AFS Estuaries Section Virtual Business Meeting
Wednesday, JULY 27, 2022
3-4pm Eastern Time (followed by Marine Fisheries 4-5pm)
Zoom link:
https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/92535322297?pwd=SlBNMTZDb2VFV0VCVWVUZlzlwZGM1dz09
Password: 707933

1. Call to order, overview of virtual meeting guidelines and establish quorum (at least 5 members)
   a. https://fisheries.org/about/governance/afs-meetings-code-of-conduct/
   b. Participants: 27
2. Review agenda and call for additional agenda items
3. Introduction of Executive Committee members: Catherine Johnston, Past-President; John Mohan, President; Justin Stevens, President-Elect; Konstantine Rountos, Treasurer; Amanda Croteau, Secretary; Geoffrey Smith, Newsletter Editor; Abigail Franklin Archer, Webmaster; Lee Benaka, Monsters Workshop Committee Chair
4. Ice breaker - Poll Everywhere questions (results at the end of the document)
5. President’s remarks – by John Mohan
b. New website in the works that uses the AFS multi site (Wordpress) with better security, easy to manage and update, AFS branding
   i. We are looking for volunteers to work with our webmaster during the transition and eventually takeover as webmaster. If you’re interested contact Abigail or John

c. AFS is facilitating a diverse group of members in Mexico, the Caribbean and various countries throughout Latin America to host the first “Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress” to be held in May 2023


e. Updates from Executive Director Doug Austen and First Vice President Cecil Jennings
   i. From Doug Austen
      1. 1300 registered for Spokane, 70+ symposia, great plenaries scheduled. It’s not too late to register!
      2. Latin American Congress will be a unique event. It is the first event bringing together fisheries professionals from across the region. If you’re interested in helping with that event they could still use help; contact Doug Austen dausten@fisheries.org. The call for symposia should be out soon. The event may serve as the foundation for potential new division, or chapter in the region
      3. World Fisheries Congress will be in Seattle, March 2024
      4. AFS Honolulu 2024, hosted by new Pacific Islands Chapter of AFS
      5. April Croxton will be new president, will be presenting her plan of work which will include focusing on:
         a. Internal communications – trying to enhance our ability to talk with each other throughout the society 4 divisions, 45 chapters, 90 student subunits, 25 sections, 24 committees
         b. DEI efforts – currently working on this as society, and in collaboration with CASS, working with NSF on current grant and submitting proposals for 3 additional grants to work on DEI
         c. Success of upcoming meetings (AFS Grand Rapids, Latin American Fisheries Congress)
         d. Doug Austen will be retiring in 2 years, so April will begin search for new executive director
      6. Recovering America’s Wildlife Act will provide 1.4 billion new funds each year. Asking AFS members to encourage their senators to vote for RAWA. It will be up for a vote in the senate soon
      7. New fund: Ira Adelman & Tom Bigford Fund for Science Communications to support engaging policymakers and making sure decision makers have access to sound science. This will launch in Spokane
6. Presentation of 2022 Student Travel Awards, since there was a diverse pool of applicants (seven students), the ExCom decided to offer three in-person travel awards in the amount of $400, with three additional virtual awards of $60 to international applicants - by Justin Stevens
   a. In person awards (can give each student a chance to describe their research, what attending the meeting in person means for them):
      i. PhD – Katrina Zarrella Smith, Umass Amherst, Oral presentation: Young-of-the-year Winter Flounder Recruitment in a High Priority Gulf of Maine Estuary; presenting Monday afternoon at 3:40 in MFS ES joint session: Bringing New Perspectives to Marine and Estuarine Fisheries
      ii. PHD - Mike Curtis, University of North Texas, Metapopulation Dynamics of Two Endangered Cyprinids in a Drought-Prone River System (poster, Monday evening) also presenting Tues morning on his master’s research on American Eel in Texas
      iii. MS – Ben LaFreniere, University of New England, Chemical Clocks: Enhancing Age Estimates of White Hake Using Otolith Geochemistry
   b. Virtual attendence awards to undergraduate students from Nigeria:
      Pelumi Ojo Oke
      Ester Ibukunoluwa Falonia
      Stella Fatomiolola

7. AFS Annual Meeting in Spokane in August – by John Mohan
   a. Poll Everywhere questions:
   b. Symposium sponsored by Estuaries, Marine Fisheries Sections: ‘Bringing New Perspectives to Marine and Estuarine Fisheries’
      Day 1, has been scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2022 from 1:20 PM - 5:00 PM in 402C in the Spokane Convention Center
      Day 2, has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 23, 2022 from 1:20 PM - 5:00 PM in 402C in the Spokane Convention Center
   c. Open discussion of Spokane meeting and member activities to watch out for
   d. There will be an in person networking opportunity on Tuesday 8/23 from 5-7 pm

8. What do members suggest for:
   a. Expanding Estuaries membership, engaging student sub units
      i. Mike Curtis, student subunit at UNT, would like to share the ES presentation with his subunit; or have a guest lecture/conversation with estuaries members over zoom
      ii. Tom Biggford: engage minority institutions, create subunits at those institutions; Opportunity to partner with the Coastal Society and create joint AFS-Coastal Society subunits; example done at Oregon State
      iii. Jim Vasslides – Having a proxy speak at the various chapter meetings throughout the year. Suggests that chapters may have a large number of
“affiliate” members that might consider joining national if they felt they had a home
iv. Katrina Zarella Smith – Keeping website updated and active
b. Ideas for fun activities (Grand Rapids Monsters event?), estuaries themed photo or art contest?
i. Tom Bigford, future opportunity to look at progress with science advocacy and policy; in conjunction with new fund; may be symposia or workshop at an annual conference
ii. Photo contest / art contest with award; Suggestion from Lian Guo that this might be a great partnership with the SciComm section
c. Mentoring program?
i. Jessica Adele has been working on a mentor-mentee program focused on how to tackle a large conference for the Spokane meeting; Participants meet before the conference (Zoom) and have one-on-one meetings at the conference; testing it out at Spokane will update on success/feedback from participants
ii. Katrina Zarella Smith participated in the student mentoring through early career section at the Baltimore annual meeting; she found it useful; She suggests following that model and create list of mentors, advertise, and pair mentors with students; create rules of engagement/structure for mentors to use
9. Treasurer’s report – by Konstantine Rountos
Estuaries Section Treasurer's Report
respectfully submitted on 07/27/2022
by
Dr. Konstantine J. Rountos (Treasurer)

Recent transactions:

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*Amount does not reflect the payment of three (3) three additional virtual awards of $60 each ($180 total) that have not been charged yet by AFS headquarters.

Notes: Here is a list of other financial items of 2021:
- The Executive Board unanimously decided to award three additional $60 remote student travel awards for virtual attendance to the 2022 AFS Annual Meeting. These awards will allow three undergraduate students from Nigeria that submitted travel award applications and will be participating virtually.
- The check for 2021 membership dues should be arriving soon.

10. AFS Membership Poll – please complete!
11. Upcoming elections this Spring. Positions to fill include: president-elect, webmaster, others?
12. Conclusion
13. Marine Fisheries Section meeting 4-5 pm EST
2022 poll everywhere question:

How long have you been a member of the Estuaries Section?
   not a member
   0 to years
   2 to 5 years
   6 to 10 years
   11+ years

What type of organization / agency do you work for?
   Federal government
   State agency
   Academic institution
   Non-profit organization
   Non-governmental organization
   Undergraduate student
   Graduate student

Do you belong to another professional organization?
   [open response]

If you interact with any student sub units of AFS, please list them here
   [open response]

How many of you are attending the annual meeting?
   Yes, in person
   Yes, remotely
   Not attending

How many folks are giving a presentation?
   Yes, oral presentation
   Yes, poster presentation
   Not presenting

Pool Everywhere results below
How long have you been a member of the Estuaries Section?

- not a member: 6%
- 0-1 years: 31%
- 2-5 years: 19%
- 6-10 years: 19%
- 11+ years: 25%
What type of organization / agency do you work for?

- Federal government: 13%
- State agency: 7%
- Academic institution: 40%
- Non-profit / non-governmental organization: 13%
- Undergraduate student
- Graduate student: 27%
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