



**2011 Spring Governing Board Meeting
Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Ohio Sea Grant College Program – Columbus, Ohio
10:00 am–12:30 pm, 19 May 2011**

1) Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

The meeting began a bit late, around 10:15. Given the lack of guidance regarding quorum for a Governing Board meeting in the Bylaws, a true determination of quorum was not possible. Attendees included: Curt Wagner, Chris Aman, Nick Radabaugh, Adam Kautza, Eugene Braig, and Joe Conroy (recorder pro tem).

2) Welcome by President Curt Wagner

Curt welcomed everyone and thanked Eugene for offering the Ohio Sea Grant College Program conference room for the meeting. Curt asked Adam whether the meeting location facilitated attendance by the Subunit representative and Adam responded that it did. Curt then commented that this conference room may often be used for Governing Board meetings, then.

3) Officer Reports

i) President: Curt Wagner

Curt highlighted the Winter Quarter activities suggesting that this was the quarter of letters of support with OCAFS signing-on to letters supporting Teaming with Wildlife's work to support SWG and NAWCA in the Federal FY2011 continuing resolution for funding, the National Wildlife Federation's work to the Clear Air Act, and Ohio Sea Grant College Program and F.T. Stone Laboratory. During Winter Quarter, the OCAFS Popular Writing Workshop was held on 18 February 2011 and was quite successful.

ii) President-Elect: Joe Conroy

Joe deferred to later Agenda items.

iii) Past President: Nick Radabaugh

Nick deferred to later Agenda items.

iv) Secretary/Treasurer: John Navarro

John, from Milwaukee, reported that finances are in good shape.

v) Webmaster: Kevin will report as a committee chair; Joe will update us as to whether Kevin is still an "officer" or a "committee chair" – see 4 February 2011 minutes.

Kevin, unable to attend in person, reported via an email on 17 May 2011 that updates have been posted to the OCAFS website, including Milt Austin winners from the 2011 State Science Day.

At this point, Curt enquired whether OCAFS and the Buckeye Subunit were “Friends” on Facebook or whether there were formal, straightforward ties between the Facebook pages of the chapter and subunit. **Adam did not think so but agreed to look into it.**

- 4) Committee Reports *Committee Chairs: please come prepared with your current list of active committee members for each committee

Curt requested that all Committee Chairs determine whether committee members listed on the cover of the Strategic Plan were “active” by the Summer General Membership Meeting.

We might also re-order these to align with the Strategic Plan: Ohio Fisheries Leadership, Education/Continuing Education, Value of Membership, and Buckeye Student Subunit.

- i) Member Services: Chris Aman
(1) Welcoming Chris and using historical context, institutional memory, and experiences of rest of group to provide Chris with springboard to get started.

Curt welcomed Chris to the Governing Board and thanked him for his participation. Further discussion of Member Services activities was deferred until Old Business Items 5vii and 5viii.

With the bylaw revision, the Chair of the Member Services Committee will become the Chair of the Value of Membership Committee. The Value of Membership Committee is responsible for fulfilling the objectives of Professional Development, Electronic Services (move to Ohio Fisheries Leadership in Strategic Plan revision in 2014?), Recruitment and Retention, Strategic Plan Development, and Financial Security.

- ii) Aquatic Stewardship: Eugene Braig

Eugene indicated that he thought that most of the people listed under the Education/Continuing Education Committee were “active”.

With the bylaw revision, the Chair of the Aquatic Stewardship Committee will become the Chair of the Education/Continuing Education Committee. The Education/Continuing Education Committee is responsible for fulfilling the objectives of Partnerships, Publications, and Programs.

- iii) Information Transfer and Outreach: Kevin Kayle

For the sake of this Governing Board meeting, Kevin still was an Officer according to the existing bylaws and gave his report, in absentia, above.

With the bylaw revision, the OCAFS Webmaster will move from an Officer position to a Chair of the Ohio Fisheries Leadership Committee and a full Governing Board Member. The Ohio Fisheries Leadership Committee is responsible for fulfilling the objectives of Collaboration, Electronic Information Network, and Student Outreach.

Post-meeting addendum: In writing these minutes and looking through the Strategic Plan, it sure seems like there is a lot of overlap between the three standing committees. We should keep an eye on this and re-align if needed.

iv) Buckeye Student Subunit: Adam Kautza

Adam reported that he had been elected President again (really Vice-President for Fisheries). He commented that he is really pleased to see the formation of three solid events for the Buckeye Subunit including: the Autumn Welcome back BBQ, helping at the annual OFWMA Ohio Fish & Wildlife Conference, and the Spring Passport to Fishing event. Joe asked whether there was potential for involvement of the Buckeye Subunit at the State Fair. ***Curt indicated he would look into whether this was possible.*** Joe also asked what the number of “involved” members of the subunit was and whether these were undergrads or grad students. Adam indicated that most of the “avid” members were undergrads and these numbered between eight and 12.

5) Old Business

i) Milt Austin Awards/State Science Fair Update: John Navarro & Nick Radabaugh

John Navarro again led judging at the State Science Day on 7 May 2011 for students who submitted to be judged for the Milt Austin Awards. Nick Radabaugh chipped in his time and helped with the judging with each of the OCAFS officers judging just over 10 science fair projects. Winners included: Ms. Leah S. Minor, Grade 10, Upper Arlington HS, *The impact of varying the ratio of nutrients on the growth rate of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae)*, First Place; Ms. Kathleen M. Seeley, Grade 11, Benjamin Logan HS, *A study of alternative methods for the extraction of lipids from algae*, Second Place; Ms. Takeisha L. Hankins, Grade 11, Thurgood Marshal HS, *DNA salmon sperm cell processing*, Third Place; Ms. Maureen L. Rakovec, Grade 8, Incarnate Word Academy, *Help! You're suffocating me! The effects of nutrient loading in an aquatic ecosystem with an emphasis on diurnal fluctuations of O₂, CO₂, pH, and temperature*, Honorable Mention; and Mr. Lucas A. Clark, Grade 5, Zane Trace MS, *The spectrum of photosynthesis: Determining the best wavelength of light for the optimal photosynthesis rate*, Honorable Mention.

ii) Ohio Academy of Science & OCAFS Partnership Update/Task Delegations?: Joe Conroy

Over the past year, Joe Conroy and Nick Radabaugh worked with other OCAFS members (including Rich Carter and Mike Wilkerson to develop a program in conjunction with the Ohio Academy of Science Annual Meeting to sponsor a partial travel award to the Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference with matching funds from NCD via the Joan Duffy award (<http://www.ncd-afs.org/Pages/49/Duffy%20Award.htm>). At this point, the OCAFS leg work is done but we need to interact with the Ohio Academy of Science to see if they are amenable. ***Joe will contact Lynn Elfner, OAS CEO, to determine how to integrate the “Fisheries Award” into the OAS Conference Materials.***

iii) AFS Affiliate Membership Survey Update: Curt Wagner

Curt and John, as President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Chapter, were contacted by Gail Goldberg, AFS Unit Services Coordinator, to take a survey regarding affiliate membership status (e.g., members of chapters but not the parent society). Specifically, the survey requested information from the chapters regarding the number of chapter members who were also parent society members. However, Curt and John have no way of tracking this number and as Curt indicated in his response to Ms. Goldberg (see suppl_info_02_5iii.pdf) on 10 May 2011 that this issue is one we look to the parent society to handle, yet they seem to be unable to do so (hence the survey). Ms. Goldberg indicated that she sent Curt's response to the AFS Executive Director and the Membership Coordinator yet Curt had heard any response by the date of the Governing Board meeting. No additional details are available at this point.

iv) Writing Workshop follow-up survey?: Joe Conroy

Shortly after the Popular Writing Workshop, Joe proposed sending out a "debriefing" or survey document regarding the workshop. However, having not yet sent such a survey it now seems too late to do so. In the future, some sort of feedback document should be sent after workshops.

v) NCD Strategic Plan Update: Joe Conroy

Despite its many starts and stops, the NCD Strategic Planning committee is continuing its work. During the past quarter, a survey of the NCD membership was undertaken to glean better insight as to what members expect of NCD. Although at this point the outcomes of that survey are being considered by the Strategic Planning Committee, it was clear that some of the questions and the responses would be useful to the Value of Membership Committee as it moves forward with its Ohio Chapter survey. **Joe will send Chris Aman a copy of the survey results.**

vi) By-law changes: Joe Conroy

(1) By-law / Strategic Plan alignment

There are a number of areas where the bylaws and Strategic Plan could better overlap and align. **Joe will work to align Strategic Plan, bylaws, and procedures.**

(2) Buckeye Student Subunit President as OCAFS Officer

All present were in favor of having the Buckeye Subunit President serve as a *governing board member* with full voting privileges. The only item of discuss was to consider what would happen if there were two or more subunits at some point in the future. The current Governing Board preferred to have just a single representative of any and all subunits serve as a Governing Board member. **Joe will include wording in the revised bylaws and procedures to include a subunit president as a Governing Board member.**

(3) Eliminate Webmaster as Officer, duties moved to Info Transfer & Outreach Committee Chair

In the 2004 revision of the bylaws, the Webmaster served as an officer. In the 2011 revision, officers will include the President, Past-President, President-Elect, and Secretary/Treasurer. Governing Board members will include the four officers plus the committee chairs of the Ohio Fisheries Leadership, Education/ Continuing Education, and Value of Membership committees, and a subunit representative drawn from the pool of subunit presidents. The charge of the Governing Board will remain the same although a quorum of the Governing Board will consist of a three-fourths majority (six of eight members). **Joe will work on revising the bylaws, rules, and procedures in time for consideration at the summer meeting with voting by the membership in time for presentation of new bylaws at the Winter Annual Meeting.**

- vii) Membership Survey – announce Ad Hoc committee formation and solicit participation/ideas/comments: Curt Wagner and/or Eugene Braig

Although OCAFS is considered a “large” chapter due to the number of members, most members pay their dues with little direct involvement in chapter activities. To determine barriers to membership and what members feel the role of OCAFS should be, the Value of Membership Committee (rather than an ad hoc committee as this really is the purview of this standing committee) will organize a short survey instrument. **Chris Aman will poll the membership for people interested in helping with this survey and will have the survey organized and distributed by mid-summer so that a summary could be presented at the Summer Meeting.** Joe suggested that Chris contact Kevin Page for assistance with putting the survey online. Curt agreed to help Chris out should he not find other “takers”.

- viii) OCAFS President-Elect Nominations & Term Discussion: Curt Wagner
(1) Discuss long-term direction of officers/terms

Given the annual difficulty in recruiting new officers and even filling standing committee chairs, Curt wondered whether OCAFS had a structural problem (i.e., we need to revise how officers serve [move to extended duration, add a first- and second-vice president role, etc.]) or whether we just had a participation problem. Most at the Governing Board meeting thought we had a participation problem rather than a structural problem. Hence, the Governing Board elected to keep the officers “as is” (with the exception of the Webmaster as officer).

- (2) Discuss game-plan for next 8 months

For the 2011–2012 OCAFS year, the Governing Board decided to role with officers as they stand and work to have a President-Elect election prior to the Winter Business Meeting. **Of particular note, the Governing Board seeks candidates outside of the Division of Wildlife for officers and committee chairs.**

- (3) Generate list of names (again!)

Now is the time to be proactive and start to compile potential volunteers to serve as officers or standing committee chairs. All members of OCAFS should think about nominating a colleague or self-nominating as OCAFS is really at a

crossroads. **Chris or Curt will send a general solicitation to the membership in mid-summer to request nominations.**

- ix) Past-President Award – are we up-to-date now? : Curt Wagner & John Navarro

Nick indicated that we are up to date on Past-President Awards now.

- x) Other

No other items were discussed.

6) New Business

- i) OCAFS Summer Meeting: Curt Wagner & Nick Radabaugh

Curt and Nick agreed to collaborate on organizing the 2011 Summer Meeting.

Curt suggested the Newport Aquarium in Covington, KY with folks meeting in Cincinnati and walking to the aquarium. Eugene proposed either the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge or the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium as substitutes if the Newport Aquarium becomes logistically challenging.

- ii) Cleveland Metroparks – OCAFS et al. Ohio Stream Book Reprints: Curt Wagner

Citing a non-specific request for a number (1,000s) of the *A Guide to Ohio Streams* from an unnamed caller from the Cleveland Metroparks, Curt suggested that we investigate the potential for reprinting this resource. **Curt will work with John and possibly Randy Sanders to investigate reprinting A Guide to Ohio Streams including costs, number to print, and which partners from the original printing are interested in participating in this second printing.**

- iii) OCAFS Scholarship to support an Ohio graduate student to attend/present at Parent AFS Annual Meeting per Dr. Sullivan: Curt Wagner

In an email from 3 February 2011 (see suppl_info_02_6iii.pdf), Dr. Mazeika Sullivan sought to gauge the interest of OCAFS in supporting a graduate student to attend the annual meeting of AFS. The Governing Board brainstormed this idea and generally arrived at this being a really good idea. **The Value of Membership Committee was charged with investigating such a sponsorship and Adam Kautza agreed to work with Chris Aman to complete this task.** Chris will also determine whether other members of OCAFS would like to be involved. Of particular importance, the Governing Board thought that to win any potential award, (1) the student must be a member of OCAFS and (2) one criterion of the award should focus on contributions to OCAFS, the Buckeye Subunit, or some other unit of AFS (parent society, NCD, etc.). That is, this award, converse to the OAS/OCAFS award, will have a service to the chapter component. Any additional criteria and/or how service relates to the total score was left to the Value of Membership Committee. Additionally, the Governing Board suggested the value of the award could pay for registration, a couple nights of hotel, or some other portion of the travel and left determining what was paid for to the Value of Membership Committee.

- iv) Generate Future Workshop/Outreach-Event Ideas: Curt Wagner & Group

Building on the success of the Popular Writing Workshop, Curt requested ideas for workshops or other meetings to consider. Spending a couple minutes kicking around ideas, the Governing Board discussed holding another Tri-State Meeting, perhaps organizing a watershed-focused meeting, or even some sort of briefing meeting between various state fish agencies (DOW, EPA, etc.). The more various types of meetings were discussed, however, the more the Governing Board discussed the role of OCAFS in the annual Ohio Fish & Wildlife Conference and the perceived need for a state-wide OCAFS meeting. However, it was unclear how any new OCAFS annual meeting initiative would duplicate the DOW/OSU Research Review or how OCAFS' role in the Ohio Fish & Wildlife Conference might change. All agreed to consider these issues more and discuss in the future.

v) Other

No other items were discussed.

7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at Easy Living at 12:30.