1997-2001 and Special Features Editor from 2001-2003; he also served as Committee Chair from 1999-2011. The leadership and guidance provided by Chip has strengthened our publications and leaves daunting shoes to fill, and the Committee believes that the Society owes a deep debt of appreciation to Chip for his selfless service to our mutual benefit.

Additionally, Emily Mueller left Allen Press on 30 March 2012. Emily accepted a position with another society-based journal and will be moving to Madison, Wisconsin. We wish Emily the very best and are certain she will be a “star editor” as she was with *JM*. Emily’s efforts as Managing Editor are being covered in an interim basis by Rita Janssen, another long-time affiliate of Allen Press.

In January of this year, Brian Arbogast stepped down as AE due to illness. Ryan W. Norris offered to serve as AE while continuing his service as Editor for Fast-track. Jon Jenks retired from his AE role in late 2011, and Dirk Van Vuren will retire from his service in June. We have been operating 3 AEs short of the Board-approved level of 24 AEs. To address these concerns we have sought replacements for 4 AEs for the *Journal*. We are in the process of securing 1 additional AE to equitably distribute editing duties among our hard-working committee members.

(4) Publication statistics for the *Journal of Mammalogy* between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2012:

**Volume 92, No. 6;** 16 Feature articles, 1 obituary, 1 Special Feature with 7 papers

**Volume 93, No. 1;** 25 Feature articles, 1 book review

**Volume 93, No. 2;** 21 Feature articles, 1 Special Feature with 11 papers

**Volume 93, No. 3;** 24 Feature articles, 1 obituary, 1 book review

**Volume 93, No. 4;** 22 Feature articles, 1 Special Feature with 6 papers

**Manuscripts submitted, accepted, and rejected:**

Number of manuscripts submitted: 483 (compared to 380 last year)

Number of manuscripts accepted: 154 (compared to 83 last year)

Number of manuscripts rejected: 218 (compared to 210 last year)

Rejection rate: 58% (compared to 72% last year)

Total Final Decisions: 372 (accepted + rejected)

**Handling times:**

Volume 92, Nos. 2-6

Submission to acceptance: 213 days (6.9 months)

Acceptance to publication: 186 days (6.1 months)

Total time: 400 days (13.1 months)

Volume 93, Nos. 1-4

Submission to acceptance: 175 days (5.7 months)

Acceptance to publication: 198 days (6.5 months)

Total time: 373 days (12.2 months)

**Geographic distribution of accepted manuscripts:**

Vol. 92, Nos. 2–6: 51.4% U.S., 6.6% Canada, 14.2% Latin America, 27.6% other countries  
(*n* = 105)

Vol. 93, Nos. 1–4: 69.7% U.S., 2.7% Canada, 11% Latin America, 16.5% other countries  
(*n* = 109)

**(5) Publication statistics for *Mammalian Species* between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010:**

Total number of accounts published = 18 (27 last year)

Accounts in proof, scheduled for release in May = 1

Accounts with Editor = 17

Total number of accounts with Associate Editors = 30

Number of new accounts submitted and assigned to Associate Editors = 12

Number of new species accounts assigned to authors = 26

Total number of accounts in preparation = 371 (170 overdue)

**Action Items:**

**(1) New Associate Editors and Editor for Reviews:** The Committee seeks Board approval of Sharon A. Jansa (Bell Museum of Natural History and University of Minnesota, St. Paul), Chris Pavey (CSIRO Ecosystem Services, Alice Springs, Australia), Jeanette A. Thomas (Western Illinois University-Quad Cities, Moline), and Marcus V. Vieira (Univ. Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) as Associate Editors, and Peter L. Meserve (Northern Illinois University, DeKalb) as Editor for Reviews for the *Journal of Mammalogy*.

**(2)** Request an increase in Journal Editor's budget from \$55,000 to \$70,000 this year as discussed in 2011.

**(3)** Re-instate a stipend of \$2,000 for the Committee Chair.

**(4)** Request \$1,500 (increase of \$100) to cover the cost of printing and distributing archive copies of *Mammalian Species* to our 28 library partners.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Douglas A. Kelt, Chair

[dakelt@ucdavis.edu](mailto:dakelt@ucdavis.edu)

## **Resolutions Committee**

**Committee Membership:** N. G. Dawson, M. R. Gannon, E. J. Heske, A. F. Janicki (student member), T. J. McIntyre, B. R. McMillan (Chair), D. M. Reeder, S. R. Sheffield, D. W. Sparks.

**Mission:**

The Resolutions Committee of the American Society of Mammalogists (ASM) was established in 1956 to provide a mechanism for the Society to share relevant science and express views on issues that involve mammals. The Resolutions Committee also writes the Host Resolution for the Annual Meeting of the ASM.

**Information Items:**

(1) The Resolutions Committee did not receive proposed resolutions during the past year, and therefore, our primary duty at the 2012 Annual meeting will be to prepare the Host Resolution.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Brock R. McMillan, Chair  
([brock.mcmillan@byu.edu](mailto:brock.mcmillan@byu.edu))

## Systematics Collections Committee

**Committee Members:** J. E. Bradley, R. D. Bradley, S. Burt, L. N. Carraway, J. P. Carrera E., C. J. Conroy, B. Coyner, J. R. Demboski, C. W. Dick, R. C. Dowler, K. Doyle, J. Dunnam, J. A. Esselstyn, W. L. Gannon, M. S. Hafner, J. D. Hanson, P. Holahan, T. Holmes, S. R. Hooper, C. A. Iudica, D. A. Kelt, E. A. Lacey, B. K. Lim, S. B. McLaren, B. McLean, N. D. Moncrief, N. Ordóñez, E. A. Rickart, D. S. Rogers, W. T. Stanley (Chair), N. Upham, P. M. Velazco.

**Mission:**

The Systematic Collections Committee advises curators worldwide in matters relating to collection administration, curation, and accreditation, and maintains a directory of mammal collections. The Committee also surveys existing collections approximately once each decade and maintains a list of curatorial standards for managing a collection-accreditation program under the auspices of the Society.

**Information Items:**

(1) The Collection of Mammals at the Mote Marine Laboratory was awarded accreditation after the creation of a curatorial position to oversee the collection.

(2) The Museo de Zoología-Mamíferos at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador was awarded accreditation after inspection by ASM members, becoming the first collection in Ecuador to receive such recognition.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
William Stanley, Chair  
([bstanley@fieldmuseum.org](mailto:bstanley@fieldmuseum.org))

#### **IV. ad hoc Committees**

##### ***ad hoc* Committee for ASM-AIBS Graduate Student Public Policy Internship**

**Committee Members:** G. Barrett, R. Gropp (AIBS), W. Lidicker, and A. Linzey (Chair).

**Mission:**

The goal of the ASM-AIBS Public Policy Internship is to provide an opportunity for a student to gain hands-on experience in public policy at the national level that relates generally to biology and specifically to matters of interest to ASM. The purpose of the *ad hoc* committee is to develop policies and procedures for this internship, to solicit applications, and to recommend a suitable candidate for approval by the ASM Board of Directors.

**Information Items:**

(1) The 2011 internship was successfully completed by James Moree, a graduate student at the University of Georgia.

(2) As reflected in Action Item #2, AIBS has requested an increase in funding to help defray the cost of hosting the intern at the AIBS offices in Washington D. C. The proposed \$3000 still represents less than half of the actual cost to AIBS. For future years, AIBS has raised the possibility of offering a training session for students and non-student members at the Annual Meeting. This would be more economical, but would not provide an equivalent experience to the current internship.

**Action Items:**

(1) Board of Directors approval of student intern for 2012.

(2) Budget request for \$9000 for the 2013 internship (\$6000 for internship and \$3000 to AIBS to defray costs of hosting student)

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Alicia V. Linzey, Chair  
([avlinzey@frontier.com](mailto:avlinzey@frontier.com))

## ***ad hoc* Committee on ASM Member Recruitment and Retention**

**Committee Members:** E. J. Finck, M. R. Gannon, E. J. Heske (Chair), H. C. Lanier, R. Van Den Bussche.

**Mission:** The *ad hoc* Committee was appointed by President Michael Mares on 16 January 2012 to consider the problem of declining membership in ASM and recommend membership retention strategies. President Mares requested a report from the *ad hoc* Committee on 17 March 2012, at which time the *ad hoc* Committee was dissolved.

**Information:** The *ad hoc* Committee's report to the President follows.

**Statement of problem:** Membership in ASM has declined by almost 1/3 in the past few years. We are nearing a level where publication contracts with Allen Press will need to be re-negotiated.

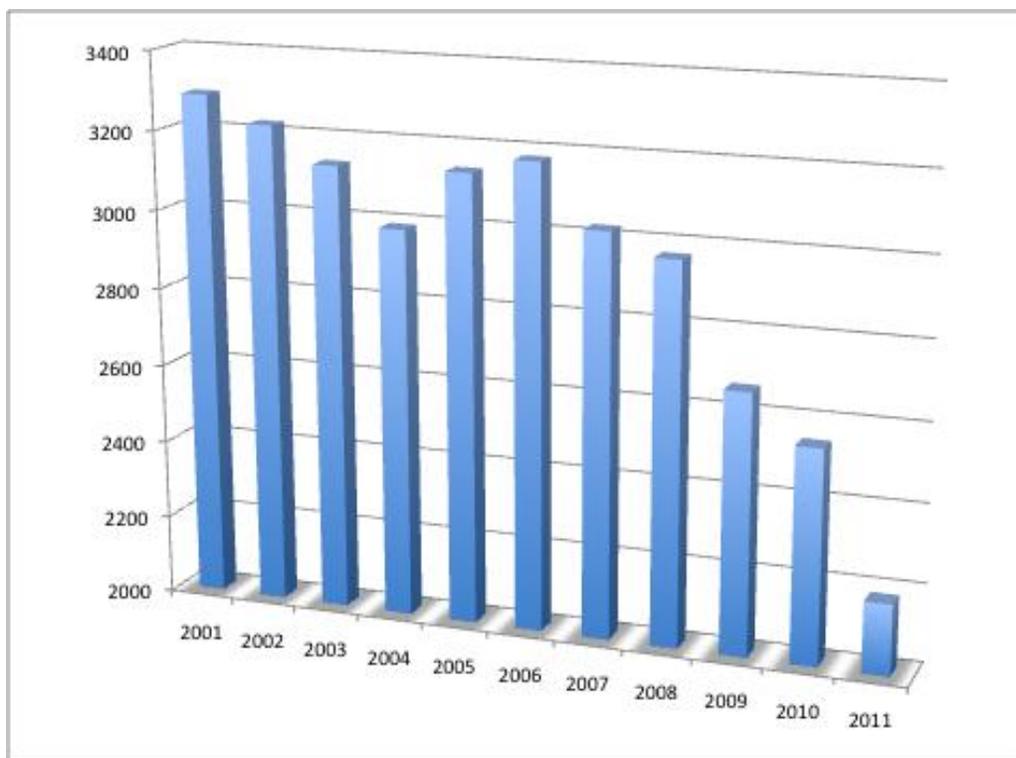


Figure 1: Decline in ASM membership since 2001. Presented to the ASM Board at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Portland by President Mike Mares.

### **Committee goals:**

- 1) Consider likely causes for the membership decline.
- 2) Propose actions that could curtail losses and improve retention of new members.

3) Suggest directions for additional investigations.

**Deliberations:** The committee drew on several resources, notably:

1) Survey of dropped members (2003-2005) conducted by the ASM Membership Committee (only 8% response rate); inquiries to members dropped each year since then (about 10% response rate); both summarized by Committee Chair, Mike Gannon.

2) Summary of recommendations made annually by the ASM Membership Committee since 2002; 2011 white paper on membership by Hugh Genoways; note on the future of scientific societies from Jim Reichman; general directives from President Mares; summaries of ongoing activities and deliberations by the ASM Program Committee provided by Janet Braun; summary of suggestions by Allen Press, and responses from ASM Membership Committee 2011; articles from the recent scientific literature, most notably Schwartz et al. 2006 *Cons. Biol.* 22:1087-1089.

3) Review of member benefits offered by other societies (websites visited included TWS, SSE, SCB, ESA, AAAS, AIBS, ASIH, AOU, AFS); personal experiences as members of other societies; discussions with Director of Membership Marketing and Conferences for TWS. At this writing, we have not yet received a few data summaries (actuarial tables of ASM membership, i.e., lengths of memberships of all current members), but we do not anticipate these to greatly influence our current recommendations.

**Initial focus:** As noted by Mike Gannon, responses from dropped members to inquiries from the ASM Membership Committee should be considered anecdotal, given the low response rate (about 10%). However, some of the comments received indicate areas that could be immediately addressed and were considered in Membership Committee reports at various times. Excerpts from Mike's summary illustrate a range of reasons given for dropping membership:

- Don't feel they get their money's worth for their dues
- No longer need to be a member to access JM
- ASM does not offer enough to keep them engaged
- ASM doesn't represent their interests, only wants their dues; only hear from ASM when requesting dues ("If I don't come to the meetings, I don't exist to you people.")
- Meetings are uninteresting, only for core of people that run everything, exclusive
- Retired, no further interest
- Students: only joined to apply for a GIA, no reason to stay member other than that

Given the above factors contributing to membership decline (actual amounts unknown), we initially focused on these responses, which could be implemented relatively quickly:

1. Membership benefits: There should be clear incentives for membership, including financial returns that exceed membership fees and non-financial benefits reserved for members.

2. Communication and engagement: Members should receive regular communication from the Society and be included in decision-making, even if they do not regularly attend Annual Meetings. Communication should be informative (from ASM to the members), as well as provide a means for members to contact each other or give input to officers, Board Members, and Committee Chairs (from members to ASM). Operation of the Society should be more inclusive.

3. Scientific excitement: Annual Meetings should be stimulating as well as fun. Reduce boring parts. Ramp up quality of content (we know, easier said than done). Add workshops. Make Members' Meetings more interactive.

4. Self-promotion and recruitment: We need to reach our potential core constituency better, and let people know that being a member of ASM is much more than getting the Journal. Once we have recruited members, we need to keep them engaged in the Society and appreciative of what their membership supports.

## **Recommendations**

### **1. Membership benefits**

We reviewed the membership benefits of several scientific societies as well as our own. We propose the following be immediately implemented as benefits of membership in ASM. As an incentive to retain students and others, benefits should potentially return more monetary value to members than the cost of Annual Membership (e.g., if members attend an Annual Meeting or publish in JM). A set of attractive and useful member services should be developed and included on our website, with access (other than to teasers) restricted by password to members only. "Benefits of Membership" need to be touted prominently on our home page (sample text below), along with a link or drop-down list connecting to members-only services. The following list and text could be implemented rapidly and integrated into our website; underlined items under "Other Benefits" need to be developed.

### **Benefits of Membership in ASM**

#### **ASM Publications**

All members receive online access to the *Journal of Mammalogy*, a trend-setting, peer-reviewed scientific publication that was named one of the century's 100 most influential serials in Biology and Medicine by the Special Libraries Association ([JM link here](#)). *JM* is published 6 times per year, and covers all aspects of research in Mammalogy. ASM members may publish in *JM* for free, whereas non-members must pay mandatory page charges<sup>1</sup>. Basic membership includes online access to *JM*, but members also may elect to receive *JM* in hard copy for an additional fee. In addition, members have online access to current and all past issues of *JM*, available through JSTOR. Members also may subscribe to *Mammalian Species* ([link to MS](#)), and receive a 10% discount on all available ASM Special Publications ([link to special pubs](#)).

#### **Annual Meeting**

Members receive a discount of \$100<sup>2</sup> on registration for the Annual Meeting of ASM. Annual Meetings of ASM showcase current, cutting-edge mammal research, and provide unparalleled opportunities for networking, professional development for students, and opportunities to influence policy statements put forth by the Society ([link to meetings page](#)).

#### **Student Programs**

Your membership in ASM supports several programs and activities targeted toward our student members. Student members of ASM are eligible at any point in their projects to apply for Grants-in Aid of Research ([link to GIA page](#)). Several other Fellowships and Internships also are available to student members who are able to demonstrate proven records of research success

and/or service to the Society (links). To encourage student members to present their highest-caliber research at Society meetings, Graduate and Undergraduate Student Honoraria Research Paper Awards are given to support students to travel to and participate in the ASM Annual Meeting. Our Annual Meetings are designed to make student involvement a priority. Special student mixers allow students to interact, Meal with a Mammalogist programs help students network and engage in informal conversations with professionals, and students can request to have their presentations and posters evaluated by professional members.

### **International Programs**

Your membership in ASM supports programs targeted toward ASM members in developing countries, including those in the early stages of their professional development. The Latin American Student Research Grants (link) and the Oliver P. Pearson Award (link) recognize and support high-caliber research being done by Latin American mammalogists. ASM also offers reduced membership rates to mammalogists from developing countries, and a “Buddy System” to assist ASM members for whom English is not their first language in editing manuscripts submitted to *JM* to improve their presentation in English<sup>3</sup>.

### **Other Membership Benefits**

ASM members have exclusive access to the Members’ Services pages on our website. Services available exclusively to members include:

- Free posting of job announcements on the ASM Job Board<sup>4</sup>.
- (clever name for ASM Blog) where members can ask other members for advice about methods, share field experiences, and post new information about emerging issues or technical advances<sup>5</sup>.
- Access to educational material such as species lists, educational pamphlets, and teaching materials for K-12 and college educators<sup>6</sup>.
- A wiki site where members share information on potential funding sources<sup>7</sup>.

Mammalogists are invited to connect through our social networking presence on Facebook and Twitter, and browse the ASM Mammal Image Library. ASM members receive monthly news updates about upcoming events, deadlines, Society business, and highlights in the latest issue of *JM*.<sup>8</sup> Finally, members can run for office, vote in elections of Officers and Board Members, be nominated for awards, and participate in selection of ASM Annual Meeting sites.

### **Supporting Mammalogy**

With your membership in ASM, you are sustaining a vital forum where information from various scientific disciplines is shared and integrated through a single nexus: mammals. Can you envision a study in ecology or conservation uninformed by insights from systematics, physiology, or natural history (or vice versa)? Or a biological research program at any hierarchical level that would not benefit from a broader understanding of its focal organism? In a world increasing dominated by a single species, namely humans, it is critical to promote expertise in all aspects of Mammalogy. ASM is dedicated to that goal. –Working together as mammalogists through the American Society of Mammalogists, our influence on matters of policy, research, and service to science and the public is greatly magnified and a very positive effect on our discipline is made possible.

**Notes on the above:**

- 1) The Board approved this page charge policy at the 2011 Annual Meeting.
- 2) Discount for registration (member versus non-member registration fee) at the Annual Meeting should be equal to or greater than basic membership.
- 3) Buddy system and similar contributions of member time should be a membership benefit, not free to anyone.
- 4) We envision a job board where anyone can visit the ASM home page and read announcements, but only members can post announcements (via the members' services page). Postings are free to members, and retained for 1 month. They can include permanent positions, as well as summer jobs, internships, field tech positions, etc. There are many such boards popping up, and we won't compete with some established ones like the Texas A&M Job Board, but it could attract students to our website. People also can use social media to direct members to recent postings (e.g., post a field tech job, then Twitter about it).
- 5) The Program Committee is working on an ASM Blog Squad. We suggest this be included in the members' services pages. We did not develop specific recommendations about the blog, as others in ASM are working towards this.
- 6) Our pamphlets and educational materials are dated (to be polite). Some (Careers in Mammalogy?) could be left open access, but some educational materials, maybe even lecture materials to assist faculty with heavy teaching loads, could be made accessible to members only. A wiki pamphlet on mammalian conservation or PowerPoint with slides useful in lectures (i.e., update the current pamphlet) would make a great start.
- 7) This would be an attractive resource. Our current list of funding sources is so old it is risible, and likely includes incorrect information. A wiki site would allow members to add new funding sources they locate, and comment on or delete unproductive sites.
- 8) These will be commented on in a later section of this report.

**Additional recommendation:** Membership is terminated if not renewed promptly (no 3-year wait). We suggest termination if renewal is not received by the time of the Annual Report of the Secretary-Treasurer (May?). Also, we suggest that membership categories be re-organized as follows, to allow building up from a basic membership rather than sounding like "discounting" if you give up hard copy:

**Membership categories**

- Regular member (all benefits of membership plus *JM* online)
- Student member (all benefits of membership plus *JM* online)
- Developing countries (all benefits of membership plus *JM* online)
- Add hard copy of *JM* (within US)
- Add hard copy of *JM* (international)

Add *Mammalian Species* online  
Life member (*JM* online)  
Student life member (*JM* online)  
Developing country life member (*JM* online)  
Add hard copy of *JM* (Life member within US)  
Add hard copy of *JM* (Life member international)  
Add *Mammalian Species* (Life members)  
Patron member

**Unresolved:** Membership category for early career mammalogists (within 5 years of PhD)?  
Member benefits attractive to mammalogists with non-academic positions?

## **2. Communication and engagement**

We propose several ways to increase communication with members beyond the Annual Meeting, increase participation by members in Society business, and appeal to mammalogists that engage and interact more via social media.

### **Monthly email communication**

Some societies (like TWS) send regular newsletters to members. Too much email can be intrusive, but we believe that a monthly contact sent to the ASM membership via Allen Press could be useful in several regards.

When each issue of *JM* becomes available, an email should go out to all members notifying them of its availability. The notice should include the cover, table of contents, and a short introductory paragraph noting some highlights of the issue or important deadlines and announcements. Many journals send out these publication notices, and typically they include hot links to the articles in the table of contents.

In the months between issues, a short contact should be sent to all members that covers other items intended to improve participation and inclusiveness. We envision a simple format with an ASM banner across the top, a side bar with links to social media (facebook, twitter, google+, ASM home page and relevant items on the ASM website related to this particular email contact), and about 1 page of text. Items in email contacts could include promotion of the upcoming Annual Meeting; reminder of times to submit GIA proposals, award nominations, etc.; recognition of winners of GIAs and Horner Award (before Annual Meeting; including name, title, institution, and mention of how many proposals submitted that year); recognition of winners of honoraria and other awards (after Annual Meeting); discussion of meeting venues (more below); electronic election information (more below); membership renewal notices; news of particular interest to ASM members, or communications from the President or Journal Editor. We envision this monthly contact working closely with ASM social media and our web site to initiate and facilitate discussions of Society issues, and engage members that didn't attend the Annual Meeting in democratic processes such as selection of meeting venues and elections.

### **Social Media Committee (or Subcommittee)**

We do not have consensus on just how this should be run, but all agree it is way past time to do it. The IT Committee already has set up an ASM facebook presence, but discussions are ongoing about what should go there and who, if anyone, should oversee content. We think this goal

should be adopted, but a broader committee (we recommend a subcommittee within IT) that includes members more fluent with these media should develop any guidelines required. Some uses for social media that we see as helpful:

*Information transfer around and during the Annual Meeting.* Announce, provide information about, and promote activities during the meeting. Post updates on schedule changes, committee meeting times and locations, directions to hard-to-find venues, etc. After the meeting, post highlights and images.

*More timely announcements than relying on monthly email contact.* These could be announcements of election results, meeting site selection, award winners, etc. Reminders about things like membership renewal deadlines or abstract submission deadlines also could be sent this way, but may not reach all members.

*Promote discussion of Society issues.* Social media could complement monthly contacts by providing a format for public discussion. For example, alternative meeting venues could be initially presented via a monthly contact, but discussion could occur on social media in an interval before actual voting. When it comes time to consider how ASM will proceed with selecting meeting venues (i.e., conference center versus college/university host models), discussion could occur in social media. After each Annual Meeting, members could be asked to comment on things they liked or didn't like. Ideas for workshops, symposia, or anything else that might improve the quality of meetings could be solicited and debated. Proposed resolutions could be posted on our website, and discussed in social media prior to their being put up for a vote.

*Sharing of fun field experiences, or anything else mammalogical.* Networking by affinity groups (shared taxonomic or other interests). News updates about emerging issues or discoveries. Social media lovers will have lots more ideas than we can come up with. By posting a variety of items in the social media, non-members are likely to discover them and subsequently may be drawn to the ASM web site.

*The ASM blog,* which we recommend be a member service, can be an interactive site for professional interactions that would benefit from more space or might be more focused than postings on e.g., facebook or twitter. The blog could be a go-to place for questions and answers about field techniques or other scientific methods, more extensive discussion of Society issues or current events, etc. We defer further discussion, as this project is already being considered by the Program Committee, but support its development. Access to most social media would not be restricted to members, but access to this blog should be. If you want real technical expertise and advice, be a member.

Given the emerging variety of social media, they may serve different functions. Some, such as facebook and twitter, will be open access and may attract new members that find ASM while searching for other topics (posted on our media pages). Others (Google+ or the ASM blog) may be useful as a platform for discussion of Society issues with access restricted to ASM members.

### **Selection of Annual Meeting sites**

Some members have commented that we seem to have fallen out of our regional rotation, and that they can only afford to attend regional meetings. Others have wondered how we come up with the choices presented, or criticize the choices. We suggest making selection of meeting sites inclusive of more members, including members not present at an Annual Meeting.

We recommend that in an email contact (supplemented by social media posting), on an annual basis, we announce the geographic region next up in the rotation for Annual Meetings and solicit recommendations of venues. This would allow a larger group of members, especially those living in a selected region that might be more familiar with it, to nominate possibilities. The Program Committee then could review the list of suggestions, and select some for further evaluation. The Program Committee would then compile 2 alternative proposals for presentation to the membership.

In a later email contact, the competing venues are presented to the membership for consideration. Discussion among members could occur in social media, with an eventual date for voting. This plan would require a change in the Bylaws but would broaden participation in the selection process (e.g., members attending a meeting in the Southwest won't dominate voting on a venue in the Northeast), and include a larger number of members in an important Society decision.

### **Online membership renewal**

Include a notice and link in a monthly email contact in the Fall, and a reminder in the email contact in December. An individual electronic notice to all delinquent members should go out in January saying "We miss you, hope you just forgot..." A late fee should be charged to anyone renewing after January (remind in January notice). A final "Please renew now, you are about to be dropped" notice should be sent to delinquents in spring. And of course, a "Thank you for your continued membership and support" email to those who renew.

The main consideration here is that renewal should be easy (click on a link, use your credit card), and prompted several times (directly to member, not mass email) if a member lets deadlines pass. A hard copy can be included in a *JM* mailing in the fall to make sure we reach that last person on earth with no email. Do not let members just slip away without repeated attempts to retain them, including inquiries into why they dropped and what could be done that would encourage them to renew.

### **Online elections**

The committee did not reach consensus on this, but discussion should be taken up by the Board and would require a change in the Bylaws.

Points in favor: Includes a greater number of members involved in nominations and elections, promotes inclusiveness and engagement; shortens Members' Meetings; concerns that elected officers and Board Members aren't regular participants at Annual Meetings could be allayed by making attendance during terms of service a requirement.

Points against: Larger institutions may dominate voting more; elected officials that don't regularly attend meetings may not be as knowledgeable about Society functions; officials elected

online may be less likely to attend Annual Meetings in person; elections at members' meetings makes them more fun.

### **3. Scientific excitement**

It's of little use to offer a discount on registration to the Annual Meeting if the meetings are not considered attractive. Similarly, it's of little use to institute page charges to non-members if *JM* is not considered a desirable publication outlet. *We* know our meetings are fun, productive, and are especially valuable resources for our students. *We* look forward to our bi-monthly issue of *JM*. However, we also have heard some say that they don't attend ASM meetings because they do not find them as stimulating as other meetings and they can only afford to attend 1 or a few meetings per year. Many members that attend ASM meetings find the Members' Meetings too long and boring and often skip them. We have heard many pleas for members to send their best papers to *JM*.

We found this a difficult subject to address, as we all already want our Annual Meetings and our journal to be the best they can be. No one works harder towards these ends than the Publications Committee and Program Committee. The Program Committee in particular is working hard to consider new ways to make Annual Meetings more stimulating and streamlined. The Publications Committee strives continually to improve the quality of content (we'd all love an impact factor of 10.0) and speed up time from submission to publication. We defer to these committees in their activities, and strongly encourage a continued focus on these matters.

We offer some suggestions below to reiterate or supplement the work of other ASM committees. **Journal of Mammalogy:** A way to get accepted papers formatted and pre-published online, as most other prominent journals do, is essential to making *JM* a more attractive outlet. Many journals post a doi (online) version of papers within weeks of acceptance. They can then be reported by authors on annual productivity evaluations, and papers on emerging or time-sensitive issues would more likely be submitted (available in 2-3 months rather than a year). Access to these pre-publications would be an attractive membership benefit as well.

**Annual meetings:** We are currently giving the convention center model of meetings a trial run. Let's assure a valid and open discussion of its merits and drawbacks via the monthly contacts and social media described above. This issue is of major importance to our members.

*When selecting meeting venues, consider mammalogically interesting places.* This could be facilitated by adding greater member participation in nominating venues, as described above. *Expand our base by inviting regional societies or more specialized societies to conduct joint meetings* (for example, Texas Mammal Society if in Texas; Marine Mammal Society if on the coast; North American or regional bat societies; Latin American societies if in accessible place like Miami). Offer special sessions to these Societies, and "honorary member" registration discounts to any of their members that attend who are not already ASM members.

*Recruit more interesting symposia, organize presentations into "special sessions" on timely subjects as appropriate, and start each day with a special morning session of wide appeal.* We know, easier said than done (bring down gas prices while you are at it), and the Program Committee is working on this. Social media would be a good way to get broader input, and to appeal for organizers. Recruit symposium organizers located in each host region to generate

presentations on emerging issues (e.g., “Who’s doing hot research and works near Philadelphia?”), and offer free registration as incentive.

*Streamline the Members’ Meeting.* Delete the boring stuff and focus more on interactive subjects, such as Society issues where engaging the membership is important. Reduce the Members’ Meeting to a single day (use the opened time for a special contributed paper session or symposium). Former agenda items like readings of the Board minutes, committee reports that don’t require member approval of action items, etc., could be shifted to online. Use the social media to post that the minutes and annual reports are now available (with link) in real time (at the meeting). If we move to online voting, much additional time could be saved. Make the Vice President a 2-year office, voted for along with President-elect, rather than doing it every year. If voting for Board Members at the meeting is retained, set up a special bulletin board on the first day of the Annual Meeting with nominations posted there (they can be prepared in advance, or generated on day 1 of the meeting), use social media to remind members to view the nominations, and have votes cast during the single Members’ Meeting (list of nominees prepared in advance and shown overhead at start of voting). Instead of rote presentations of reports that could be posted online, leave time for presentations and discussions of matters of import.

*Add workshops before the meeting,* on the day of the first Board Meeting. These could be student-oriented, or technically oriented. For example, a workshop on a new statistical approach or software on the afternoon before the meeting starts, or a workshop on writing DDIGs by a couple people that recently served on a panel; or a workshop on how to go about preparing for and applying for Federal or other agency jobs could be attractive. Even something narrow or technical like getting started in R, or tips on SAS modeling, or occupancy modeling (TWS holds several workshops at each meeting, to its advantage). Charge a small fee for specialized workshops if necessary, with discounts being another membership benefit.

*Add an Early Career special session* (good replacement for that second Members’ Meeting?). This session could highlight high-caliber research being conducted by mammalogists within 5 years of receipt of their PhD (i.e., postdocs and other early career scientists). The session could be competitive, with abstracts evaluated by the Program Committee. Presenters selected for inclusion in this session could receive something like free registration. The goal here is to generate a stimulating special session while facilitating attendance by postdocs and other early career scientists.

#### **4. Self-promotion and recruitment**

Two of us (EJH, EJJ) inquired about professional services engaged by TWS (e.g., marketing and recruitment). President Mares invited the TWS Director of Membership (Darryl Walter) to make a presentation to the Board at the upcoming Reno meeting. Several suggestions were made by Mr. Walter to the ad hoc committee and are included in the list below.

ASM should consider producing a promotional short video about the Society, and the advantages of membership. TWS produced a video for about \$9000. This video could be posted on our website, You Tube, linked to various social media postings, and used as a recruiting tool by sending it to likely candidates for membership.

ASM should provide student members with video cameras and let them create their own short videos on what they liked about each year's Annual Meeting, to be posted on You Tube. These videos could be produced nearly free.

ASM should attract prospective members to our web site (where they can peruse our membership benefits and/or promotional video) by whatever means possible. Regularly post interesting items from any available source on Facebook, for example, and tweet about them. Browsers searching for these items also will find links to ASM by that means. Recruit new members from various lists that could include prospective members, such as a list of dropped members, a list of authors that published in *JM* but were not members, a list of attendees at the Annual Meeting that were not members, and membership lists from other societies. Perhaps once per year, send out a recruitment letter and links to our membership benefits and promotional material to selected lists.

ASM members should be encouraged to recruit new members from among their students and colleagues. Providing members with promotional materials would make this easier.

**Summary recommendations:**

- 1) Membership benefits should be clear and valuable. Benefits should offer a monetary return that is greater than the cost of being a member, as well as professional benefits reserved for members only.
- 2) Members should be actively engaged in Society affairs. Do not let members feel forgotten or taken for granted if they do not regularly attend the Annual Meeting. Seek engagement from more than the core group when possible. Promote regular communication with and among members.
- 3) Membership renewal should be quick and easy online. Members should not be permitted to just slip away without repeated attempts to retain them.
- 4) Develop promotional materials, and use whatever resources are available (e.g., social media) to recruit new members or at least draw them to our web site.

We urge rapid implementation of as many of these recommendations as possible.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Edward J. Heske (Chair)  
([eheske@illinois.edu](mailto:eheske@illinois.edu))

## V. Affiliates

### **AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science) Affiliation**

**AAAS Liaison:** Michael A. Mares (acting)

**Information Items:** No report submitted.

### **AAZN (American Association for Zoological Nomenclature) Affiliation**

**AAZN Liaison:** A. L. Gardner

**Mission of the AAZN:**

AAZN establishes and maintains the relevancy for taxonomy and nomenclature serving as a foundation for systematics, ecology, and biology in resolving real world issues in organismal diversity and by promoting appreciation, knowledge and understanding of the biosphere.

**Information Items:** No Report Submitted.

### **AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences) Affiliation**

**AIBS Liaison:** Michael A. Mares

(1) The American Institute of Biological Sciences is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) scientific association dedicated to advancing biological research and education for the welfare of society. AIBS works to ensure that the public, legislators, funders, and the community of biologists have access to and use information that will guide them in making informed decisions about matters that require biological knowledge.

Founded in 1947 as a part of the National Academy of Sciences, AIBS became an independent, member-governed organization in the 1950s. Today, AIBS has nearly 160 member organizations and is headquartered in Reston, VA, with a Public Policy Office in Washington, D.C. Its approximately 40 staff members work to achieve its mission by publishing the peer-reviewed journal *BioScience* and the education Web site *ActionBioscience.org*, by providing scientific peer-review and advisory services to government agencies and other clients, and by collaborating with scientific organizations to advance public policy, education, and the public understanding of science.

## General Information Items:

(1) The organizational activities are fully described on the AIBS website (aibs.org), but the following items are among those that may be of particular interest to ASM members:

- ActionBioscience.org is an AIBS resource created to promote bioscience literacy. The web site provides articles by scientists, science educators, and science students on issues related to environment, biodiversity, genomics, biotechnology, evolution, new frontiers in science, and bioscience education.
- The AIBS Legislative Action Center continues to be a one-stop shop for legislative activity, including updates on legislation, links to your congressmen, a mechanism for sending email to your representatives, etc. See <http://capwiz.com/aibs/home>.
- AIBS continues to sponsor the Coalition on the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS), a communication and collaboration network building bridges between science and society. See <http://www.copusproject.org> for more information.
- Through Action Alerts and other communications, AIBS rallies its members to important government actions, such as pending legislation that will impact biological sciences across a broad spectrum of issues.

**Action Items:** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Michael A. Mares  
([mamares@ou.edu](mailto:mamares@ou.edu))

## NSCA (Natural Science Collections Alliance) Affiliation

**ASM Representative:** Michael A. Mares

The Natural Science Collections Alliance is a Washington D.C.-based nonprofit association that supports natural science collections, their human resources, the institutions that house them, and their research activities for the benefit of science and society. [Members](#) are part of an international community of museums, botanical gardens, herbariums, universities, scientific organizations, and other institutions and organizations that house natural science collections and utilize them in research, exhibitions, academic and informal science education, and outreach activities. NSC Alliance acts as a source of information and influence on governmental issues that relate to collections or research on collections, including interactions with the Congress, White House, and government departments and agencies.

[Membership](#) in the NSC Alliance links an organization into a network of institutions, professional societies, scientists and other professionals in North America through which one can share news, information, and common concerns - and help shape the future of the natural science community.

During the past year the NSC Alliance:

- (1) Worked with other scientific organizations to demonstrate grassroots support for increased funding for the National Science Foundation. This effort resulted in increased Fiscal Year 2012 funding for the National Science Foundation.
- (2) Coordinated a joint society letter to the National Science Foundation to express concerns with a proposal to alter the Collections in Support of Biological Research program.
- (3) Provided testimony to House and Senate Appropriations Committees in support for increased funding for the National Science Foundation and the Department of the Interior.
- (4) Sponsored the 2011 Biological Sciences Congressional District Visits Event.
- (5) Nominated, successfully, an individual for service on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Advisory Committee.
- (6) Participated in the USGS Coalition, an alliance of more than 70 organizations dedicated to the continued vitality of the USGS and its programs.
- (7) Provided regular policy and news updates to NSC Alliance members via the NSC Alliance Washington Report.
- (8) Developed a series of issue briefs that help to articulate the importance of scientific collections.
- (9) Published timely updates, reports and announcements to the NSC alliance website ([www.nscalliance.org](http://www.nscalliance.org)).

Additionally, the organization is currently planning a science briefing for members of Congress. The briefing on digitization of biological collections will take place in the Rayburn House Office building in Washington D.C. on 5 June 2012. NSC Alliance members are encouraged to attend this briefing (see <http://nscalliance.org/?p=462>).

**Action Items.** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Michael A. Mares  
([mamares@ou.edu](mailto:mamares@ou.edu))

## **Report of the ASM delegation to the International Federation of Mammalogists**

The ASM continues to be involved in the International Federation of Mammalogists. The current President of the Board is William Lidicker, Jr., of the Society. Because of the large size of the ASM membership, the ASM President, Michael Mares, and Co-Chairs of the International Relations Committee, Ricardo Ojeda and Duane Schlitter, are members of the Board.

The next scheduled international meeting, IMC-11, will be held in Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, in August 2013. The website for IMC-11 is now operational and there is a functional link to it on the IFM website in the IMC-11 page. Or you can go directly to the IFM website: [www.qub.ac.uk/sites/IMC11/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/IMC11/).

The IFM opened an IFM Facebook account, which was developed and is being maintained by IRC co-chair Ricardo Ojeda of Argentina. The idea is to use or orient these new social nets towards professional academic purposes. In the case of IFM, it offers an opportunity to help integrate and connect international scientific mammal societies, colleagues, and students through this social forum. Facebook pages are very useful in posting information, meetings, courses, traineeship opportunities, collaborative research and personal professional contacts. The IFM Facebook link is <http://www.facebook.com/groups/197157050399156/>.

Already numerous international society Facebook links have been established and are being used. Some of these International mammal societies Facebook pages are listed:

*Neotropical Mammalogy*: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/192466010712/>

*American Society of Mammalogists*: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/6554599820/>

*Mamíferos de Venezuela*: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/22565799863/>

*Mastozoólogos Colombianos*: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/19421246899/>

*Sociedad Argentina para el Estudio de los Mamíferos (SAREM)*:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/SAREM-Sociedad-Argentina-para-el-Estudio-de-los-Mam%C3%ADferos/216257401796846>

*Sociedad Colombiana de Mastozoología*:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/172173996137102/>

*Australian Mammal Society*: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/358483928776/>

Finally, the IFM is holding discussions regarding a venue for IMC-12, tentatively scheduled for 2016. Initially, a site in North America in either Canada or the United States was suggested, but a venue in China also is being considered.

More on these items of IFM business as well as other information can be found on the IFM web site located at: <http://www.mammalogyinternational.org/>.

**Action Items.** None.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Ricardo Ojeda, Co-Chair & Duane A. Schlitter, Co-Chair IRC  
([rojeda@mendoza-conicet.gov.ar](mailto:rojeda@mendoza-conicet.gov.ar)) ([happygd@suddenlink.net](mailto:happygd@suddenlink.net))

## **VI. Ombudspersons**

**Ombudspersons:** F. A. Smith, R. W. Thorington, Jr.

**Charge:** The members of the Office of Ombudsperson are appointed at the discretion of the President to hear and respond appropriately to complaints of unprofessional behavior by any member of the ASM at its annual meeting or in the governance of the ASM through its committee structure. All issues brought before either (or both) of the appointed individuals are resolved as discreetly as possible. The Ombudspersons are entrusted to deal with each situation as they best see fit.

**Information Items:** No Report Submitted.