

Estuaries Section Executive Committee Meeting (Virtual)

June 8, 2022 11:00-12:00pm (EST)

Attending: John Mohan, Justin Stevens, Konstantine Rountos, Abigail Archer, Catherine Johnston, Lee Benaka, Geoffrey Smith, Amanda Croteau

- Travel awards
 - We had 7 applicants; 4 in-person (2 PhD, 2 MS) and 3 virtual (undergrads)
 - Awards decided based on committee scoring using travel award rubric
 - In-person
 - PhD – Katrina Zarrella Smith
 - PHD Mike Curtis
 - MS – Ben LaFreniere
 - Virtual (Nigerian undergraduates)
 - Pelumi Ojo Oke
 - Ester Ibukunoluwa Falonia
 - Stella Fatomilola
 - Contacted parent society to see if we can directly pay for their registration and membership – preferred method instead of sending money
- Annual business meeting
 - John contacted MFS to discuss. If we do a virtual business meeting, MFS ExComm would prefer it to be the last week in July (24-29) or remotely at Spokane (Aug 21-25)
 - Discussion:
 - If we do it virtually/hybrid at Spokane can we run it off the meeting WIFI, or would need to pay for a dedicated connection?
 - If Spokane attendees join virtually from their hotel rooms, will we have lower attendance or prevent them from attending other in-person events?
 - Virtual attendance was great last year (>100 attending). In the past in-person was 20-30
 - Decision - fully remote option with July date preferred
 - Will host informal social with MFS at Spokane at a local establishment
- Elections for ExCom will be next year (spring)
- Website update
 - Should we merge with the AFS multi-site or keep our current website?
 - Benefits to merging: security, regular updates, AFS branding
 - \$350 one-time fee, \$240 annual hosting fee (can request a waiver for annual fee if we don't have budget for it)

- Decision - Yes, we'll merge and apply for waiver. ETA when AFS has time to do the site migration
- Abigail is looking to find a webmaster replacement. Plans to stay on for the transfer to the new site and train new webmaster
- Student subunit visit updates
 - Abigail plans to try to contact UMass Amherst for Fall
 - Konstantine reached out to UConn and SUNY-ESF but no replies; Next step reaching out directly to professors at the institutions
 - Justin, similar lack of response at UMaine; will try again in the fall
 - John will resend subunit contact template email
 - Mentoring
 - Should we consider a program for more targeted mentoring as an estuaries section at the national meeting and even perhaps virtually between meetings
 - Maybe use the NY women in fisheries mentoring as a template
- Newsletter update
 - Pre-meeting/business meeting newsletter
 - Announce travel award winners, include abstracts
 - Announce business meeting plans
 - Advertise in-person social at Spokane
- Treasurer report (Konstantine Rountos)
 - Current Balance: \$4667. 52
 - Still working on getting back payments from AFS; Received 2020 dues payment, still need 2021 membership dues payment