

South Atlantic Chapter Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 25th, 8:00-8:45 am, Hall of Ideas G/H

Meeting was called to order by President Kim Ponzio at 8:05 am.

1) Student Travel & Research Grants

A) Travel grant recipients to SAC/SCC Combined Chapter Meeting - Tuscaloosa, AL in Oct 2008
3 Travel Awards (\$200 ea) - *William deGravelles, Jamie Duberstein, and Masamichi Ogasawara*
Best Student Paper \$600 award to travel to the Annual SWS Meeting - *Jamie Duberstein*

B) Travel grant recipients to 2009 SWS Annual Meeting for SAC and UMEB
2 SAC Travel Awards (\$500 each) – *Michael Osland. Rachel Michaels*
UMEB Travel Award (full funding, not to exceed \$2,000) - *Jenaidy Benitez*

C) SAC research grant recipients

4 Student Research Grants (\$750 each) – *Christy Crace, Gabriel Strain, Thomas Smith, Rita Peralta*

D) Student chapter participation

Duke SAWS (Student Assoc. of Wetland Scientists)
Faculty Sponsor - *Dr. Curtis Richardson*
Chair - *Alicia Burtner*
Vice-Chair - *Maura Nowalk*
Secretary/Treasurer - *Catherine Carter*

Wetlands Club at the University of Florida
Faculty Sponsor - *Dr. Mark Clark*
President - *Alex Cheesman*
Vice president - *Mike Jerauld*
Secretary - *Caitlin Bass*
Treasurer - *Lisa Gardner*

2) SAC Officers & By-laws

A) Introduction of new Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair - *Dianna Hogan*
Vice-Chair - *Michael Piehler*

B) Amendment of by-laws:

PROPOSED CHANGES:

- (1) change the election cycle of the Chair and Vice Chair to be held concurrently, rather than in alternating years;
- (2) specify that the Past Chair will be responsible for officer nominations; and
- (3) broaden criteria for the timing of chapter meetings to occur at “other times and places as appropriate”, rather than to specifically state that these meetings shall be held in conjunction with ASB (Association of Southeastern Biologists) meetings.

Motion to accept by-law changes: Kim Ponzio

Second: Greg Noe

Discussion: Frank Day expressed concern that ASB was been completely taken out of the running as having the Chapter meet with them. He talked about the early days of meeting with ASB and how the origins of the Chapter actually arose from those meetings.

Amendment to motion: The chapter may also meet with the Association of Southeastern Biologists (herein, ASB) or at other times and places as appropriate.

Motion: Dianna Hogan

Second: Kim Ponzio

Vote: Amendment passes

Vote on amended motion: Passes

3) Mid-Year Board Meeting – February 28th webinar – saves \$30-\$40K

4) Combined Chapter Meeting (South Central and South Atlantic Chapters)

October 2008 in Tuscaloosa, AL - ‘Climate Change, Wetlands, and Water Resources of the Southeast.’ This was a successful even if not well attended meeting (at least by SAC members). There may be possibilities for future joint meetings.

5) Affiliation with Like-Minded Organizations – NC State, FLTWS, ASB, SER, etc. The chapter has supported or sponsored several meetings with donations of SAC merchandise for door prizes or silent auction.

6) Chapter Merchandise and Fundraising - <http://www.cafepress.com/swssac> , SAC Photo Calendar Contest. The 4th Annual Photo Contest for the 2010 Calendar has been announced. The Wetlands journal now has a color photo on the cover and one of the past calendar winners will be on the cover of the September issue. The new bulletin format is coming out June 26th and has a calendar photo on the cover. SWS has also mentioned that they might like to do a mass shipment like they did with the soil calendar.

7) Budget – Treasurer William Conner presented the estimated 2009 budget and the estimated 2010 budget. Expenses and income for the year were discussed. Frank Day expressed concern over Burk charging us \$2,000 for each minority student. It should have been actual expenses. Frank was asked to please check with David Drupa about this. William expressed concern that if we continue with all the programs we now have to support students that we will be expending more than our annual income as he was told at the SWS Treasurer’s meeting that dues income would be less this year because the last allocation actually covered 18 months. We should be getting back on schedule after this July/August allocation. There was some discussion of how we could modify our awards. Suggestions were made to:

1. Reduce allocation to minority student support to \$1,500
2. Reduce ASB travel Awards to two \$100 awards
3. Reduce Research Awards to two \$750 awards

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Minutes by William Conner