

Program Committee

Committee Members: B. S. Arbogast, M. S. Burt, A. Fairbairn, G. R. Haigh, S. R. Hooper, D. M. Kaufman, K. S. Kilburn, E. A. Lacey, S. Loeb, D. K. Odell, D. A. Parish, D. Post (Chair), S. R. Pugh, N. Solomon, J. Yunger, P. A. Zollner

Mission:

The Program Committee is responsible for the solicitation and acceptance of proposals for symposia and workshops, for advertising the meeting to other scientific societies, for soliciting bids to host meetings, and assisting meeting hosts in preparing for annual meetings.

Information Items:

(1) Committee Membership and Organization:

(A) Two new committee members were added during the year. These include: Amy Fairbairn, and Susan Loeb

(B) The committee is organized as three subcommittees:

Pre-meeting Preparation: Brian Arbogast, Kerry Foresman, Gale Haigh (*Chair*), Eileen Lacey, Susan Loeb, Dan Odell, Deidre Parish, Stephen Pugh, Nancy Solomon, Tom Tomasi, Pat Zollner;

Symposia and Workshops: Scott Burt, Amy Fairbairn, Steven Hooper, Dawn Kaufman (*Chair*), Eileen Lacey, Dan Odell, Nancy Solomon, John Yunger;

Advertising and Electronic Communication: Kerry Kilburn (*Chair*), Pat Zollner.

(2) Subcommittee Activities:

(A) Advertising:

Kerry Kilburn and her committee administer advertisement of the annual meeting. The following are outlets to which requests were sent to advertise this year's meeting: Animal Behavior Society (newsletter and website), American Naturalist (journal and website), the BioScience Calendar, The Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America, The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (newsletter and website) and The Wildlifer. Announcements were also submitted for posting to the Society for Systematic Biology's listserv and website, and the Ecolog-1, MARMAM, and Consbio listservs.

Society members are asked to contact Kerry Kilburn, or any member of the Program Committee, if there are additional advertising sources, especially those that facilitate electronic advertising, that the committee should consider.

(B) Kerry Kilburn and Pat Zollner are responsible for maintaining information about the Program Committee on the ASM web site. The committee thanks Kristin Kramer for assistance with placing the following documents as PDF files on the ASM website: Program Committee membership, 2004 Annual Report, ASM meeting guidelines, and ASM symposium/workshop guidelines.

(3) Symposia/Workshops:

(A) 2005 – Symposia:

There will be one symposium presented at the 2005 meeting at Missouri State University. The symposium titled “Adaptive evolution in mammalian populations” will be presented by organizers Hopi E. Hoekstra and Jay F. Storz.

(B) 2005 - Workshop:

“Careers in Mammalogy” organized by Deidre Parish and Gregory Wilson, and the Education and Graduate Students Committee will be presented.

(C) 2006 – Proposed Symposia:

The program committee received 2 symposium proposals for ASM 2006 at The University of Massachusetts, Amherst/Smith College. Titles and organizers of the proposed symposia are as follows: 1) Large-scale marine ecosystem change and the conservation of marine mammals – organizers, Thomas O’Shea and Daniel O’Dell; and 2) The Northern flying squirrel: a biological portrait of a forest specialist in post-European North America – organizer Winston Smith. The Program Committee recommends acceptance of both symposia proposals. The budget request to support the presentations is below.

(4) Pre-meeting:

(A) Guide Revision

The pre-meeting subcommittee has taken on a revision of the Guide to Organizing the Annual Meeting. The changes in the guide reflect changes in technology as well as procedural changes. Some of the more important changes include the following. A regional map used to determine the location of future meetings is now integrated into the text of the guide. Suggestions to future hosts regarding Power Point presentation have been included in the guide. The time allotted to student plenary talks has been

increased from 15 to 20 minutes to reflect the honor ASM wishes to give to the presenters. A number of discrepancies in the document have been resolved. The Spilogale has not been printed in a number of years. The subcommittee is soliciting comments on the removal of the guidelines for the publication from the meeting guidelines.

The pre-meeting subcommittee welcomes comments and suggestions from members that would make the Guide more useful to potential hosts.

(5) Future Meetings:

(A) 2006 – During the Program Committee report, Betsy Dumont or Ginny Hayssen (local committee chairs) will provide a progress report regarding preparations to host ASM 2006 at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Massachusetts.

(B) 2007 - A letter has been received from Terry Yates on behalf of the University of New Mexico indicating that a bid to host the 2007 meeting will be presented to the Society.

Action Items:

(1) The Program Committee requests approval of a budget request to support expenses associated with the following recommended symposium for ASM 2006: “*Large-scale marine ecosystem change and the conservation of marine mammals*”. The committee requests \$3,900 in support of this symposium. The money will bring in 4 speakers who do not typically attend ASM meetings. All speakers associated with the second symposium, “*The Northern flying squirrel: a biological portrait of a forest specialist in post-European North America*” are regular attendees at ASM meetings so no money is required to support this symposium.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Post, Chair
(post_d@utpb.edu)