



ORAFS Executive Committee

Spring Retreat

April 7-9, 2017

Hood River, Oregon

TO: ORAFS Executive Committee
FROM: Katie Pierson, Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes from ORAFS Executive Committee Spring Retreat, Friday April 7 – Sunday April 9, 2017

In attendance: President-elect – Shivonne Nesbit, President – Ben Clemens, Past President – Troy Brandt, Vice President – Jeremy Romer, External Director – Cory Sipher, Secretary – Katie Pierson, Treasurer – Tony Siniscal, Student Subunit Representative – Jacob Peterson, Incoming President-elect – Kris Homel, Incoming Vice President – Shannon Richardson, Incoming Internal Director – Kevin Stertz, Incoming External Director – Dan Bingham, Incoming Secretary – Josie Thompson

Meeting Minutes

Saturday April 8th

8:39 Call to order

ExCom Overview – Ben Clemens, Troy Brandt, Tony Siniscal

- Spring Retreat Goals
 - Ensure smooth transition of new ExCom officers; discuss major items needing attention; review new annual work plan; review 2017 Bend Meeting, preview 2018 Eugene Meeting.
- Housekeeping
 - We will conduct this meeting following the Robert's Rules of Order. The Executive committee should follow these rules for all meetings so that we can be better prepared for the business meeting.
 - ORAFS has a lot of documentation for the incumbents to review, all of the documentation is found on the website and the Google Drive (houses all final copies). We also have the OSU archive which houses all the historical documentation for the chapter (documents that were pulled together for the 50th anniversary). We have two different listservs, one, which we use for voting, reaches just members and the news listserv that reaches anyone who has attended one of our annual meetings, is an ORAFS member, or who has requested inclusion on the listserv.
 - ExCom members have email addresses @orafs.org. Katie will collect the incumbents' emails and forward to Lora Tennant (webmaster).



- ORAFS employs a certified public accountant (CPA) that specializes in nonprofits, who can be a resource if we have questions about legitimate methods for raising money.
- FY 16 ExCom will have their monthly meeting the last week in April, incumbent officers are encouraged to join.
- Financial Integrity and investments
 - In 2014, ORAFS ExCom started to review the financial history of the Chapter. ExCom identified a downward trend in reserve accounts, and recognized that new revenue was insufficient to meet current expenditures. ExCom decided to make a concerted effort to spend only what could be raised. Because ExCom did not want to continue this downward trend in the future, ORAFS formulated a plan to document the steps we would take become fiscally solvent and increase financial sustainability. Currently, ExCom has an investment account and created the Financial Sustainability Plan and Investment Policy (FSPIP) document for financial guidance. ExCom also created the Financial Sustainability Committee that manages the investment account in accordance with the FSPIP, which provides sideboards on how we invest.
 - The Annual Meeting is the Chapter's major source of revenue. Each year, ExCom works harder to secure donations and sponsorships, and in 2016 we increased membership fees and registration for the Annual Meeting. Our goal is to reinvest the dividends from the investment account in our membership.
 - The Hatchery-Wild workshop was very successful and helped boost us to financial solvency even though we did not have an Annual Meeting in fiscal year 14 (due to the 2015 Portland AFS meeting). However, take caution against thinking that all workshops will be financially profitable, in the past we have broken even or lost money with workshops.

ExCom Round Table – Position Descriptions (30 minutes)

- **Vice President**
 - All relevant documents were uploaded to the Google Drive. Jeremy will make some edits to the administrative handbook. Responsibilities of the VP are: rewriting the bylaws, as needed, and communication with college students (OSU student subunit specifically). At the annual meeting, the VP oversees several committees and will recruit chairpersons to facilitate: raffle/auction; student paper and poster judging; ORAFS sales table; and student coordination and activities committee. Additionally, the VP co-coordinates the Student-Mentor Mixer (Match the Hatch) with the Student Liaison. The student paper and judging committee has a Google form that has been used for the past two years. Neil Thompson currently is the 'owner' of the form. The Vice President is also responsible for apparel orders. All excess gear from the previous meeting, including a stockpile of wine, apparel, Tomelleri prints and raffle tickets, is housed at ODFW headquarters in Salem.
 - We now have a list of college contacts around the state and Western Division. We started the Career Counselor program, which has 38 counselors. Most of the time as Vice President is spent on networking and finding chairs for the annual meeting committees, and helping procure items and respond to questions from the auction/raffle committee. Jeremy's suggestion is to become familiar with the bylaws so that you can help keep the ExCom on the right track and stay engaged with the students.



- **External Director**

- The External Director's job is to work with and motivate the external committees. This often results in setting up technical sessions at the annual meeting. Some of the committee chairs are highly motivated and others need a little more outreach. Each committee develops a 2 year work plan, which can include a budget of around \$300. Jim Capurso, current chair of the Native Fish committee puts on the Native Fish workshop annually. This year it will be September 6-7. Another responsibility of the external director with working with the Legislative committee and liaison, which also entails keeping track of the white or position papers that we are preparing for the legislative session. In the past we have had monthly or bi-monthly calls with the committee and the liaison. Troy will continue on until the end of this legislative session as the co-chair with Haley Lutz. Responsibilities at the Annual Meeting are limited. At the fall retreat we review the committee workplans (there is a 2 page template). We like to get Piscatorial Press updates from each committee chair. ORAFS has a social media policy, the external director is the webmaster for the Facebook group. One of the challenges is that many committees don't know who in our membership is interested in being a member of a committee. Cory has agreed to be the Freshwater Habitat chair taking the place of Bill Wall who is stepping down as chair. Other committees include: Fish Culture, Native Fish, Legislative, Social Media, Marine Habitat, Education/Outreach, Natural Production and Human Diversity.

- **Internal Director**

- One of the major responsibilities of the Internal Director is to oversee the internal committees, which may include recruiting a Scholarship committee chair, Awards chair, and historian. In the next few months Kevin should make sure everyone wants to continue their duties as chairs. Plaques for the awards are done at R3 Engraving in Corvallis. The biggest responsibility of the Internal Director is to find places for the retreat and Annual Meeting, for which the Internal Director is responsible for signing a contract and finding a venue. The Internal Director makes all the arrangements, including banquets; oversees and appoints the imbibements chair; and is the head negotiator for all aspects of the Annual Meeting. The Internal Director will review the contract for hidden or ill-defined costs, pay the rental fee, establish the minimum food and beverage order and update the annual meeting planning handbook. January and February is the largest workload. There is a *lessons learned* document in the 2018 folder. The Annual Meeting budget evolves over time but is finalized at the fall retreat.

- **Secretary**

- The Secretary keeps the official record of the Chapter. The Secretary is also charged with supporting registration at the Annual Meeting and are responsible for membership updates. There have been membership issues at the national level, due to database errors. Membership tracking and member recruitment are two areas that could be expanded upon in the future.

- **Treasurer**

- The Treasurer keeps track of Chapter finances. The Treasurer's major role is to keep President and ExCom on track with the Operational and Annual Meeting budgets. ExCom has a certified public accountant (CPA) that we work with to file the Chapter's taxes. The CPA specializes in non-profit organization accounting. Taxes are due 4.5



months after the fiscal year ends (September). ExCom created the Financial Sustainability Plan and Investment Policy (FSPIP) and the Financial Sustainability Committee to oversee the investment account (Treasurer is on the committee). This policy outlines how ExCom manages Chapter funds.

- **President-elect**
 - The President-elect oversees the planning of the Annual Meeting.
- **President**
 - The President moderates the monthly ExCom teleconferences, creates the annual work plan and budget, and ensures progress towards that plan; submits the Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award applications to Western Division AFS (WDAFS) and AFS; sends out notices to the email listservs; participates in monthly teleconferences with WDAFS; recruits sponsorships for the annual meeting; fields requests from outside organizations; and in general acts as an interface between ExCom and other entities.
- **Past President**
 - The Past President recruits new ExCom, finds vendors for the tradeshow and performs special projects as needed.
- **Student Liaison**
 - The Student Liaison is the main line of communication between ExCom and the student leadership team. They Co-chair the student mentor mixer, other student activities, and provide activity updates for the Piscatorial Press. At the end of the year they provide ExCom with the annual report, recruit a new liaison and encourage membership within subunit. They also provide an update at the Annual Meeting's business meeting (a short presentation to the membership).

ExCom Updates

- Secretary – Katie Pierson
 - Still working on the 2017 Business and the March meeting minutes.
 - We held a brainstorming with Selina Heppell, Scott Heppell and Scarlett Arbuckle from OSU about creating more involvement within the student subunit, or possibly restructuring it. We discussed extricating the subunit from the club to include graduate students. There is interest in getting the graduate students and e-campus students involved. We discussed having the student subunit organize a student-only colloquium to create more energy, and possibly ORAFS could incentivize it with a scholarship.
 - The ORAFS brochure is being redone by the Outreach and Education committee.
 - Tony made a motion to incorporate a “Donate” button on the ORAFS website, Jeremy seconded; discussion about where the money will go after donated. It could stay in the PayPal account until we decide what it will be used for; PayPal provides an immediate receipt back to donor. This could be used for funeral donations as well. Motion passed unanimously.
 - **Action Item: Tony will discuss the donate button with Lora Tennant, ORAFS webmaster.**



- Treasurer – Tony Siniscal

- We have more information from AFS about the Hutton scholarship, AFS is going to waive the Hutton scholarship overhead fee this year meaning that one scholar can be sponsored for \$4,000. Too much time has elapsed for ExCom to poll the membership. Since we are making a one-time decision, we will poll the membership next year to see if they have ideas about how to use the dividends our Investment account is producing. OSU was interested in partnering.
 - Gary made a motion to fund a Hutton scholarship for a student from Oregon by using the funds from the investment account. In the future we will also poll the membership about ideas about how to spend money from investment dividends, Troy seconded; Discussion about adding information about how the idea will be funded in the poll; motion passed unanimously.
 - Action Item: Talk to Selina about no overhead on the Hutton scholarship this year.
- Tony modified the bigger organization spreadsheet for the Chapter to model where final registration levels will be based on early registration (Registration Rate Calculator). We now know what the dollar amounts for each registration category are likely to be based on the registration numbers. We are trying to maintain financial health by planning for making money. We keep the annual meeting budgets tight even with expanded registration levels. We have a good way to predict what we are going to gross and less of a handle on what we are going to spend. Our operating budget is mostly funded by the annual meeting.
- Registration fees usually break even (near final numbers are \$111,915 registration fees less the costs of \$91,815). We are in the middle of the pack for registration fees for the Western Division. If our annual meetings continue to grow we might need to put a cap on registration. This might be hard to do since we are focused on inclusive meetings.
- AFS Membership dues and rebates usually don't get to the Chapter until August. 123signup holds money in a rolling reserve which means that some money needs to be labeled as encumbered at the end of the fiscal year. Fiscal year runs from May 1st to April 30th.
- We had large financial gains from the AFS Portland meeting in 2015.
- There are two signers on the Bank of America account, the President and the Treasurer. Every single credit card purchase is approved by the President. The new President and Treasurer will need to be added to the account, the past President and former Treasurer will be removed. Adding signers to the account can be done in-person but signers can go do different Bank of America branches.

Past President – Troy Brandt

- Three Year Review
 - Troy gave a quick review of his three years in ExCom. The Hatchery Wild Symposium happened under his tenure, Gary Vonderohe, Ian Tattam, and Ryan Couture pulled the presenters together. Then we hosted the AFS meeting in Portland which involved a lot of volunteers and organization. We then transitioned to a new venue at the Seaside Convention Center. Throughout these three years, we were working to be financially solvent, this included increasing registration and membership fees. ExCom created the Annual Meeting planning handbook, and updated the bylaws. There is a lot of energy



within the Chapter at the moment, and Troy hopes that we will get more recruits to ExCom from Bend meeting attendees. In the early 2000s, we started our history of winning the AFS Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award (President prepares application every year). ORAFS has a voice at AFS, where many Chapters don't so it is our responsibility to speak up and try to make changes.

- Specifically, Troy notes that there are many changes he wants to see with membership accounting, and he thinks that this should be considered by the incoming ExCom. Dan Cassidy, deputy director has heard the Western Division's frustrations with membership lists.
- Investment Account
 - We have one year of operating budget (around \$45k) in our checking account. A second year's operating budget is held in the Schwab investment account in Certificates of Deposit (CDs). Remaining funds are available for investment. Investment goals include using dividends and account appreciation (capital gains) to fund programs that meet the Chapter's mission statement. The Financial Sustainability Committee is still developing a distribution protocol to help support Chapter scholarships. . Our aim is to build the investment account so that it works like an endowment, with us only using earned interest and dividends each year.
- Hatchery/wild paper
 - There was a draft when Troy started on ExCom in Fall 2014. It went through many review cycles, and there was concern about the tone being misconstrued as hatchery negative. Troy will write a letter to go along with the white paper indicating that the document contains the latest science on a hot topic. ORAFS previously published a paper in 2001, but legislators asked us for an update on the white paper. Troy would like to vote on the final before the end of the month.
- Legislative Liaison
 - The ORAFS Legislative Liaison acts as our eyes and ears in the Capital. This year the suction dredge mining was the top priority. Troy became involved in the conservation consortium. Erik has not been highly engaged since the meeting, but it is up to ORAFS ExCom to figure out how we need to utilize him more effectively. We need to be actively involved. It is useful to have a liaison that knows how legislation works, and knows what type of bills we would be interested in. A liaison is our conduit to present to the legislature because very few ORAFS members don't have a conflict of interest with our place of employment. Troy suggested that if we did not want to go the legislative liaison route, we could partner with another organization or perhaps with ODFW. You get what you put into it with the liaison, and lacking an ORAFS-specific liaison may dilute the ORAFS message. We need to build relationships at the local levels to be apprised of more of the legislature that is coming down the pipeline. The current session extends through July and there will be a short session next year. We need to look internally to identify resources we have at the Chapter level, and give the liaison more direction. We need a year head start for ORAFS to be most effective (e.g., producing a white paper).

President Elect – Shivonne Nesbit

- 2017-18 Annual Work Plan and Budget review



- Shivonne would like to incorporate priorities from Outgoing and Incoming ExCom and make those priorities part of her Work Plan.
 - Priorities from ExCom include getting involved with the Columbia River Environmental Impact Statement, engaging with our external committees by having a signup on our website, and a database of individual committee's membership. Keeping the Legislative Liaison is important, with creating an executive summary for the legislators a possible idea.
 - Really evaluating "What do we offer as Oregon Chapter?" why should people become (or stay) members, an idea would be to send out a poll to the membership asking how we can be more useful. Continue with the excellent record keeping.
 - Continue with the momentum on revamping student organizations, perhaps having multiple subunits, we should work to improve the experience of students across the state. It is important for us to keep inviting diverse audiences. Following Robert's Rules of Order and creating a role for the Past President to be the parliamentarian for all of our meetings was suggested. Keeping the ORAFS brochure up to date is important. Would like to see the Human Diversity committee become permanent. Finalizing the Herbicides/Pesticides and Hatchery/Wild papers is important.
 - The idea of hosting a combined meeting with the marine sector in the next 5 years was brought up. Figuring out how to engage with membership better and use their strengths. Would like to brainstorm and be on the forefront of improving communication between research and managers. Perhaps we can have a message board that works on the Chapter website to poll our membership about their expertise and then aligns you into a committee, of which you can opt out of. Wants to see ExCom build efficiency and effect of the committees.
- Work Plan
 - Shivonne worked off of the strategic plan.
 - Workshops can be a good way to explore a specific topic, but should not be treated as money-making activities. Shivonne mentioned that the Human Diversity committee would like to put together a Diversity Workshop in Portland lasting for a day and a half. Other workshop proposals are genetics, climate change and reintroduction of listed species to their native range. Smaller meeting or stand-alone workshops could be held at ODFW headquarters or another free venue.
 - Added to the Workplan: ORAFS is going to run the registration of the Salvelinus confluentus Curiosity Society (ScCS) workshop through our 123Signup account. Shivonne and Katie have already spoke to the organizers.
 - Added to the Workplan: Getting people together for an External Committee campout weekend. We added \$1,500 to the budget to accommodate that weekend.
 - Idea: Develop a blog for the website.
 - Idea: Discuss broadening what the money could be used for. Perhaps we can make the award money available for teacher training in sciences or programs such as, Creeks and Kids or Salmon Watch. Or maybe another summer attendance at a fisheries-



related conference so that the school districts don't also have the substitute teacher cost.

- Action Item: Next year develop more sideboards to the Education and Outreach committee grants. (This year they were split to accommodate more award winners, but it might be more beneficial to get one large sum. We have received feedback that the teacher grant of \$500 might be too little since travel and attendance at the meeting might be cost prohibitive).
- General Discussion
 - We would like to figure out a way to pay ORAFS fees at the Annual Meeting. We need to research how we add an ORAFS membership registration option to the meeting registration menu.
 - How many people live in Oregon and are AFS members, but not ORAFS members? Compare the ORAFS membership list to the WDAFS membership list to answer that question.
 - Shivonne is a member of the Western Division committee to explore the fisheries certification and how we can make that program more useful and worthwhile. She said that some Federal jobs do have the Certified Fisheries Professional as a requirement.
 - Action item: ExCom would like to start tracking website use, so that we can find out what portions of our website are most useful. Shivonne will talk to Lora Tennant, our webmaster about doing that.
 - The Native Fish Conservation award is awarded by the Native Fish Committee and Jim Capurso. He coordinates everything within that committee and we have an agreement with him that he finds a way to fund that award himself.
 - Shivonne made a motion to make the Human Diversity committee permanent, Tony seconded.
 - Discussion: Human diversity title is confusing. Ben stated that he named the committee that originally because he didn't want it to be construed as fish diversity.
 - Shivonne withdrew original motion then amended her motion to change the name of *ad hoc* Human Diversity committee to the "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" committee. Tony seconded. No discussion; motion passed unanimously.
 - Tony made a motion to make the *ad hoc* Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee permanent, Jacob seconded; no discussion; motion passed unanimously.
 - ExCom discussed how each President should create the operating budget with what ExCom anticipates for Annual Meeting profit. . Since there is always the idea of making things bigger and better, we need to be able to support that spending. The most representative way of doing this would be to average the last three years of profit from the Annual Meeting, and use that number as the annual operating budget.
 - Action Item: Tony will include in the FSPIP document a statement about averaging the last three years of profit from the Annual Meeting as a guide for what ExCom should expect for Annual Meeting profit.



- Action Item: Shivonne and Kris will find out whether a student colloquium will be happening at the Western Division meeting. ORAFS would like to send our student representative to it, if it is happening.

President – Ben Clemens

- Thank you letters to outgoing ExCom employers are being sent.
- Coastal Cutthroat Trout Symposia idea/proposal
 - ORAFS has been asked to help run, organize and provide help to publish proceeding from this symposium.
 - This symposium was also held in 1995 and 2005, and was attended by approximately 100 participants.
 - ExCom was confused about what is actually being asked, and whether it can be rolled into being part of the Wild Trout Symposium, or a 2-day workshop associated with our Annual Meeting.
 - Action Item: Ben will follow up with Kitty Griswold (one of the organizers) and bring more information to the next ExCom meeting.
- WDAFS and AFS (Tampa meeting) donation requests will be discussed on the April ExCom call.

External Director – Cory Sipher

- Action Item: Cory will prepare a summary of what external committees have asked for what budget in the last few years.

Student Representative - Jacob Peterson

- New initiatives
 - The OSU Fish and Wildlife Club will be revising their website, and issuing a new quarterly newsletter in the near future. The newsletter is designed to keep ExCom up to date with Club events and the newsletter will serve as a template for of the Club's quarterly contribution to the Piscatorial Press.
 - Action Item: Jacob will send ExCom the newsletter and website link for ExCom to review.
 - The Club will be trying to reach out to the e-Campus and OSU-Cascades students by including video and audio files of meetings on the Club's website.
- Election for Leadership Team positions
 - The election period is from May 3rd until May 10th.
 - Three candidates so far, two of which will be sophomores next year.
 - We suggested the subunit move elections to better align with the Spring Retreat. Next year elections will be held in December so the student liaison-elect can attend the Spring Retreat, and during Spring term, the two (liaison and incumbent) could be working together to create a smooth transition.
 - The subunit is also making an effort to continue meetings during the summer term as a leadership team. They would like to participate in our monthly ExCom calls.



Sunday April 9th

8:21 Call to order

Miscellaneous Updates

- Shivonne is going to Western Division meeting in Missoula and AFS meeting in Tampa.
- Action Item: Tony will correct the error in the financial statement.
- Action Item: Outgoing ExCom should go into their email accounts and clean out their inboxes.
- Spamming of officer emails
 - Spamming has been acted on at the AFS level, and there have been a lot of attempts at our level. They are smart targeted spams.
 - Tony and Mike Meeuwig (former webmaster) have been working on an interface to send an email through the website, which could reduce the spam.
 - Deleting the treasurer email from the website it likely to reduce the majority of the spam.
 - Action Item: Shivonne will ask Lora Tennant (current webmaster) if there is a way to get our emails into a Gmail interface.
- Expense Claims
 - ExCom should always keep your receipts and send them with your expense claim. Tony reminds everyone to also send your address, so that the Treasurer can get the check to you.

Internal Director – Gary Vonderohe

- 2018 Annual Meeting in Eugene, Oregon: March 13-16,2018
 - All the current contract information is on the Google Drive. Gary has started a budget to be finished by Kris and Katie. Jacob Youngblood is our contact at the Eugene Hilton.
 - Action Item: Gary will introduce Kevin Stertz to Jacob Youngblood.
 - “Prices may change.” Clause in the contract should be discussed and Kevin should get numbers in September that doesn’t change so that we can build our budget. AV materials and service changes are usually where you have to keep a close eye on things so we don’t get overcharged.
 - There is maybe space for 20 vendors. Vendor spaces are located in the hallway, the layout should be reviewed prior to soliciting vendors.
 - Action Item: Kevin will send a Doodle poll, so that we can all get the fall retreat on our calendars.
 - Action Item: Kevin will figure out whether the Hilton is correct in their belief that you need to bring the kegs in immediately and take them back immediately when you are done.
 - Room block was not tracked well in the past. We need to make it very clear that everyone who signs up asks to be in the American Fisheries Society block. We currently have 20 rooms reserved for Monday, 75 for Tuesday, 150 for Wednesday and Thursday. Tuesday was the night that we needed to add more rooms this year at the Riverhouse. For every 50 rooms occupied we get one complimentary room (which is used to “pay” for ExCom, Plenary, and/or student rooms).
 - Action Item: Kevin should talk to the Hilton, specifically about the room block reminding them that that was a bad experience last time.



- Tapping and corkage fees are expensive (\$250 tapping and \$25 corkage), which means that we need to try to get as many donations as we can. There is also a \$500 minimum at the cash bar, if we decide to go that route.
- Future ORAFS Annual Meetings
 - Currently our meeting format is restrictive of the venue size we need. Our plenary session, lunch and banquet are what limit the number of venues that can accommodate the Annual Meeting. Some venues we could look into include: Ashland, Sunriver Resort, Seaside, Corvallis OSU, Salem Convention Center, Wild Horse Casino, and Eastern Oregon University.
 - If we change our format and take the banquet offsite, we would need to arrange transportation.
 - If we move the Annual Meeting location around the state, we capture more people. But currently, we are limited in our format.
 - Action Item: Kevin will need to book a venue for the 2019 meeting this summer.

Bend Meeting Review

- Thank you cards
 - Raffle/ Auction thank you cards have gone out, as well as, sponsorship/vendors thank you cards.
- Poll
 - Action Item: Results are not yet available but when they are Shivonne will share with ExCom.
- Conference Attendance
 - Doesn't matter what conference it was, there was an increase with all conference attendance this year. Can we tie in workshops from federal agencies in with the Annual Meeting, to keep attendance high?
- Sponsorships
 - Start asking at the beginning of September, once you have your theme and your logo. Ask early and often.
 - Troy volunteered to help talk to some of the construction companies.
- Action item: Add some of the lessons learned from the Bend meeting to the handbook.
- Action Item: Shannon will start looking for an auctioneer right now, and make sure we get on their calendar.
- Outstanding Expenses
 - Troy has to buy covers for the cornhole boards (\$150).
- Fee Waiver Policy
 - Action Item: Tony will be adding some edits and then the incoming ExCom should look at it, and edit additionally, as needed.
- Lessons learned
 - If you can, push the band set-up time to be sooner so we don't lose people while the band sets up.
 - Consider cornhole being in the same room as the band.
 - Make sure sponsors and vendors know they have to pay extra for the dinner.
 - Figure out what to do about food allergies with the catering (if there is anything to do).
 - Put fee waiver policy right on the registration page.



- Continue to set the bar high and get sponsorships and donations at a high level.

2018 Eugene Meeting Preview (Kris Homel)

- Program theme ideas
 - Fisheries science and management in a changing climate which will bring in science communication and integrity, capacity building. Changing climate can also mean political climate.
 - Another thought Kris had was Water in the West, a theme that would deal with temperature and hatchery influence, but upon reflection, she thinks that would make a good session.
- Logo contest
 - Winner gets bragging rights.
- Workshop Ideas
 - Quantitative (population modeling, ArcGIS, program MARK, or R), proposal writing, multi-media tools and science communication, speed talk workshop that would then be translated into a session on the last day of the conference
- Symposium abstracts
 - Kris wants to solicit symposium abstracts like they do at the AFS meeting. The organizer then would be responsible for getting the speakers.
- Action item: Shivonne will add the Excel program puzzling sheet (that fits talks into timeslots) to the Annual Meeting handbook.

Parting words from outgoing ExCom

Always remember we have a mission. We have a very diverse membership and you are here to represent the Chapter. In the last few years, we have been focused on tightening up our finances, we have a mission that is fisheries and aquatic resources based; it isn't all about the money but we need to be financially stable in order to operate. We currently looking at ways to reinvest some of our recent financial gains back into the membership and students while leaving some of that money to grow and keep the Chapter solvent. We talk about legacy a lot, you can look back at the history of the Chapter, look at the people who have been involved, and it is a privilege to be involved with that line of outgoing ExCom. Don't take anything for granted, we have to compete for the Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award every year. A lot goes into the application, it is tough to keep making it better, but it is necessary. We are financially stable right now, but that, too, can't be taken for granted.

10:30 Troy made a motion to adjourn, Tony seconded.