

Membership Committee

Committee Members: J. Brant, S. Carroll (Chair), E. Finck, M. Gannon, J. Hanson, M. Haynie, K. Phelps, D. Rogers, H. Smith, R. Stevens, I. Tapia, S. Westerman, 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 reported to the Membership Committee from Allen Press (as of April 2010) 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.

Type	Description	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
ASMM	Membership					
ENJ	Emeritus Member-No Journal	147	114	114		
HONOR	Honorary Member	13	13	13		
HONORNJ	Honorary Member-No Journal	1	1	1		
HONORPATR ON	Honorary and Patron	3	3	3		
LIF	Life Member	627	588	576		
	Life Member-Full Payment	1				
LIF06	Life Member	5	7	19		
	Life Member- Full Payment	1	6			
LIF106	Life Member- 1st Install	5	7	3		
LIF110	Life Member 1st Install			1		
LIF206	Life Member- 2nd Install	8	5	3		
LIF306	Life Member- 3rd Install	6	5	5		
LIF406	Life Member- 4th Install		6	4	1	
LIFDEV10	Life Dev Country Full Payment			1		
LIFNJ	Life Member-No Journal	22	22	31	4	
LIFONLINE10	Life Online Only Full Payment			1		
MEM	Member	1259	1028	836	1	
MEMDEV	Member Developing Country	52	68	52		
MEMO	Member- Online Only	229	284	262		

PATR	Patron Member	58	55	54		
PATR NJ	Patron Member-No Journal	2	2	2		
SPONS	Sponsored Member	33	29	17		
SPONSO	Online Only Sponsored member	1	2	2		
STUD	Student Member	448	353	298		
STUDLIF106	Student Life- 1st Installment	3	2			
STUDLIF110	Student Life 1st Installment			1		
STUDLIF206	Student Life- 2nd Installment		2	1		
STUDLIF306	Student Life- 3rd Installment	2		1		
STUDLIF4	Student Life Member-4th Instal	4				
STUDLIF406	Student Life- 4th Installment	1	2			
STUDLIF5	Student Life Member-5th Instal		4			
STUDLIF506	Student Life- 5th Installment		1	1		
STUDLIF6	Student Life Member-6th Instal			4		
STUDLIF7	Student Life Member-7th Instal				1	
STUDLIF8	Student Life Member-8th Instal					1
STUDO	Student online only	38	55	55		
	Total	2969	2664	2361	7	1
MAMM	Subscription					
AFINSB	Agency Foreign Sub Print & Online			97		
AINSB	Agency Inst Sub Print & Online	632	532	308		
AINSO	Agency Inst Sub Online	4	31	55		
BOTH	Inst MAMM P&O w/ MMSP Online	18	19	8		
BOTHA	Agency Inst MAMM P&O w/ MMSP Online	5	4	2		
BOTHF	Foreign Inst MAMM P&O w/ MMSP Online			7		
BOTHFA	Agency Foreign Inst MAMM P&O MMSP Online			1		
BOTHOA	Agency Inst MAMM Online w/MMSP Online			1		
COM	Complimentary Subscription	17	18	17		
COMO	Comp Online only	3	1	1		
FINSB	Foreign Inst Sub Print & Online			3		
INSB	Inst. Sub Print & Online	27	22	9		
INSO	Inst Sub Online	1	2	2		
	Total	707	629	511		
	Overall Total	3676	3293	2872	7	1

The numbers above include only those members who are active and have paid dues for that year.

ASM membership numbers continue to decline. At the annual meeting last year, the committee predicted an overall decrease of ~200 members by the end of 2009 (based on patterns from recent years). Unfortunately, that was an underestimate, and the Society lost 305 members last year. This trend continues in 2010. In April 2009, at the time that the report was written, we had 2540 members as compared to 2361 in April of this year. This is a decrease of 179 members for 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009.

(2) Sponsored Membership – The Sponsored Membership Program is now in its 7th year. So far, 22 members from 19 countries have been sponsored for 2010. Currently, 13 unfilled slots are available: 11 online-only memberships for any geographical area and 2 full memberships (one for Russia and one for Philippines). The online-only memberships have proven more difficult to fill due to internet connectivity issues in some parts of the world. To that end, 11 individuals are on a waiting list for full membership. Please contact the Membership Committee Chair or the International Relations Committee Chair to submit nominations.

Number of sponsored members from 2004-2009 (according to ASM records):

2004: 23

2005: 45

2006: 40

2007: 38

2008: 35

2009: 34

We continue to work with the International Relations Committee to update the program guidelines.

(3) We continue to interface with the Education and Graduate Students Committee to encourage students to attend meetings and to retain their ASM memberships. John Hanson is representing the Membership Committee in this effort.

(4) The Membership Committee maintains a portable membership display available to members who can take it to regional or international meetings to promote membership in the ASM. Please contact the committee chair to arrange for shipping.

Action Items:

The Membership Committee, composed of members from all aspects of ASM membership, requests the President, President-Elect, and the Board to consider the points below as action items:

(1) Members of the committee continue to propose that additional benefits or incentives be considered to retain members and encourage new members. Clearly, we need to highlight the benefits of membership in the ASM. Some ideas include:

- (a) Discounts for annual meeting registration to ASM members.
- (b) Centralized, inexpensive annual meeting locations during the tough economic times so that new members, especially students, are more likely to join and participate in the Society.
- (c) Temporary membership drive with reduced rates. At the very least, the committee would recommend that no new dues increases be considered for the next two years.
- (d) Page fees for non-members publishing in the Journal of Mammalogy and page fee waivers for ASM members.

(2) Online voting or ballot voting—The Membership Committee continues to encourage the development of online or ballot voting. ASM members, as well as the Membership Committee, feel strongly that members of the ASM should be allowed to remain involved in Society business even during years that they are unable to travel to the annual meeting.

(3) The committee requests a budget of \$50 to cover the postage costs associated with mailing the portable membership display.

Respectfully submitted,

Serena A. Carroll

(awx6@cdc.gov)