



2018 Business Meeting  
44th Annual Meeting Southeastern Fishes Council  
Hickory Knob State Park, McCormick, SC

**Business Meeting: Thursday 8 November 2018**  
**Chair: Tanya Darden call meeting to order at 4:20 pm**  
**Secretary: Matt Wagner**  
**Treasurer: Michael Sandel**

#### **Report of the Secretary-Matt Wagner**

The 2017 meeting minutes were sent out via email before the 2018 business meeting to be reviewed by the membership. A Motion to Approve the 2017 meeting minutes was made by Rebecca Johansen, seconded by Cindy Williams, and given a majority approval at the beginning of the 2018 business meeting. No edits were made, and minutes were subsequently uploaded to the SFC website.

Much of the rest of the year was devoted to answering emails and dispersing messages to the membership via email. Quarterly phone calls were made with the executive committee (Secretary was unable to attend most meetings due to field work constraints).

An assessment was made of members who had not paid dues in three consecutive years and issues were addressed with those members. Members with multiple Wild Apricot accounts under multiple emails had accounts merged to avoid registration confusion and unpaid dues issues. Most effort to communicate meeting announcements was focused on e-mail communication.

#### **Report of the Treasurer-Michael Sandel**

See attached and address treasurer's report issues to Mike Sandel at [msandel@uwa.edu](mailto:msandel@uwa.edu).  
Current checking account balance: \$17,423.47  
Current Paypal balance: \$74,538.08  
Total Funds: \$91,961.55

Motion to Approve the 2018 Treasurers report was made by Bernie Kuhajda and seconded by Jim Williams and given a majority approval by the membership. The amount earned via the auction was not available during the business meeting, but was later reported to be \$2,018.

## **I. Report of the Committees**

### **a. Constitution Committee – ExCom, Tanya Darden**

In attempt to be responsive and supportive of social movements over the past year (and to continue to ensure that we are able to provide a productive and safe meeting environment for all members), the SFC Executive Committee has proactively approved a new draft Bylaws Article regarding Code of Conduct at our annual meetings. Ben Keck was acknowledged and appreciated for bringing this to the ExCom as well as doing most of the work getting it together. Several larger scientific organizations are currently developing more extensive policies (from a legal perspective) regarding Code of Conduct and our intent is to use the draft Article as a placeholder for SFC until those are complete and we will review/revise ours when those become available. Members were emailed the draft Code of Conduct prior to the meeting to read and 10 minutes at the business meeting to read. No opposition or edits proposed. Motioned by Tanya Darden for approval, seconded by Malorie Hayes, and given a majority approval by the membership. The accepted Code of Conduct was uploaded to the SFC website.

### **b. Program Committee – Tanya Darden and Brandon Peoples**

Recap of South Carolina meeting: Meeting had high attendance and went over well.

Number of states: 15

Total attendance: 163

Student attendance: 80

Attendance by state: AL 16, AR 16, FL 2, GA 26, KY 3, LA 7, MS 5, NC 10, OH 4, OR 1, SC 19, TN 43, TX 2, VA 4, WI 1, (4 attendees that did not have state associations under the registration)

67 papers, 44 of which were students

### **c. Resolutions Committee – Anna George, Jim Williams**

Anna George presented a proposed a resolution to rename the recently created undergraduate presentation award in honor of Bob and Fran Cashner Undergraduate Presentation award. It is appended to the minutes. Motioned by Jim Williams for approval, seconded by Bernie Kuhajda, and given a majority approval by the membership.

### **d. Nominating Committee – Rebecca Johansen, Pat Rakes, Matt Thomas**

No report, but Rebecca, Pat, & Matt have all agreed to continue to serve for another year, which is much appreciated. Initial plans are to identify nominees next year to replace current secretary and treasurer.

### **e. Membership Committee – No Report**

### **f. Proceedings Committee – Editor in Chief: Ben Keck and Associate Editors: Brook Fluker and Steve Powers**

Should be on track to get 4 articles for this year which will allow us to have an impact factor and a DOI. Many openings for papers of all sorts from notes to large pubs.

**g. State Reports – Steve Powers**

All State Representative positions were refilled this year and they will be contacted via email for their contributions.

**h. Meeting Site Committee – Bernie Kuhajda, Matt Wagner, Tanya Darden**

Venue for 2019 was established as Knoxville, TN to be hosted by Brain Alford. Meeting will be held at UT Conference Center and housed at Holiday Inn at World's Fair Park. Brian proposed that if members wanted it at State park we could change it, but membership had no interest in doing so. Question were asked about workshops based in GIS, Mussels, or ID. Venue for 2020 was confirmed to be at Auburn hosted by Jon Armbruster.

**i. Investment Development Committee – Ben Keck, David Heins, Jake Schaefer, Mike Sandel**

Ben has agreed to Chair the committee, with Dave Heins, Jake Schaefer, and Mike Sandel serving on the committee. Ben reported that some homework of 'going green' options aren't necessarily all 'green' (i.e., large companies included in many) – so will need to be careful in selections.

Anna George mentioned that TIA fund is an option, but has large cost.

Questions were asked on how much we can invest and how much we will invest.

Ben Keck did not know of any issues with our investing limits, but would like to invest \$40,000-\$50,000.

Anna George requested that we have a conservative investment policy.

Jake Schaefer requested we go with an option that we can liquidate in 24 hours if needed that also has good long-term yield.

Dunkin Elkins proposed that our goal should be that the profit from our investments should offset the student awards.

Mike Sandel proposed that our goal should also be to offset the travel awards.

Motioned to develop an investment policy document by Anna George for approval, seconded by Cindy Williams, and given a majority approval by the membership. Anna George said she would get a copy of an investment policy to Ben Keck by the end of the year. Executive committee could then review/revise and send to membership for approval via email. The Investment Development Committee will have the power to invest the money.

**j. Website Committee – Jake Schaefer**

SFC website was migrated to <http://www.sefishescouncil.org> and redesigned by Jake Schaefer. Abstract submission still to be through USM as Wild Apricot has not made it available yet: <http://ichthyology.usm.edu/sfc2/abstracts/>.

Jake Schaefer mentioned that if we want to move the species list to the Wild Apricot website, we still have it with the photos on the old website. For the photos, we have credit to photographers. If we want to revive the list, it will need to be updated.

Tanya Darden suggested that we link it to the Fish Information Network hosted by the Tennessee Aquarium.

Mollie Cashner suggested we keep the list and link it to the Fish Information Network.

Jake Schaefer suggested that we use Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) to verify current names.

Mollie Cashner made a motion to keep the list with external links, seconded by Rebecca Johansen, and given a majority approval by the membership. Bernie Kuhajda volunteered to update the list using American Fisheries Society list of names and adding in newly described species that are published.

**k. Election of Officers – Tanya Darden**

As we are in mid-term, no officer elections this year, but continue to have several committee vacancies that we would like to fill for the next year.

- a. Awards Committee (3 vacancies)
  - i. Implements our awards program and identifies members in need of special recognition.
  - ii. Mollie Cashner has already agreed to serve for next year
- b. Membership Committee (3 vacancies)
  - i. Consider and implement actions to maintain SFC membership and interest .. Jim and Tanya suggested that a larger social media presence would likely benefit SFC
  - ii. Malorie Hayes volunteered to join the committee
- c. Resolutions Committee (3 vacancies)
  - i. Draft resolutions and present to membership for consideration at annual meetings
  - ii. Anna George agreed to continue her position on the committee

**l. Awards Committee**

For the 2018 meeting 28 students applied and 20 were awarded travel awards (\$100 each) that encompassed multiple universities based on a random draw of names.

**Travel Awards:**

Boschung Student Travel Award: Twenty \$100 awards (to presenting students only) awarded. 2018 Award recipients: Kyler Hecke, Dustin Thomas, Tyler Jackson-Brown, Malorie Hayes, Valerie Jones, William Commins, Corinthia Black, Lauren Kelley, Sam Silknetter, Chance Garrett, Jerry Kattawar, Ben Wilson, Emily Judson, Amanda Pinion, River Watson, Jennifer Main, Caleb Aldridge, Alexis Mross, Robert Paine, Laurel Hansen

**2018 Presentation Award Winners:**

**Etnier Best Student Oral Presentation**

1<sup>st</sup> (\$300) Sam Silknetter (Clemson University), Positive biotic interactions in freshwaters: a research directive

2<sup>nd</sup> (\$200) Malorie M. Hayes (Auburn University), The diversification of the Blackbanded Darter (*Percina nigrofasciata*) across the southeast

3<sup>rd</sup> (\$100) Joshua Hubbell (University of Southern Mississippi), Evidence for habitat filtering as a basis for the coexistence of three darters (*Etheostoma*) in a Gulf coastal plain drainage

**Suttkus Best Student Poster**

1<sup>st</sup> (\$200) Dustin R. Thomas (Arkansas State University), Assessment of Walleye in the Eleven Point River, Arkansas, following a six-year stocking gap

2<sup>nd</sup> (\$150) William Commins (Kennesaw State University), Using instream stationary antennas to monitor the movements of warm water fishes

3<sup>rd</sup> (\$75) Kenny Jones (University of West Alabama), Using genomics and eDNA methods to assess the conservation and future management of the endemic Coal Darter *Percina brevicauda*

**Cashner Best Undergraduate Presentation** (No individual may receive this award if they already are receiving an overall best award, Oral \$100, Poster \$75. No award will be given if there is only a single entry in either category, in which case the single entrant will compete with the rest of the students.)

1<sup>st</sup> (\$75) Tammy St. James (Austin Peay State University), The scarlet letters: detection of cross-species mtDNA between Scarlet Shiners and Striped Shiners

### Old Business

- Recovering America's Wildlife Act request (from Bill Reeves): Tanya received a request to ask SFC to sign a letter to Congress in support of RAWA; ExCom agreed was in accordance with SFC mission and agreed to provide our support. Tanya contacted Bill to add SFC to the signature list.
- Sterlet sturgeon: Kyle shared that despite many letters opposing the approval of a permit to culture Sterlet sturgeon in Louisiana, it was approved. Kyle's understanding was that it still requires governor signature. We submitted a second opposition letter to Louisiana House of Representatives and the permit was overturned and not approved.
- USFWS/CFI MOU letter: Tanya drafted initial letter, was approved by ExCom, and sent to USFWS Regional Office. Recognition of receipt by USFWS has been received.

### New Business

- SFC Logo: As a continuing attempt to develop a new SFC logo, a logo contest was attempted last spring but lack of submissions resulted in its cancellation. Casper Cox was contacted and requested to assist in designing a new logo. We were presented four new logos designed by Casper Cox and he asked for input/feedback. Tanya presented those options to the membership (via paper copies) and requested written or verbal feedback on the options during poster session. Jim Williams requested outline of the states, Brett Albanese requested that it say Southeastern Fishes Council. Tanya Darden asked if anyone was opposed to having Casper Cox develop our logo and it was unanimously approved.
- Wild Apricot renewal: We have received notification that our annual cost will increase from \$540/year to \$972/year starting July 17, 2018. We do have an option of paying for 2 years at once for a discount (effectively \$918/year). ExCom agreed we would stay with Wild Apricot, but only for an annual subscription.

- Financial Audit: As per our Constitution, we are required to engage in a financial audit. Mike and Tanya realized this past year that we don't have an official policy on what constitutes this audit – but have been consulting internal and external resources and are currently in the process of drafting a new Financial Audit Process that we will bring to the membership for consideration next year.
- Mike Sandel updated us on the situation with the Spring Pygmy Sunfish with the Toyota Factory that had plans to develop on the spring where it is found.

A motion to adjourn the 2018 business meeting was made by Anna George, seconded by Cindy Williams, and given a majority approval by the membership.

**Motion as Referenced Above:**

**Resolution for Establishment of the Bob and Fran Cashner Undergraduate Presentation Award  
44th Annual Meeting**

Whereas Bob and Fran Cashner, two pillars of the ichthyological community, have left indelible marks on our field in numerous ways;

Whereas Bob, during his graduate studies at Tulane, fell in love with Fran, fish, and New Orleans, and dedicated his life to all three, including a 35-year career at the University of New Orleans where he studied fish ecology of both North American and Australian fish, described *Ambloplites constellatus*, *Campostoma pauciradii*, and *Fundulus bifax*, and raised three daughters;

Whereas Bob, a student's professor, believed so strongly in service and student mentoring that he was a charter member of the Southeastern Fishes Council, served as secretary-treasurer from 1979-1980, chair-elect from 1983-1984, and chair from 1985-1986; he also served as Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Chancellor for Research and Sponsored Programs at the University of New Orleans, as well as thoughtfully encouraging hundreds of ichthyology students at meetings and conferences;

Whereas those asked to describe Bob use words such as “happy, pleasant, and helpful,” as well as, “a nicer and more accommodating individual you could never find” – words that not only ring completely true, but also stand out as they are not commonly used in descriptions of most ichthyologists;

Whereas Fran, immersed since birth in ichthyology, an accomplished mammologist, an anatomy and physiology professor, and devoted to her family, somehow still managed to find time to serve as subject index editor of *Copeia* for *twenty-two* years;

Be it resolved that the Southeastern Fishes Council hereby names the Bob and Fran Cashner Undergraduate Presentation Award.

Submitted by Anna George, November 8, 2018