1. Meeting opened by Kim Ponzio at 12:30


2. Student Travel & Research Grants

A) Travel grant recipients to 2008 Association of Southeastern Biologists Meeting Spartanburg, SC April 2008
5 Travel Awards ($100 each) - Charlotte Steelman, Evan Eskew, Masamichi Ogasawara, Grant Connette, Staci Blecha

B) Travel grant recipients to 2008 SWS Annual Meeting for SAC and UMEB
2 SAC Travel Awards ($500 each) – Graduate student SWS members enrolled in SAC institution - Amy Cohen, Pamela Marsh
UMEB Travel Award (full funding, not to exceed $2,000) - Yaqoob Thurston

C) SAC 2008 research grant recipients
4 Student Research Grants ($750 each) to undergrad/grad students engaged in research that has direct applicability to the advancement of wetland science within SAC (but don’t have to be SWS members) - Dena Clink, Mark Galatowitsch, Jeffrey Feaga, Brian Greene

3. Undergraduate Mentoring Program

Kim moved that the Chapter make funding of undergraduate minority student travel support to annual meeting (not to exceed $2,000/yr) a permanent award. Seconded by Alani Taylor. Passed unanimously.

4. Student Award Amounts

Chapter members discussed whether they thought that student travel and research awards were adequate. Decision was made to leave as is for now.

5. Student Chapter Participation
Is there any way to increase student participation in their own chapters. Need faculty mentor and at least three students to form. Have one chapter in SAC now – University of Florida. Fairly inactive according to Kim.

Kim Ponzio moved that 1 year gratis student membership in SWS be tied to student awards in future. After much discussion, the motion was tabled and will be discussed further at the 2009 ASB meeting.

6. Chair and Vice-Chair Terms

It was noted that with the 2007 move of Kim Ponzio to Chair and election of Diana Hogan to Vice-Chair that both officers are currently on a schedule of election in the same years. Kim thought that electing both in the same year was a good idea and wished the chapter to adopt that model for future elections. William Conner pointed out this was a By-Laws change and needed vote of full chapter. Diana Hogan, Greg Noe, and William Conner volunteered to form a committee to look at By-Laws and suggest changes needed to update them.

7. Awards Committee Chair

David Bailey is new chair of this committee.

8. Mid-year Board Meeting

Kim gave update to the chapter of how the webinar went.

9. Combined chapter meeting

The South Central and South Atlantic Chapter are having a joint Fall Symposium in October in Tuscalossa, AL. More details will be emailed to members soon.

10. Treasurer’s report:

$4,413.12 in checking account and a $16,756.36 in CD. SWS chapter dues allocation should be available soon.

Minutes submitted by
William Conner