

Education and Graduate Students Committee

Committee Members: B. Blood, C. Day, K. Dudzinski, J. Duggan, E. Finck, L. Flaherty, C. Frank, V. Jackson, R. Jakopak, J. Koprowski, E. Lacey, H.C. Lanier, M. Merrick, K. Munroe (chair), V. Naples, , K. Schumacher.

Mission:

The Committee on Education and Graduate Students assists students of mammalogy in making informed career choices, 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:

The need to support our student members and in particular first-time student member meeting attendees is still a critical component of this committee. There continues to be a large number of first-time meeting attendees, the majority of which are students.

(1) This year at our annual meeting in Washington DC, we had had 64 ASM members submit 343 evaluations for 170 student poster and oral presentations. This year we tried a more open and direct google form for evaluators to use when signing up to volunteer to review student work. Although this provided better coverage for student presentations, it also added additional stress to organizers as many volunteers waited until the night before to sign-up to evaluate presentations. Electronic evaluation submissions allows for timely sorting and returning evaluations to student presenters. Both poster and oral student presentations will again be an important activity organized by the E&GS Committee at the 2021 Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. We encourage all members with terminal degrees to help evaluation presentations! We NEED you!!!

(2) The student social was a great success. The event was held on the second night of the conference within the Hyatt Regency, on the 11th Floor. There was an excellent turnout and student attendees enjoyed excellent food and drinks while enjoying views of the city.

(3) The “Meal with a Mammalogist” program is in its 26th year and remains a popular program among students. This year we saw an increase in undergraduate student participation and hope to have a “Meal with a Mammalogist” session that focuses on undergraduates in Anchorage. We thank all the scientists who have participated in this program over the years. In particular, we would like to thank the Mammalogists who participated in the program in 2019: Stan Boutin, Guillermo D'Elía, Elizabeth Flaherty, Steve Goodman, Roland Kays, Hayley Lanier, Matt Leslie, Andrew McAdam, Molly McDonough, Lorelei Patrick, Janet Rachlow, Steve Sheffield, and Johanna Varner. Special thanks to Jenny Duggan and Elmer Fink for organizing the program! We look forward to another exciting schedule in Anchorage and as always, we welcome all who are interested in participating in ”Meals with a Mammalogist!”

(4) In partnership with Jessica Light and Sean Maher, the E&GS committee helped organize the workshop, “#SciComm: Developing Strategies for Effective & Trustworthy Communication.” The workshop focused on science communication skills to empower ASM members to share their research with broad and diverse audiences. It featured speakers: Katie Hinde (@Mammals_Suck), Roland Kays (@RolandKays), Danielle Lee (@DNLee5), and Karen Mabry. The workshop attracted a diverse audience and was well received.

Action Items:

(1) The Education and Graduate Students Committee requests \$250 (25X\$10) to pay for meals of scientists participating in the Meal with a Mammalogist Program.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen E. Munroe, Chair
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