

## **Education and Graduate Students Committee**

**Committee Members:** C. Bloch, M. Brady, E. Finck, J. Goheen, H. Hoekstra, Y. Ten Hwang, C. McCain (Chair), B. McMillan, D. Parish, T. Nupp, R. Rehmeier, R. Swihart, K. Thorington, and 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. There were 112 student presenters evaluated at the 2007 meeting in Albuquerque. We expect as many or more student evaluations at the 2008 meeting in South Dakota. Elmer Finck will continue with the arduous task of assigning evaluators to each presentation and Christy McCain will compile and send the evaluations back to the students.

(2) The “Meal with a Mammalogist” (previously Breakfast with a Scientist) program is currently being organized by Christopher Bloch. The program is in its 14<sup>th</sup> 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. Some of the scientists who are participating this year are: Terry Bowyer, Joe Cook, Elmer Finck, Christy McCain, Link Olson, Luis Ruedas, Mike Steele, Peter Weigl, John Yunger, and more. 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 but we welcome and encourage nominations from all ASM members, particularly students.

(3) This is the 14<sup>th</sup> 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. The social this year is from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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.

### **Action Items:**

(1) The Education and Graduate Students Committee requests \$300 to: 1) pay for the meal 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 2009 meeting. This requested support has been provided for the past several years.

(2) Additionally, we would like to establish a plan to have reduced ticket prices for students to future banquets, as was instituted at ASM 2007 in Albuquerque.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Christy M. McCain, Chair  
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