North Central Chapter Member's Meeting 10/18/15 at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory

Dave Mushet opened up the meeting by thanking Arnold van der Valk for organizing the chapter meeting.

Joy Marburger highlighted the National Park service student internship program: http://www.nps.gov/rlc/greatlakes/research.htm, and the Young Leaders in Climate Change (YLCC) program http://parksclimateinterns.org/. Also, the SWS Multicultural Mentoring Program applications are due very soon (Nov. 6) http://www.sws.org/Awards-and-Grants/sws-undergraduate-mentoring-program.htm, so make sure you apply if it would apply to you! Joy also indicated that she has an up-to-date list of current research needs at the national parks in her region and could make that available if anyone is interested.

Casey Judge opened up the discussion of starting a student chapter section of the North Central chapter. Benefits would include networking (among students and non-students), and presentation practice. Special events, like field trips, could be held. Meetings could possibly be organized over Skype, but inperson meetings would also have benefits. Casey also suggested a peer-review network amongst the student members. She then opened it up to other ideas and comments. Sue Galatowitch recommended having webinars where students could present their research, this would be less intimidating than their first interaction with other students being at a chapter or national meeting. Other ideas she raised included an online career panel for students, and a student chapter specific Facebook and Twitter page. Dave recommended that the board change the chapter bylaws to include a student representative board position that would be for a 1-yr term. Casey also recommended adding a student section to the quarterly newsletter, where a student could share a field of research story.