

**Board Meeting of the 26th Annual Sea Turtle Symposium  
April 5 (7:00 pm) and 6 (12:30 pm), 2006  
Capsis Hotel, Crete, Greece.**

**Student Awards**

For the first time there was an equal contribution to the both the Biology and Conservation categories. Twenty-one judges helped with the Student Awards. Some of the issues that need to be addressed in the future include problems with parallel sessions because judges have to move between rooms, technical difficulties with the website, as well as lack of translation and disadvantages for non-English speaking students.

**Treasurer's report**

Ed Drane presented the expenses and income of the ISTS. There was some discussion about whether a Symposium in the United States makes more money. It was suggested that this may depend on the number of Americans present, but apparently 70% of the attendees are Americans when the Symposium is in the USA and 60% when it is elsewhere.

**Resolutions**

All four submitted Resolutions were discussed, edited, and accepted by the Board to present at Plenary.

**Travel Committee**

The Travel Committee received \$53,000 from several funding sources and \$39,000 went to cash grants and \$14,000 as room grants. Attendance from Africa was highlighted this year—there were 28 grantees from 19 countries; they received the highest amount of funding which was supplemented by the Chelonian Research Institute and the Marine Conservation Society. No cash grants were given to US/Canadian students, only room grants.

**Resolutions Task Force**

Importance of Resolutions and greater transparency and efficiency in the Resolution's process were discussed. A new Resolutions Committee was formed: Kartik Shanker, Jack Frazier, Jeff Seminoff, and Sali Bache. The Board authorized the Resolutions Committee to create a document to improve the Resolutions process.

**Nominations**

The slate of nominees for the 4 open positions were presented to the Board; twenty-six nominations had been sent in. The pros and cons of the new nominations process were discussed. The process and the details are now outlined on the ISTS web and members were invited to provide input. The role of the Nominations Committee was also discussed and it was recommended that the voting be done online so that everyone could vote before the Plenary.

**Board's Annual retreat**

There was some discussion on the pros and cons of the Board's mid-year annual retreat. It was decided that the retreat would remain unchanged, at least for this year.

**Modifications to the By-laws and Constitution**

The most recent modifications in the By-laws and Constitution, which incorporated comments by some of the ISTS members, were discussed and accepted by the Board.

*Members in attendance: Thane Wibbels, Nicolas Pilcher, Hedelvy Guada, Ed Drane, Manjula Tiwari, Michael Coyne, Dimitris Margaritoulis, Rod Mast, Nancy FitzSimmons, Jeff Seminoff, Lisa Campbell, Brendan Godley, Kartik Shanker, and Clara Padilla*  
*Observers: Hoyt Peckham, Anders Rhodin, Jack Frazier, Todd Steiner, Marydele Donnelly, Sali Bache, and Matthew Godfrey*