

**Plenary Session of the  
28<sup>th</sup> Annual Sea Turtle  
Symposium**

**January 25, 2008  
Time: 4.20 pm**

Meeting called by:  
Michael Coyne

Type of meeting: **> 100 people**  
Plenary Session

Note taker:  
Manjula Tiwari

**Agenda**

Treasurer's report	Ed Drane
Travel Committee Report	Hoyt Peckham
Board Chair	J. Nichols
Awards	Nancy FitzSimmons
Nominations	Dave Owens
29 <sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium	Colin Limpus

**Additional Information**

Special notes:

**Agenda**

**Treasurer**

**Ed Drane**

**4.20 pm**

Drane goes through the categories in the Treasurer's report and highlights the extraordinary income at last year's auction, the increase in net assets, the total Symposium expense, the operating expenses of which a large amount went to support the Board retreat and publications (MTN and IOTN).

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>CHECKING 06</b>	<b>CHECKING 07</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
AUCTION		\$22,608.30	\$22,608.30	LESS CR
DONATIONS/GRANTS	\$36,500.00	\$78,797.00	\$115,297.00	
INTEREST		\$74.34	\$74.34	
REGISTRATION/SALES	\$250.00	\$186,685.96	\$186,935.96	LESS WE
CREDITS		\$3,551.78	\$3,551.78	EMBASSY
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$36,750.00</b>	<b>\$291,717.38</b>	<b>\$328,467.38</b>	

**SYMPOSIUM EXPENSES**

AUDIO VISUAL		?		NOT IN H
ENTERTAINMENT		\$2,500.00		
POSTER DISPLAYS		\$2,520.00		
FOOD & BEVERAGE		\$103,947.15		
INTERNET SERVICES		\$917.40		
MISCELLANEOUS		\$213.97		
PARTICIPANT GIFTS		\$18,990.56		INCLUDE
PRINTING		\$15,240.66		COSTS
REFUNDS		\$906.18		
SECURITY		\$540.00		
SIGN LANGUAGE		\$825.00		
STUDENT AWARDS		\$2,750.00		
SUPPLIES		\$48.67		
SYMPOSIUM COORDINATOR		\$2,979.83		
T-SHIRTS		\$6,277.13		
TRANSLATION SERVICES		\$22,960.00		
TRAVEL GRANTS		\$86,736.92		
<b>TOTAL SYMPOSIUM</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$268,353.47</b>		

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

ACCOUNTANT		\$4,000.00	NOT PAID IN 2
BANK CHARGES		\$300.79	
BOD MEETING 2007		\$14,681.44	NCTC NOT PA
POSTAGE/PO BOX		\$66.02	
PUBLICATIONS (MTN) (IUTN)		\$8,000.00	TO BE PAID IN
TREASURER'S SUPPORT		\$2,231.73	
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	\$0.00	\$29,279.98	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$0.00	\$297,633.45	

**INCOME VS EXPENSES SYM** \$60,113.91  
**INCOME VS EXPENSES TOTAL** \$30,833.93

Nick Pilcher: Motion to accept the Treasurer's report  
Wibbels: Seconds  
Motion passes unanimously

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Travel Chair's report**

**Hoyt Peckham**

**4.25 pm**

Peckham went through the travel budget, which funded young scientists and students, and he acknowledged the Chairs of the different regions. The travel grants this year totaled \$50,500 (cash and rooms) for 200 people from 7 regions. Peckham listed and thanked the many sponsors.

J. Nichols: Motion to accept the Travel Chair's report  
Matthew Godfrey: Seconds  
Motion passes unanimously.

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Board Chair**

**J. Nichols**

**4.30 pm**

Nichols explained the Board Chair position (the Terms of Reference are available online) and a question and answer session followed.

The points raised and discussed were:

- Hiring of an Executive Officer: No Executive Officer has been hired. Elena Finkbeiner has been hired to maintain contact with the sponsors and help with fund raising.
- Inclusion of this position in the By-Laws: This has not been done because this is an Interim position.
- Potential confusion between roles of the President and the Chair: There are Terms of Reference for each position clarifying the roles.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Awards****Nancy FitzSimmons****4.44 pm**

FitzSimmons explained the awards scheme (available on the ISTS website) and opened the floor for discussions.

The points raised and discussed were:

- Difficulty with identifying a candidate every year for the lifetime achievement award: It was pointed out that this award does not have to be given every year.
- Establishing transparency in the process.

Nancy FitzSimmons: Motion to accept the awards scheme

Peter Pritchard: Seconds.

Motion passes.

FitzSimmons goes through the associated changes in the By-Laws and Constitution.

The points raised and discussed were:

- The definition of the word “slate”: It was felt that the wording was such that it appeared that the vote would be on the slate and not the nominees. “Slate” was removed.
- Appointment of the Nominating Chair: The President appoints the Chair from among the members who are in their second year on the Nominating Committee.

Lisa Campbell: Motion to accept changes to the By-Laws and Constitution

Matthew Godfrey: seconds.

Motion passes.

**Nominations****Owens****5.00 pm**

Owens acknowledges the other members of the Nominating Committee: Scott Eckert, Alberto Abreu, Aliko Panagopoulou, and Felix Moncada. He explained the online voting procedures and provided the results of the online voting:

Board of directors: Scott Eckert and Didier Chacon.

Nominating Committee: Annette Broderick and Jeanette Wyneken

The other officers elected were:

President: Kartik Shanker

Treasurer: Ed Drane

Secretary: Manjula Tiwari

Owens explained the President-Elect selection—online 263 accepted, 20 abstained, and 7 were opposed. Questions that followed centered around how the President-Elect is selected and what criteria are used. Nichols explained that the Board evaluates the Presidential nominees and location and the impact the Symposium might have—there is no formal set of criteria, and Board members

vote on all the nominees; President-Elect proposals would be posted online. More transparency in the selection of the President and the Board's decision was requested. Multiple Presidential nominees for the membership to vote on was suggested and will be discussed at the Board retreat—one concern about adopting this was that members would vote on the country and not the President. Coyne pointed out that the Board represents the membership and is elected by the membership.

Members were encouraged to bring their questions/concerns to the Board.

## **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium**

**Colin Limpus**

**~5.30 pm**

- Location: Brisbane, Australia.
- Venue: the Brisbane Convention Center.
- Hotels: Several within walking distance.
- Dates: Regional meetings 14-16 February and the main Symposium 17-19 February.
- Regional meetings: Some more regions will be included. Ideas for regional meeting are welcome.
- Other meetings: Freshwater turtle and IUCN Red list.
- Registration begins 1 April 2008.
- This Symposium will have its own website.
- Field trips will coincide with hatchling emergence. For flatbacks there is Curtis island, for loggerheads Mon Repos, and for greens Heron Island. Volunteers from Queensland will help at each site.
- Members are encouraged to take the koala that was distributed at the Loreto symposium on trips and send in postcards for the website.
- A video on the Great Barrier Reef is shown.

## **Additional Information**

Matthew Godfrey: Move to close the Plenary.

Nick Pilcher: Seconds.

Meeting adjourned at ~5.50 pm