

Education and Graduate Students Committee

Committee Members: C. Bloch, A. Edelman, S. Fairbanks, E. Finck, J. Goheen, H. Huynh, Y. T. Hwang, H. Lanier, C. McCain (Chair), B. McMillan, J. Murie, T. Nupp, M. Pinto, J. Pitt, Q. Shurtliff, V. Swier, I. Tapia, C. Thompson, G. Wilson.

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 2009 Annual Meeting in Fairbanks, 105 student presenters were evaluated with an average of 3.2 evaluations per student. We expect a similar number of requests for student evaluations at the 2010 meeting in Laramie. 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 Christopher Bloch. The program is in its 16th 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 Baker, Mark Brigham, Joel Brown, Christopher Dickman, Jake Goheen, Thor Holmes, Doug Kelt, John Koprowski, Marjorie Matocq, Bruce Patterson, Janet Rachlow, Eric Rickart, Brett Riddle, Gary Roemer, Nancy Solomon, and Ron Van den Bussche. 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 16th 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 meeting. This year the social will take place at the Student Union Family Room from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, 12 June. The purpose of the mixer is to allow student attendees of 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.

(7) After three years as Chair, Christy McCain is stepping down following the Laramie meeting.

Action Items:

(1) The Education and Graduate Students Committee requests \$300 to 1) pay for meals of scientists participating in the *Meal with a Mammalogist Program* that do not have the meal plan and 2) to cover the expenses of the Student Social/Mixer at the 2011 Annual Meeting. This requested support has been provided for the past several years.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy M. McCain, Chair
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