

Board Meeting of the 35th Annual Sea Turtle Symposium

Date: 21 April 2015

Dalaman, Turkey

President's Overview

Yakup Kaska received good support from the Turkish government to run the Symposium. He achieved the mission of raising sea turtle issues at the highest levels possible in Turkey. Participation at the Symposium was estimated to be about 650 attendees.

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee's report will be discussed at the Board's annual meeting in August. Yakup Kaska highlighted the new voting system with individualized codes.

Student Committee

The Chair of the Student Committee, Itzel Sifuentes, described the activities planned for the Symposium. This presentation was subsequently shared with the membership at Plenary.

Travel Committee

Alex Gaos presented allocations of travel grants this year, which were subsequently shared with the membership at Plenary.

Student Awards

The Co-Chair of the Committee, Andrea Phillott, provided details on the number of judges and student posters and oral presentations at the 2015 Symposium.

Grassroots Awards

The Chair of the Grassroots Awards Committee, Ingrid Yanez, gave an update on the new procedures implemented this year—like the Archie Carr Award, interested candidates were required to sign up on the registration page and indicate why they qualified for the award. The Grassroots Award will be discussed in greater detail at the Board's annual meeting in August.

Awards Committee

The Chair, Sally Murphy, had circulated her report to the Board prior to the meeting. The Board approved the report.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Terry Meyer, provided an update on the financial status of the ISTS, which was subsequently presented at Plenary.

IT

Ways to update and modernize the Society's IT needs were discussed by the Board and an IT Committee established to look into it in greater depth.

Membership

The Board continued its discussion on how to improve and increase the Society's membership.

2016 Symposium

Joanna Alfaro presented the details of the 2016 Symposium in Peru. A similar presentation was done at Plenary.

Members in attendance: Ana Barragán, Cynthia Lagueux, Terry Meyer, Alejandro Fallabrino, Aliko Panagopoulou, George Balazs, Ray Carthy, Yakup Kaska, Emma Harrison, Jesus Tomas, Manjula Tiwari, Joanna Alfaro, Mariana Fuentes, Alan Rees, Paolo Casale, and Roldán Valverde.

Observers: Ingrid Yanez, Alex Gaos, Andrea Phillott, Itzel Sifuentes.