

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Herpetologists' League

8 July 2016

New Orleans Marriott, Balconies J & K, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

David Green called the meeting to order at 18:02 CT.

1) 2015 Business Meeting minutes – John Herman

John Herman – Asked for any changes or discussion to the 2015 Business and Board of Trustees Meeting minutes as published in the December edition of *Herpetologica*. No discussion.

- *Jim Spotila moved to accept, Stan Trauth seconded*

The vote was unanimously affirmative.

2) 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting February 2016 – John Herman

John Herman – HL is now officially contracted with Christy Classi

- David Green – Breck Bartholomew was getting out of the business so we contacted Allen Press and Christy Classi for membership management services and we accepted Christy. The transition should be seamless to the membership.
- John Herman – presented the following changes to the By-laws:
 - o Officially appoint a Liaison to the other societies
 - o Change the Graduate Award Committee to just Student Award Committee
 - o Change the Archives Committee to reflect any past president can serve as Chair
 - o Officially recognize the EE Williams Award Committee as a standing committee
 - o Create a new standing committee for the Semlitsch Award
- *David Green moved to accept, Aliko Panagopoulou seconded*

The vote was unanimously affirmative.

3) 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting JMIH 2016 – John Herman

John Herman – The BoT voted to set up a Service Award to the profession.

- David Green – This would be for editors, chairs, society leaders, etc. to the profession not just the society.

John Herman – The BoT discussed setting up an endowment to cover color page charges in the HL journals

- Steve Mullin – Right now there is a \$450 color charge, this mostly impacts systematics papers, we could do 100% of all pages, or just those dealing with systematics, or leave it simply to the editor’s discretion

4) **Meeting Management and Planning Committee report – David Green**

David Green – 2017 is in Austin, AES will not be there. 2018 will be in Rochester, New York. SSAR will meet on their own every 5th year on the 0’s and 5’s. HL could then choose to meet with SSAR or ASIH in those years

5) **Long Range Planning and Membership report – Dave Sever**

John Herman – 75th meeting committee has been formed. Daycare at the JMIH committee has been formed. We are trying to increase membership. One solution is to reduce membership costs.

- Al Savitzky – ASIH voted to pursue a collaboration that would result in an economy of scale, maybe an umbrella organization that would house all the societies together. This is not a new idea but now it has been formally proposed. There is recent precedent set by the ornithological societies, their memberships wanted to have a single community.

- o David Green – The society presidents met and discussed this same topic. The HL would benefit the most because we are the smallest society.

- *Al Savitzky proposed that HL pursue a collaborative joint structure with as many of the other JMIH societies as possible, Steve Mullin seconded. Discussion followed with mainly positive comments.*

David Green called a vote and it passed unanimously

6) **Williams Award Committee report – Ann Paterson**

Ann Paterson – recognized any attending winners.

7) **Graduate Research Award Committee report – Marty Crump**

Marty Crump – Announced the 2016 award winners, there were 20 students that competed.

- The 4th runner up – Noelikanto Ramamonjisoa
- The 3rd runner-up – Nassima Bouzid
- The 2nd runner-up – Evan Eskew
- The 1st runner-up – Nicholas Caruso
- The winner – Kristin Winchell

8) **New Business**

Jim Spotila – Treasurer’s report?

- David Green – we are in the black we profited \$28,000.

Chelsea Clyde-Brockway – We have the student calendars, which are free to the HL student members. The rest we can sell at the Allen Press booth.

Steve Mullin – Both journals are in good health. They have the highest impact factor and shortest turnaround time. So I encourage the students to submit their work. Please take a look at the Author’s instructions.

Rob Lovich – Maybe plan some kid activities at the next JMIH.

Meeting adjourned at 18:56 CT.