

Education and Graduate Students Committee

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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:

(1) Evaluation of both poster and oral student presentations will again be an important activity organized by the E&GS Committee at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Jacksonville, FL. This year, we have 93 student presenters that have requested evaluations and 38 ASM members have volunteered to help evaluate poster and oral presentations. Of concern, however, is that an additional 15 students requested evaluation but withdrew from the program after recipients of the travel awards were announced. This may be evidence of the financial difficulties for students to attend meetings. Evaluators will again have the option of submitting evaluations electronically or on paper. Electronic submissions greatly speeded up the process of sorting and returning evaluations to our students after the Oklahoma City meeting in 2014.

(2) This year, the E&GS Committee has put together a Student Workshop to be presented Friday, June 12, 2:00-5:00 pm. The workshop is entitled: Publishing a Peer-Reviewed Paper from Start to Finish – Advice from the Experts, and 21 students are currently registered. Thanks to Melissa Merrick for spearheading and continuing to develop this workshop! Next year's Student Workshop for the Minneapolis meeting has been set, also thanks to Melissa Merrick, and is titled, How to be a Good Peer-Reviewer: What Editors and Authors Need from You.

(3) The "Meal with a Mammalogist" Program remains a popular program among the students. Both students and the Mammalogists they share a meal with seem to get a lot out of the interaction. We would like to thank the Mammalogists who participated in the program in Oklahoma City 2014: Joel Berger, Robert Anderson, Paul Stapp, Douglas Kelt, William Murphy, Rudy Boonstra, Scott Garner, Jake Goheen, Jessica Light, Erik Beever, Brian Barnes, Thomas Lee, Joseph Cook, Rodrigo Medellin, Karen McBee. We look forward to another exciting schedule in Jacksonville.

(4) We will continue the Meeting Mentors Program at the Jacksonville meeting in 2015. During the Student Social at the beginning of the meeting, regular members and students that have attended previous ASM meetings formally meet and visit with small groups of students. The mentors are given badges to wear on their name-tags, identifying them as Mentors throughout the remainder of the meeting. Mentors can answer questions and facilitate introductions between

students and people that the student would like to meet. Many Mentors related that students came to them with questions, or just to visit, during the remainder of the meeting.

Action Items: None.

Respectfully submitted,
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