

Membership Committee

Committee Members: J. Brant, H. Brookhart, F. Cervantes, M. Cramer, E. Finck, N. Formozov, M. Gannon (Chair), J. Hanson, A. Janicki, D. McCullough, I. M. Ortega, A. Reed, S. Reeder, B. Ross, and S. Weyandt.

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) Current membership figures as reported to the Membership Committee from Allen Press on 15 April 2007 are shown on the following pages of this report.

Readers should note that numbers reported here are different from numbers reported in previous membership reports. Delinquent members paying back dues for membership often cause those membership figures to increase even though the calendar year is over.

These numbers should differ from those in the annual report of the Secretary/Treasurer. That report contains all members who are still on the roster, including those that are three years or less delinquent in dues payment. The numbers below include only those members who are active and have paid dues for that year.

It has become evident that our membership numbers have stabilized around 3000. There have been slight fluctuations around this number for several years now. We can expect that our membership numbers for 2007 will be about that of 2006. Last year in April, at the time that report was written, we had 2865 members as compared to 2710 in April of this year. This is a decrease in 155 members for 2007 when compared to the same period in 2006.

(2) Sponsored Membership—The Sponsored Membership Program is now in its 4th year, and numbers are on the rise. There are 38 international members currently sponsored by existing ASM members as of April 2007 (see below for yearly numbers), and an additional 15 memberships are presently available:

- 12 slots for any geographic region
- 1 for Mexico, Uganda, or Angola
- 1 for Southern Africa
- 1 for Latin America

Current Membership Figures						
TYPE	DESCR	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
ENJ	Emeritus Member-No Journal	160	158	158	158	158
HONOR	Honorary Member	13	10	11	12	12
HONORNJ	Honorary Member-No Journal	1	1	1	1	1
HONORPATRON	Honorary and Patron			0	2	2
LIF	Life Member	617	628	633	637	644
	Life Member-Full Payment	5	2	6	1	0
LIF06	Life Member			0	0	3
	Life Member- Full Payment			0	3	0
LIF1	Life Member-1st Installment	10	11	5	0	0
LIF106	Life Member- 1st Install			0	6	2
LIF107	Life Member-1st install			0	0	5
LIF2	Life Member-2nd Installment	8	7	8	4	0
LIF207	Life Member-2nd install			0	0	4
LIF3	Life Member-3rd Installment	11	6	8	6	2
LIF306	Life Member- 3rd Install			0	2	0
LIF4	Life Member-4th Installment	10	8	6	8	5
LIF407	Life Member-4th install			0	0	2
LIFNJ	Life Member-No Journal	13	13	12	14	15
MEM	Member	1802	1691	1486	1466	1158
MEMDEV	Member Developing Country			0	45	35
MEMNJ	Member-No Journal	2	1	2	0	0
MEMO	Member- Online Only			0	125	169
PATR	Patron Member	62	62	64	62	62
PATRNJ	Patron Member-No Journal	3	2	1	1	1
SPONS	Sponsored Member			0	37	3
STUD	Student Member	461	500	543	552	402
STUDLIF1	Student Life Member-1st Instal			13	0	0
STUDLIF106	Student Life- 1st Installment			0	2	0
STUDLIF2	Student Life Member-2nd Instal			0	9	0
STUDLIF206	Student Life- 2nd Installment			0	1	0
STUDLIF207	Student Life-2nd installment			0	0	2
STUDLIF3	Student Life Member-3rd Instal			0	0	6
STUDO	Student online only			0	22	17
TOTAL		3178	3100	2957	3176	2710

The program is in need of nominations from the membership to fill the open slots. Three candidates are awaiting approval from the International Relations Committee (from Brazil, Mexico, and Kenya).

The Membership Committee has been working with the International Committee to formalize a set of guidelines for the Sponsored Membership Program, and these will be available for discussion at the Annual Meeting in June.

Number of sponsored memberships from 2004–2007:

2004: 23

2005: 45

2006: 40

2007: 53 (38 presently filled and 15 memberships available)

Action Items:

(1) At the June 2006 Annual Meeting, the Membership Committee was given two charges. The first charge was to come up with a way to attempt to identify missing members of the ASM (Members who no longer have an address listed with ASM where they can be contacted).

The second charge was to attempt to obtain current email addresses from as many members as possible. Since we no longer are using regular mail for most of the Society's business, including meeting announcements, those individuals who do not have an active email address with the Society are out of contact on many issues.

The following recommendations were sent to President Timm in September of 2006 with a request for permission to proceed on these from the Board. We are currently waiting Board Authorization.

(A) Missing Members—The Membership Committee Recommends that we seek the assistance of all ASM members in locating missing members for which no current address or way of communication with them is available. We would like to suggest that on our website we create a page of missing members, and post the names without contact information. These names would remain on the list until we either contact the individual, or they are dropped from rolls of the Society. We can then send an email once or twice a year to all our current members asking them to look at that list and contact the Membership Committee if they see anyone on the list they know and can provide contact information.

(B) Email addresses—We have spoken to Allen Press about including a letter to all members who do not have email addresses listed with ASM, or have email addresses that no longer work, with their annual renewal through regular mail. The letter can be included in the annual renewal material they mail each November at no cost to the Society. It will explain how ASM is using email and the Internet for most of its communication with members and urge each member

to provide a current email address to the Society for this purpose. That letter will also provide instructions on how to add or change their email on line, or to contact Allen Press if they need help with it.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Gannon

(mrg5@psu.edu)