

# Agenda: OCAFS Governing Board Meeting

## Thursday, June 8, 2023, 12:00 p.m.

### Zoom (see calendar invitation for link)

Meeting time: 12:00 pm -12:50 pm, June 8, 2023 via Zoom

Attendees: Brian Alford, Eugene Braig, Steven Gratz, Taylor Hunkins, Nick Radabaugh, Zak Slagle

#### Meeting Objectives:

1. Plans for summer business meeting
  2. Additional business
    - a) Hutton Scholars sponsor update (Alford)
    - b) NCD Technical Committees
    - c) Milt Austin Award
    - d) Unit Leaders Webinar
  3. Priorities and initiatives updates
    - a) Engage and support student subunits and membership
    - b) Create a schedule of social networking events, professional learning opportunities, and posting to social media
    - c) Documented and accessible OCAFS documents (Slagle)
    - d) Make OCAFS apparel available through the NCD online swag store
    - e) Explore and encourage participation in OCAFS/NCD awards
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#### Item 1: Plans for summer business meeting

- Planning to have meeting on July 21, 2023
- Waiting to hear back from a contact at the Castalia Trout Club to see if we can have our meeting there with a tour afterward, people could then break for lunch with a few options in Castalia, and then get a tour of the ODNR Castalia hatchery to see differences between private and public funded trout facilities
- **Action Item: Steven will work with Castalia to plan a summer business meeting in late- to mid-July (preference for July 21, 2023). Eugene is contacting the Castalia Trout Club to see about hosting the meeting at their facilities.**

#### Item 2: Additional business

- a) Hutton Scholars sponsor update
  - Alford does not have a Hutton Scholar this year
  - Deadline for mentor is March, but students had to apply by January
  - Not great communication from Hutton team
  - Would need to start this process earlier next year to sign up as a sponsor

- 30 Hutton Scholars in 2022 (22 Students at Bozeman for Summit) and 44 Hutton Scholars in 2023 (534 applicants – new record!)
  - 2023 Hutton Summit in Pine Bluff, Arkansas
  - AFS needs more mentors and reviewers
  - Contact: aberniche@fisheries.org
- b) NCD Technical Committees
- **Action Item: Reach out to Ohio representatives serving on the NCD technical committees to ensure that we have people on them that still want to hold the position and make sure they are filled.**
  - This would be voted on at the business meeting and if there are changes, an e-mail needs to be sent to the technical committee chair to let them know of the change.
- c) Milt Austin Award
- **Action Item: Zak will write checks for students. Their addresses have just been received.**
- d) Unit Leaders Webinar (link: [AFS 2023 Unit Leaders Webinar-20230517\\_130257-Meeting Recording.mp4 \(sharepoint.com\)](#))
- Unit Award Fulfillment
    - AFS discontinuing certificate and plaque fulfillment effective September 1, 2023, but certificate templates and samples of award language will be added to the award order page and will provide link to current plaque vendor (contact: Lauren Maza lmaza@fisheries.org)
  - Listservs transitioning from EmailDoDo to Simplelists (contact: Beth Beard (bbeard@fisheries.org))
  - Change of officer form should be filled out after annual meetings or “changing of the guard” on the AFS website
  - Unit membership lists sent to Chapter Presidents and Treasurer/Secretary on 10<sup>th</sup> of every month for people that signed up directly through the AFS website
    - Can also ask for a list of non-renewed members
    - Sections or chapters cannot be changed online after membership has been renewed – this must be done by AFS staff (contact: membership@fisheries.org)
  - Unit Resource Center available on AFS website → discussed things such as committee recruitment, organizing silent auction, unit leaders guide, and code of conduct, branding guidelines, and a unit checklist for things that need completed annually, for example (site: [Unit Resource Center | American Fisheries Society](#))
  - AFS branding guide (site: Unit Resource Center in previous bullet)
    - branding guide for new logo available online and explains how new logo can be integrated into current logos
    - goal is to incorporate new logo by 2024
    - not optional
  - AFS Calendar → send meetings and events to AFS to put on the calendar available online (site: [Calendar | American Fisheries Society](#))
  - Gift of AFS membership

- Unit can sponsor students and pay for their membership for one year to get them interested in fisheries and what AFS has to offer
  - Units or individual people can sponsor new members
- Unit refunds or pass-through dues and rebate payments expected in coming weeks
  - Divisions receive 10% of regular membership dues income
  - Chapters receive 3% of regular membership dues income
- Request from AFS for chapter affiliate lists (those that join the Chapter, but not the Parent Society) so they can market to them and try to get them to join (contact: [membership@fisheries.org](mailto:membership@fisheries.org))
- AFS membership survey results from the 2022 AFS Member Satisfaction and Non-Member Survey results will be presented to the Governing Board at the annual meeting in Grand Rapids, MI and full report will be sent to units following the meeting
- Committee Volunteers
  - Development Committee (new) for sponsorships, helping AFS programs with their development, and new award establishment (contact: Jenna Hanks [jhanks@fisheries.org](mailto:jhanks@fisheries.org))
  - Lauren Maza ([lmaza@fisheries.org](mailto:lmaza@fisheries.org)) looking for webinar ideas or for people to share their webinars with them
- Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program (Hutton Scholars)
  - Outreach program for high school students for an 8 week summer internship
  - 30 Hutton Scholars in 2022 (22 Students at Bozeman for Summit)
  - 44 Hutton Scholars in 2023 (534 applicants – new record! → typically 200-300 applicants)
  - 2023 Hutton Summit in Pine Bluff, Arkansas (23 attending)
  - AFS needs more mentors and reviewers
  - Contact: Ashley Berniche [aberniche@fisheries.org](mailto:aberniche@fisheries.org)
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- Ended with open discussions (success stories, what we need from AFS, etc.)

### Item 3: Priorities and initiatives updates

- a) Engage and support student subunits
- Hocking College
    - Steven contacted Dr. Grant Scholten ([scholteng@hocking.edu](mailto:scholteng@hocking.edu)) and they do not currently have a student subunit since he thought only 4 year institutions could have them
    - Grant met with their dean and he is very excited to start a student subunit
    - Steven contacted multiple people at AFS and confirmed that a 2-year institution can indeed have a student subunit and received some resources on the steps to create a student subunit
  - University of Rio Grande
    - Steven contacted Dr. Wayne Rossiter ([wrossiter@rio.edu](mailto:wrossiter@rio.edu)) and Dr. Althoff ([dalthoff@rio.edu](mailto:dalthoff@rio.edu)) and heard back from Dr. Rossiter
    - They do not have a current student subunit, but there is interest

- **Action Item: Work through the processes of making Hocking College and the University of Rio Grande an official student subunit, if applicable.**
- b) Create a schedule of social networking events, professional learning opportunities, and posting to social media
- 4-H collaboration with Fishing with Veterans?
    - Wounded Warriors Project should be a good contact for this
    - Release an announcement if there is a need for volunteers to bait hooks, work on rods, etc.
    - **Action Item: Will need to talk to 4-H leader, Amanda Wenner, first to see if they indeed need help.**
  - AFS help at state fair fishing pond?
    - Not sure if volunteers can help although trained hunter eds help at BB and archery ranges
    - DOW likes division personnel typically
    - May get push back from administration → not required for DOW staff
    - **Action Item: Nick R. will casually discuss with John Farson to see if this is something they are interested in**
  - Does Brian Alford need help with social media or simply need content? It may have been mentioned a while ago that he was looking for help with this.
    - Just needs content
    - Would be good to tag @Ohio Chapter of the American Fisheries Society on Facebook and/or @ChapterOhio on Twitter
    - **Action Item: Encourage people to tag OCAFS on Facebook and Twitter or for people to submit their own content to Brian to post on social media.**
  - Can have article discussions once a month (max) but it should be organized such that you don't need to read the article to join in on the discussion. →
    - Could get lesser participation from more senior members but will learn through trial and error.
    - Start with the first and then get feedback from participants → IFRE had them and called lunch and learn where they learn on a topic or have a demo of some sort (e.g., mark-recapture software).
    - **Action Item: Search for candidates to lead an article and/or professional development topic.**
  - Annual book club? → could lead up to this in the future but has potential
- c) Documented and accessible OCAFS documents
- Zak has uploaded some documents to the Google drive back to 2015 and is continuing to work on other documents as state IT privileges allow
  - **Action Item: Zak will continue to archive our historic documents.**
- d) Make OCAFS apparel available through the NCD online swag store
- **Action Item: Steven will explore how to get our apparel onto the NCD website.**
- e) Explore and encourage participation in OCAFS/NCD awards
- **Action Item: Steven will work with NCD Awards Committee Chair to see about streaming awards between OCAFS and NCD.**