

Development Committee

Committee Members: R. J. Baker, A. G. Cleveland, C. Frank, A. V. Linzey, B. McMillan, M. Willig, D. J. Schmidly (chair).

History and Mission:

The Development Committee was established as an *ad hoc* committee in 1989 and became a standing committee in 1993. The mission of this Committee is to promote the development of the Society through various forms of planned giving such as bequests, trusts, and gifts of cash or other assets. Coordination is required with other committees and informal groups that have related functions. The Development Committee activated the Pooled-Income Fund in 1998.

Responsibilities:

Committee members may write personal letters inviting members to become Patron Members of the Society and/or to become donors to the New Founders Club. Committee members may work to obtain grants for the Future Mammalogists Fund, the Latin American Student Field Research Fund, the African Graduate Student Fund, and for support of new fellowships. Committee members may work to obtain grants from foundations and industry for use by other committees such as the Program committee.

Information Items:

(1) 2015 Activities:

- (a) The Committee met at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City to discuss an action plan for 2015. Although the effort to approach corporate and philanthropic foundations to secure endowment and program funding was not initially successful, the Committee agreed this was a long-term strategy that should not be abandoned. As Chair, I made several inquiries about securing funding but was not successful in securing an invitation to submit a proposal.
- (b) With the 100th anniversary of ASM on the horizon the Committee discussed using that occasion as a special opportunity to encourage Society members to donate to one of the programs listed above under committee responsibilities. In particular, the New Founders Club is considered a major opportunity for members to contribute.
- (c) The Committee also discussed a number of individuals of wealth who have ancillary ties to ASM and might be approached to donate to one of our programs. Various members of the Committee have been assigned to explore this opportunity, which is still underway.
- (d) Finally ASM leadership has requested that the Development Committee consider working with the Program Committee in the future to assist with meeting sponsor and vendor solicitations as well as with the meeting auction. The Committee will discuss this during our meeting this week.

(2) Recommendations: the Committee Chair retires in May 2016, and he requests to be replaced as Chair in order to fulfill several book contract commitments in advance of his retirement.

Action Items: None.

Respectfully submitted,
David J. Schmidly, Chair
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