



The American Fisheries Society
Genetics Section
Newsletter

Volume 20, Issue 4
November 2007



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President's Message

The annual meeting in San Francisco was a great event, but you know that if you were there. **Kim Scribner's** symposium "**Applications of Landscape Genetics to Fisheries Management in Freshwater and Marine Realms**" was well attended and had some very interesting and informative presentations. At the section's business meeting we approved the new bylaws, handed out the usual (and on unusual) awards, and planned some future activities of the section. You can read all about it in the minutes of the meeting, which are included elsewhere in this newsletter. Of note, I will be organizing a symposium with Fish Culture Section president (and fellow Saluki) **Jesse Trushenski**. **Kim Scribner** will be working with past Fish Culture Section President **Mike Barnes** on some continuing education materials. We've been discussing having greater communication with the folks in Fish Culture and I'm glad that's finally coming about. I'd especially like to thank Mike Barnes for being so persistent!

Sincerely,
Ed Heist, AFS Genetics Section President

Minutes to the 2007 AFS Genetics Business Meeting

September 2, 2007
San Francisco Marriott

Attending:

Mike Barnes, Neil Billington, Henry Booke, Don Campton, Joel Carlin, Jeff Hard, Ed Heist, Charles Krueger, Jocelyn Lin, Ella Marsden, Bernie May, Catherine Purcell, Robin Schrock, Kim Scribner, Bill Templin, and Fred Utter

I. Call to Order

President Ed Heist called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. A quorum of 15 members was present.

II. Review of Minutes

Minutes of the 2006 meeting were posted prior to the meeting on the web page and distributed in the newsletter. The minutes were accepted without change.

III. President's Report

President Ed Heist reported on the Governing Board Meeting:

AFS is on sound financial footing with approximately \$3 million in the bank, a balanced budget for this year, and a projected balanced budget for next year.

In the Wake of hurricane Katrina AFS has decided to allocate \$25K to a disaster relief fund. This money will remain in reserve and be used to assist with any future natural disaster.

AFS may need to move from its current office space in Bethesda. They own the office space, but not the land, and because the land will be sold they may need to sell the space and move. Executive Director Gus Rassam thinks they can make a deal that will allow them to obtain more suitable office space somewhere within the DC area.

InfoBase now has all issues of Fisheries (going back to 1872) online. All fisheries journals are now online including Progressive Fish Culturist. The new "Marine Coastal Fisheries" journal will be starting up next year.

Entire contents of "Fisheries" will soon be available online and will be accessible prior to production of printed copies. Fisheries is now the 4th most cited fisheries journal worldwide.

Internet services continues to be a hot topic. There was much complaint about functionality of subunit web pages and meeting registration. The consensus of the ExCom is that Bethesda "gets it" and we should expect continued improvement.

IV. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

As of 7/31/2007 the Genetics Section has a balance of \$6,613.11. We began the fiscal year (8/1/06) with \$5,283.40. The Genetics Section received income from member dues (\$885.00) and the SNP Workshop II (\$8,404.93). Expenses were as follows: 1) Awards and scholarships – \$400.00, 2) SNP Workshop II – \$7,298.45, and 3) AFS Equal Opportunity Fund - \$100.00.

Total membership as of January 2007 was 272, of which 124 are new or renewing members. This can be compared to the 87 members reported in 2006. The increase is due to the SNP Workshop II. In the July 2007 report, only 171 remain on the rolls as members of the section.

V. Announcements

Next year's annual meeting will be in Ottawa, Ontario, Aug 17-21. Early registration will be priced at \$295, the same as 2006 and \$50 less than this year. Future meetings include Nashville in 2009 (Aug 30 – Sep 3) and Pittsburgh (Sep 12-16).

A Symposium dedicated to Fred Utter and his six decades of contributions to fishery genetics entitled "Six decades of Fishery Genetics: a retrospective view and vision for the future." Museum of History and Industry, Seattle WA. September 17-18, 2007

The third biannual International Symposium on Conservation Genetics. American Museum of Natural History, New York NY. September 27-29, 2007.

The 5th World Fisheries Congress will take place in Yokohama, Japan in October 2008.

23rd Pink and Chum Salmon Workshop will be held in Bellingham, WA in February 2008.

For all of you budding IT types our own Joel Carlin, who was appointed by president Jennifer Nielsen to head the AFS web services committee, will be hosting a pair of workshops on "Web-IT" at either 5:30 or 6:30 in the Golden Gate "C" room on Tuesday.

VI. Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Nominating Committee – Jeff Hard – No comment.

Program Committee – Kim Scribner

Ad-Hoc Committees

Newsletter –Joel Carlin continues to provide a valuable service to the section by producing four newsletters each year. Submissions for the next newsletter are due by October 24.

Membership Committee – based on the dues received from AFS we have 170 paid members. We used to be under the constraint of needing at least 200 members to retain voting privileges within the society by now we only need 50. Still, Ed would like to see the section grow. There are a lot of fishery geneticists out there who are not section members. Suggestions for attracting fishery geneticists to the section are welcome.

Web Site –Our web page is currently housed for free on the AFS server. There have been a lot of complaints from various subunits about getting information onto the server. We've lost a couple of webmasters in the last two years and went through some time when there was no web page. Ed Heist has managed to make the page functional and is able to maintain the page in its current capacity. The page is currently housed on the AFS server. If we want something substantially more we will need a webmaster with more skills.

Awards

James Wright Student Travel Award

The James E. Wright Graduate Award is presented annually by the Genetics Section at the AFS Annual Meeting and is intended to recognize excellence in graduate-level work in fisheries genetics and to assist graduate students with travel to the national meeting. Candidates for the award submit applications that are evaluated by a selection committee using four criteria: potential for success in research in fisheries genetics, anticipated contribution to upcoming annual meeting, service to the Society, its Sections, or Chapters, and demonstrated need for travel assistance.

This year the selection committee received three applications. Lisa Kamin is in the Masters degree program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences where she is advised by Drs Anthony Gharrett and David Tallmon. Lisa's research focuses on examining the relationship between life history and temporal and spatial genetic structure in Pacific ocean perch. Jocelyn Lin is in the Ph.D. program at the University of Washington, School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences and is advised by Dr Lorenz Hauser. Jocelyn is investigating the role of selection on phenotypic and genetic differentiation in wild sockeye salmon populations. Michael Halbisen is in the Ph.D. program at Trent University, Ontario, and is advised by Dr. Chris Wilson. Michael's research focuses on determining how genetic, environmental, and anthropogenic factors modulate interbreeding and introgressive admixture within and among stocked lake trout populations.

After reviewing each application, the selection committee selected Jocelyn Lin to receive the 2007 James E. Wright Graduate Award. We congratulate Jocelyn on receiving this award and a \$700 travel stipend to the AFS annual meeting in San Francisco. We also acknowledge and thank Lisa and Michael. You are all conducting high quality research that will advance the field of Fisheries Genetics.

Selection committee, James E. Wright Graduate Award
Jeffrey B. Olsen (chair)
John K. Wenburg
Michael F. Canino

At right: AFS Genetics Section president Ed Heist presents the 2007 James E. Wright Graduate Award to recipient Jocelyn Lin of the University of Washington.

Congratulations, Jocelyn!



Stevan Phelps Award -- Fred Utter

Each year the Genetics Section of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) presents the Stevan R. Phelps Memorial Award, which it established in 2000 as a perpetual memorial to Steve, a geneticist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife who died prematurely from cancer in 1999. The award, which honors Steve's strong commitment to publication of applied genetic research in fisheries, is given annually to the authors of the best genetics paper published in an AFS journal the preceding year.

The ranking and determination are conducted by a panel of Section members. This year's review panel, chaired by Fred Utter, evaluated 34 genetics papers published in AFS journals in 2006 for the Phelps Award and chose the following paper as the winner of the 2006 Stephan R. Phelps Memorial Award:

Growth and Behavioral Consequences of Introgression of a Domesticated Aquaculture Genotype into a Native Strain of Coho Salmon by WENDY E. TYMCHUK, CARLO BIAGI, RUTH WITHLER, ROBERT H. DEVLIN. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 135:442–455, 2006

Special Award:

Fred Utter was honored for his past service to the section with the following letter:

The Stevan Phelps Award is given each year in recognition of excellence in fishery genetics. Since the inception of the award in 2001 you have served on this important award committee. Nobody is more capable of judging excellence in fishery genetics than you are, and the genetics section has benefited from your sound judgment and sage advice. The AFS Genetics Section gratefully acknowledges your valuable service and wishes to honor you with a small gift in the form of a book of your choosing from either the AFS catalog or from any vendor in the trade show.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Heist, Genetics Section President

VII. Old Business

\$100 was contributed by the Section to the AFS equal opportunity fund to support student travel.

VIII New Business

Approval of bylaws. AFS has been reviewing and updating subunit bylaws. In consultation with constitutional consultant Gwen White, Jeff Hard drafted a major revision of the section's bylaws. The bylaws change the number of members necessary for a quorum to 10 but otherwise don't change the way we do business. The revised bylaws were distributed via newsletter and have been posted on the section's web page. The motion to approve the revisions to the bylaws was seconded and passed unanimously.

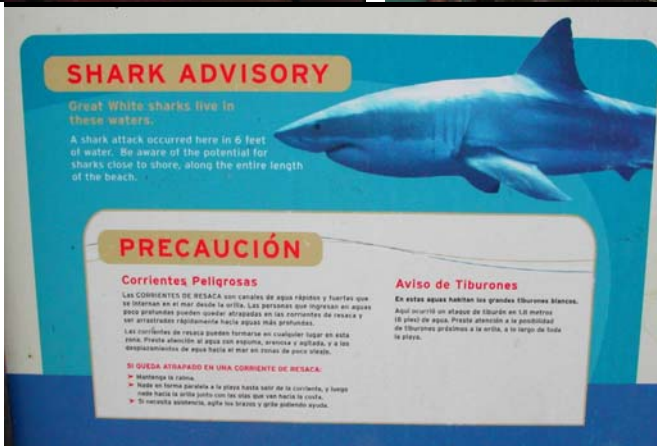
The question of what to do with the large amount of money in the section's bank account was presented for discussion. Several ideas were presented including saving it to provide an endowment for the section, funding student travel, additional awards, and funding section activities. Much of the discussion centered on how to attract more funding, such as having industry partners as some sections have. It was thought that this would need to be tied into a specific project, such as a continuing education workshop at a divisional meeting.

The Culture Section in conjunction with Physiology has a triennial meeting that brings in money through registration. It was suggested that Genetics join and that AFS is looking for sections to work together. Genetic applications for aquaculture is a potential topic for Culture meeting. Another idea was to develop a collaborative continuing education (Genetics/Culture) workshop, which would involve creating a curriculum then take it on the road for one or two day workshops.

It was decided to create a continuing education chair. Mike Barnes volunteered and Kim Scribner volunteered to help.

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Images from San Francisco



In addition to the many interesting talks, members and guests took many photos. Here are some cool ones, showing data analysis in artsy cafés (okay, so that one is the editor's), visiting the fish tanks in Chinatown and other places. Thanks to those who submitted images! - *Editor*

Advertise With Us!

Let the AFS Genetics Section newsletter editor know about your upcoming events by emailing Joel at jcarlin@gustavus.edu. Submissions are next due **January 24**.

Sincerely,

Joel Carlin, Newsletter Editor

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November - December 2007

- Nov 30 — Abstract deadline for the 23rd Northeast Pacific **Pink & Chum Salmon Workshop**. To be held Feb 19-21 at the Silver Reef Conference Center and Casino, Bellingham, WA www.psc.org/pink&chumworkshop/.
- Nov 30 — Early registration for annual meeting of **SICB**: the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. To be held Jan 2-6, 2008, at Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio TX. See www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/.
- Dec 1 — Abstract deadline for the Annual Meeting of the **AFS Southern Division** and West Virginia Chapter of AFS, Wheeling, WV. See www.sdafs.org/meetings/2008/default.htm.
- Dec 8 — Abstract deadline for the **AFS Southern Division** Annual Meeting and West Virginia Chapter of AFS. To be held Feb 28 - Mar 2 at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center, Wheeling, WV. See www.sdafs.org/meetings/2008/default.htm.
- Dec 8-10 — **International Symposium of Integrative Zoology**, Beijing, China. See www.globalzoology.org.
- Dec 9-12 — 68th **Midwest Fish and Wildlife** conference. Madison WI. See midwest.ncd-afs.org/index.asp.
- Dec 17-20 — **PopGroup '07**, the annual meeting of the Population Genetics Group. University of Warwick, Warwick UK. See www.popgroup.org.

January 2008

- Jan 1 — Abstract deadline for the 64th Annual **Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference**. To be held from Apr 27-30 at Marriott Seaview Resort, Galloway, NJ. See www.neafwa.org.
- Jan 2-6 — Annual meeting of **SICB**: the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio TX. See www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/.
- Jan 9 — Full Proposal deadlines for **National Science Foundation** grants in Population and Evolutionary Processes, Revisionary Syntheses in Systematics, Systematic Biology, Ecological Biology, Ecosystem Science, Long Term Research in Environmental Biology. See www.nsf.gov.
- Jan 13 — Abstract deadline for **MEEC 2008**, the Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, To be held from Mar 7-9 at Ohio University, Athens OH. See www.midwesteec.org/index.html.
- Jan 16 — Abstract submission deadline for 22nd **Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology**. To be held on Jul 13-18 at the Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga TN. See www.utc.edu/Academic/ConferenceforSocietyofConservationBiology/
- Jan 21-23 — **Alaska Marine Science Symposium**, Anchorage Alaska. See www.alaskamarinescience.org/.

- Jan 23 — Registration deadline for 22nd **Annual Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology**. To be held on Jul 13-18 at the Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga TN. See www.utc.edu/Academic/ConferenceforSocietyofConservationBiology/
- Jan 24 — Submission deadline for the February **AFS Genetics Newsletter**. Email the editor at jcarlin@gustavus.edu.
- Jan 31 — Abstract deadline for the 37th Annual **Benthic Ecology Meeting**. To be held Apr 10-13 at Westin Hotel, Providence, RI. See www.benthicecology2008.uconn.edu/.
- Jan 31 — Abstract submission and Student travel award deadlines for the 100th Annual Meeting of the **National Shellfisheries Association**. To be held from Apr 6-10 at Providence, RI. See shellfish.org/node/55515.
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February

- Feb 1 — Early registration deadline for the **2008 Ocean Sciences Meeting**. To be held Mar 2-7 at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando FL. See www.aslo.org/meetings/orlando2008/.
- Feb 4-8 — 15th Western Groundfish Conference. Cocoanut Grove, Santa Cruz, CA. See tundra.iphc.washington.edu.
- Feb 9-12 — Aquaculture America, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. See www.was.org/meetings/ConferenceInfo.asp?MeetingCode=AQ2007.
- Feb 19-21 — 23rd Northeast Pacific **Pink & Chum Salmon Workshop**. Silver Reef Conference Center and Casino, Bellingham, WA www.psc.org/pink&chumworkshop/.
- Feb 28 - Mar 2 — **AFS Southern Division** Annual Meeting and West Virginia Chapter of AFS. Oglebay Resort and Conference Center, Wheeling, WV. See www.sdafs.org/meetings/2008/default.htm.
- Feb 29 — Abstract submission deadline for **Fifth World Fisheries Congress 2008**. To be held Oct 20-24, Pacifico Yokohama, Japan. See www.5thwfc2008.com.
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March

- Mar 1 — Early registration deadline for 11th International **Coral Reef Symposium**. To be held Jul 7-11, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. See www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs/.
- Mar 5-8 — 26th Annual **Salmonid Restoration Conference**, Lodi, California. See www.calsalmon.org/conference/2008/conference2008.htm.
- Mar 2-7 — **2008 Ocean Sciences Meeting**. To be held Mar 2-7 at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando FL. See www.aslo.org/meetings/orlando2008/.
- Mar 7-9 — **MEEC 2008**, the Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference, Ohio University, Athens OH. See www.midwesteec.org/index.html.
- Mar 15 — Sigma Xi **Grants-in-Aid of Research** application deadline for undergrad and graduate students. See www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml.

April

- Apr 1 — Abstract and early registration deadline for **Evolution 2008**. Joint meetings of the Society of Systematic Biology, Society for the Study of Evolution, and the American Society of Naturalists. To be held Jun 20-24 at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN. See www.evolution2008.org/.
- Apr 1 — Abstract submission deadline for **XX International Congress of Zoology**. To be held Aug 26-29, Jussieu Grand Campus, Paris France. See icz2008.snv.jussieu.fr/.
- Apr 6-10 — 100th Annual Meeting of the **National Shellfisheries Association**. Providence, RI. See shellfish.org/node/55515.
- Apr 10-13 — 37th Annual **Benthic Ecology Meeting**. Westin Hotel, Providence, RI. See www.benthicecology2008.uconn.edu/.
- Apr 27-30 — 64th Annual **Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference**. Marriott Seaview Resort, Galloway, NJ. See www.neafwa.org.

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