

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE HERPETOLOGISTS' LEAGUE

WESTIN CROWN CENTER, KANSAS CITY, MO (USA)
7 July, 2002

President Dodd called the meeting to order at 1800 h. He introduced new board members: Henry Mushinsky, President-Elect; William Cooper, Maureen Kearney and Rafael de Sa, Councilors; Tom Jenssen, Editor of *Herpetologica*; Lee Fitzgerald, Editor *Herpetological Monographs*; Chris Beachy, Editor HL Communications.

Treasurer Sievert reported that HL started the fiscal year with \$180,000 and ended with \$218,000. Presently, there is \$69,000 in the endowment fund and \$20,000 in book fund. The society has 921 individual and 494 institutional members. Regular member dues barely cover the cost of publications. Members are encouraged to request having HL Communications send electronically. Approximately 200 individuals per year send dues late resulting in higher mailing costs of individual issues. Megan Kearney, the Treasurer's Assistant was introduced. There was discussion about the advisability of automatically charging annual dues to credit cards of consenting members.

Tom Jenssen reported on the status of *Herpetologica*. He thanked the Associate Editors and Darla Donald, the Editor's Assistant. He will be attempting to reduce the backlog of papers in press by adding 10 pages per issue, reducing the number of pages devoted to society business, and encouraging authors to format figures to more readily fit into one column.

Linda Ford reported for the Jaeger Award Committee. She announced that Lora Smith would chair the committee next year. This year's judges were Linda Ford, Julian Lee and Meredith Mahoney. This year's winner was Christopher Sheil (University of Kansas) for his paper "Developmental morphology of turtles." An honorable mention was awarded to Thomas Devitt (Louisiana State University) for his paper "Testing the hypothesis of multiple lineages within *Trimorphodon biscutatus* using morphometric and mitochondrial DNA sequence data." The other four finalists were K. D. Bowen (Central Michigan University), C. R. Hickman (Southwest Missouri State University), M. Morando (Brigham Young University), and E. D. Prosen (University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Finalists received \$200, 10 years of *Herpetologica*, and were treated to dinner. The honorable mentioned was accompanied by 10 additional years of *Herpetologica*. The winner received all available back issues of *Herpetologica* and \$300 more.

Dodd announced several items of business from the Board of Trustees meeting of 3 January 2002. Most of this can be found in the minutes of that meeting. He announced that Bruce Kingsbury would be the new Chair of the Conservation Committee. In response to the Graduate Student Committee, HL will continue its workshop series at future meetings. The committee will submit more recommendations.

Mushinsky reported for the Membership Committee. Future activity may include developing a mission statement, investigating the merits of having HL “fellows”, publishing notes in *Herpetologica*, and increasing our attention to conservation biology.

Dodd read four resolutions that were approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION TO APPRECIATE SERVICE

WHEREAS the following HL officers, editors, and committee chairs have completed their terms in office or resigned, and

WHEREAS the HL wishes to express its heartfelt appreciation for their professional service to the society,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of HL, meeting July 3-8 in Kansas City, Missouri, congratulates these officers, editors, and committee chairs, and wishes them continued success in research and service to the herpetological community.

Aaron Bauer	President
Mo Donnelly	Secretary
Brian Crother	Editor <i>Herpetological Monographs</i>
Alicia Mathis	Editor HL Communications
Jan Caldwell	Councilor
Darrell Frost	Councilor
Ellen Censky	Councilor
Henry Mushinsky	Conservation Committee
Linda Ford	Jaeger Award Committee

RESOLUTION FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

WHEREAS the Canadian Species at Risk Act (Bill C-5) has recently passed the House of Commons and is currently before the Senate, and

WHEREAS upon proclamation of the bill into law, 48 species of amphibians and reptiles (as well as 78 species of fishes) in Canada will receive protection as species at risk under law at the federal level,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Herpetologists' League expresses its endorsement to the government of Canada for the passage of the Species at Risk Act and its optimism that the law will have a positive effect protecting species at risk in Canada.

RESOLUTION FOR MAUREEN DONNELLY

WHEREAS the production of the annual meeting program and book of abstracts for the 82nd Annual Meeting at Kansas City, Missouri involved gathering, losing, partially locating, extending the deadline, re-calling for abstracts, regathering, sorting 17 times in multiple ways, compiling, spell-checking for lazy authors, editing basic sentence structure, tearing hair out, processing 1690

email messages solely related to abstract submission, and otherwise devoting significant amounts of time and brainpower to computer science and personnel management instead of the scholarly pursuits of herpetological research and teaching, and
WHEREAS such efforts resulted in a magnificent Program and Book of Abstracts with extremely handy “daily program guide” included at no extra cost, and
WHEREAS Maureen Donnelly, Secretary of ASIH, completed the monumental task, and had the abstracts posted on the website by 17 April, and
WHEREAS it is our astonishment that Mo, unbelievably, has offered to continue to produce the annual meeting programs in perpetuity,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the joint meeting of ASIH, SSAR, and HL meeting at Kansas City, Missouri from 3-8 July 2002, does hereby express its deep appreciation to Dr. Donnelly and her associates for her tireless efforts in producing the program, and more so for facilitating much improved abstract submission for all future meetings. Thank you, Mo!!!

RESOLUTION ON THE LOCAL COMMITTEE

WHEREAS the Local Committee and Meeting Management Committee have made these meetings come together, and
WHEREAS they somehow organized a joint meeting of AES, ASIH, HL, and SSAR in a confusing situation where they were hosted by Kansas University, but run by Kansas State University, in a town called Kansas City... which is in fact in Missouri, and
WHEREAS 21 students, recruited from Canada to Mexico, assisted at the sessions or 20 others, including an undergraduate contingent from Avilla College, assisted at registration,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we gratefully thank them all, including the titular Local Committee consisting of Ed Wiley, Dick Robins, Linda Treub, Andy Bentley, Keita Guido, David Edds and Bob Powell,
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that none of this would have happened without the help of KU Program Coordinators Sharon Brookshire, Jan Hudziki, Cara Davis and Rebecca Frakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 1904 pm.