

# The Education Section of the American Fisheries Society Newsletter

Summer Edition Volume 40: Issue 2

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Reno Business Meeting Agenda → 3
- Student & Early Career Professionals Subsection Update → 4
- Subunit Updates → 5
- Upcoming Meetings → 9
- 2018 Business Meeting Notes → 11
- Upcoming Symposia → 17

## Presidents Line By: Mark Fincel

Ahoy from South Dakota. The spring and summer have come and gone, and I hope everyone was able to get out and enjoy the fisheries available to you. In South Dakota, the spring and summer were a whirlwind of storms and floods. Unfortunately, the fall has started the same way with additional flooding throughout most of the state. We have lost many small fisheries over the last few years as flood waters topped dams or filled them with silt. Many of these small fisheries are in rural areas and are important to their local anglers. Unfortunately, these weather events are becoming more frequent and of greater magnitude. When 100-year floods occur yearly, it is hard to deny the change in global weather patterns.

After 9 years, it is still a little weird when the interns and graduate students leave for the school year and the office feels somewhat empty. But soon, we will have the anxious anticipation of training new interns and seasonals and working with new and returning graduate students on their respective projects. Bring on the spring!



My time as the Education Section president is coming to an end as I pass the reins to Trent Sutton at this year's annual meeting in Reno. As always, I hope everyone can attend the AFS national meeting as it is shaping up to be a great one. The Education Section business meeting will be held on Sunday September 29<sup>th</sup>, in the Atlantis Hotel room Emerald B/C from 4:30-6:30 PM. The Excom has assembled a draft agenda for the meeting and that draft is included in this newsletter. Also, in the newsletter are the announcements for 3 Education Section sponsored symposia that I would recommend. The Student and Early Career Professionals Subsection is hosting "Casting a wider net: increasing stakeholder communication and collaboration as an early career scientist", the Education Section is hosting a symposium "Fisheries and Wildlife Education: Needed Competencies, Current Pedagogy, and Distance Learning", and the Education Section will

again be running the Best Student Presentation Symposia. Unfortunately, all three of these symposia overlap on Monday – an unfortunate scheduling oversight. Nonetheless, I hope to see all of you in one of these symposia!

Also, in this newsletter, you will find some great updates from student subunits from Rutgers, Montana State, and Oregon State. As always, I implore each of you to support our student subunits whenever possible. The 3<sup>rd</sup> international catfish 2020 symposium will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, in February 2020, and you can find the information for the meeting in this newsletter.

Finally, I want to send off one last picture of my son holding his first Smallmouth Bass. He did get poked by a spine and he found a new respect for some of our fish species 😊. In my parting message, I still ask that each of you take the time to take a youth out and show them our passion! See you in Reno.

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## Education Section and Student Activities in Reno:

### **Saturday, September 28**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Workshops and Continuing Education Courses

### **Sunday, September 29**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Workshops and Continuing Education Courses

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM Education Section Annual Business Meeting: Atlantis, Emerald B/C

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM Welcome to Reno Opening Night Networking Event RSCC Entrance and Front Patio

### **Monday, September 30**

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM AFS Hutton Oversight Committee Meeting: Atlantis, Emerald B/C

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM Trade Show and Poster Networking Event: RSCC, Hall 2

### **Tuesday, October 1**

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Best Student Paper Luncheon: Atlantis, Treasures D

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM Student and Early Career Professional Subsection Business Meeting: RSCC, D1

7:30 PM – 10:00 PM Student-Professional Networking Event: Peppermill, Tuscany

### **Wednesday, October 2**

6:00 AM – 8:00 AM Spawning Run and Carcass Crawl

3:20 PM – 5:00 PM AFS Business Meeting: RSCC, Hall 5

7:30 PM – 9:30PM Associated Networking Events and Receptions: Atlantis Hotel

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The Education Section of AFS

*The American Fisheries Society*

Annual Business Meeting Agenda  
September 29, 2019; Reno, NV (4:30-6:30pm)  
Atlantis Hotel, Room: Atlantis/EmeraldB/C

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- I. Welcome
- II. Introduction of Guests
- III. Comments by AFS Officers in attendance
- IV. Determination of a Quorum
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Approval of Minutes from 2018 Business Meeting
- VII. Treasurer's Report (Marty Hamel)
- IX. Committee Reports
  - a) Newsletter (Seth Fopma)
  - b) Web Page (Kayla Key)
  - c) Excellence in Fisheries Education Award (Trent Sutton)
  - d) Skinner Award (Julie Harris)
  - e) Best Student Paper-Poster 2017 Awardees (Trent Sutton)
  - f) Best Student Paper-Poster 2018 Symposia (Trent Sutton)
  - g) Early Career Professional Awardees (Dan Weaver, Erin Peterson)
  - h) Membership & Early Career Professional Committee (Dan Weaver, Erin Peterson)
  - i) Undergraduate Travel Award (Dan Weaver, Erin Peterson, Heather Stewart)
  - j) Nominating (Katie Bertrand-Graeb)
  - k) Experiential Learning Committee (Amanda Rosenberger, Mike Barnes)
  - l) Education Section Sponsored Webinar Series (Andrew Carlson, Hadley Boehm)
  - m) AFS Student Writing Contest (Katie Bertrand-Graeb)
- X. Additional Reports
  - a) Student Subsection (Lisa Izzo)
- XI. Out-going Division Representatives and Officers (Mark Fincel)
- XII. President Comments and new Division Representatives Installment (Trent Sutton)
- XVI. Funding Requests
  - a) Steve Midway – Book Funding  
Methods for Fish Biology, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition  
Need \$15k to publish, Education Section to gain 50% of royalties for fully funding or 25% of royalties for partially funding
  - b) Jim Lamers – Sponsorship for Catfish 2020  
\$2,500 for additional funding to match last years \$2,500 in support of Catfish 2020
  - c) Mary Webb Banning – Hutton donation  
\$2,500 to support the Hutton Program
- XVII. Other Business
  - a) Group discussion – Input wanted
    - 1. Business meeting overlap with several sections/socials
      - i. Propose Day/Time change for meeting?
      - ii. Possibly follow student subsection meeting on Tuesday afternoon?
    - 2. BSP applicants on steady decline – Discuss future of the award
      - i. Other presentation competitions at national meeting (W. Div., other sections)
      - ii. Keep in Education Section? Or refer to meeting program chair?
- XVIII. Adjournment

# Student & Early Career Professionals Subsection Update

By: Lisa Izzo

President, Student & Early Career Professionals Subsection of the Education Section

The Student & Early Career Professionals Subsection is getting excited for Reno! This year we are hosting a symposium titled *Casting a Wider Net: Increasing Stakeholder Communication and Collaboration as an Early Career Scientist*, which will focus on presentations that address collaborative research, management, and outreach initiatives specifically by students and early career professionals. We have a full day of great talks for the session, which will take place on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm in Reno-Sparks Convention Center Room A17. We hope to see you there! Additionally, the Subsection Business Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> from 3:30 to 4:30 pm in Reno-Sparks Convention Center Room D1. We encourage all students and early career professionals to attend.

This summer members of the Subsection continued our partnership to serve as AFS Pen Pals to students participating in the Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program. Over 50 students and early career professionals signed up to get in touch with one of the 30 Hutton Scholars during the summer to talk with them about their career paths, current and past research, and their summer internship experiences. It has been a great experience for both the Hutton Scholars and the AFS Pen Pals.

We once again received over 20 applications for the Undergraduate Travel Assistance Award. It was a tough decision with so many qualified applicants, but we are excited to recognize Kasey Cordova (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo), Hayley Mapes (UC Santa Cruz), Tommy Johnson (Tarleton State University), and Bethany Wager (West Virginia University) as the award winners this year in Reno. If you see them at the meeting, please say hello and welcome them to AFS!

In the next few weeks we will be opening the call for nominations for the Subsection Executive Committee for the coming year. *Candidates needed for the Subsection include President-Elect (2-year position; one as President Elect followed by one as President), Secretary-Treasurer, and Division Representatives (i.e., North Central, Northeastern, Southern, Western, Canadian). Both students and early career professional members are eligible for these positions. Stay tuned for the announcement via our email list. If you have any questions about elections, please contact me (lisa.k.izzo@uvm.edu) and our soon to be President Heather Stewart (hadar.stewart@gmail.com)!*

If you want to stay up to date with what we are up to and announcements that are relevant to student and early career professionals in AFS, don't forget to follow us on Twitter (@AFS\_Students), Facebook (AFS Education – Student & Early Career Professionals Subsection), and subscribe to the news from our website (<https://students.fisheries.org/>).



# Subunit Updates

## Rutgers Subunit

By: Jessica Valenti and Sarah Borsetti

Students at Rutgers University created a subunit within the MidAtlantic Chapter (MAC) of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in the fall of 2017. Fisheries graduate and undergraduate students at Rutgers are based out of various locations throughout New Jersey, so the Subunit has helped foster interactions between students with a common interest in fisheries science while also providing an avenue for students to discuss important fisheries topics and participate in professional development activities.

In August 2018, 148th Annual Meeting of AFS took place in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It isn't often a meeting with international reach visits your home turf and the Rutgers Subunit took advantage of this opportunity to get involved with meeting planning and execution.

Over 1,800 participants attended the Annual Meeting in Atlantic City and roughly 490 were students, surpassing the previous record for most students attending an Annual Meeting. Subunit past President, Jessica Valenti, led the charge for the student events at the meeting with the assistance of Subunit past Vice President, Sarah Borsetti. While Rutgers Subunit Advisor, Daphne Munroe, organized the phenomenal meeting program. Additionally, Subunit member, Joe Caracappa, helped to lead a workshop which introduced fisheries scientists to the basics of the R programming language and Sarah Borsetti cotaught a crash course in ageing and age validation of finfish and shellfish. Both workshops were well attended and participants rated the overall quality of the workshops very highly.

The Subunit has also hosted various activities and workshops. In April 2018, The Subunit planned the first ever joint meeting of the Rutgers University, Stockton University, and The Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES) Subunits. At this meeting, each of the Subunits had one or two students speak about their fisheries research. Additionally, the group was given a tour of the MATES facility and made pins which were worn on their meeting lanyards this summer at the AFS National Meeting in Atlantic City to represent their Subunit pride!

More recently, in December 2018, 33 attendees (18 undergraduate students and 15 graduate students) from four universities (Rutgers, Rider, Stockton, and Monmouth) attended the Subunit sponsored 'Introduction to R' course taught by Joe Caracappa at Rutgers University. This 5hour course was aimed to introduce students to a new programming language and gain the necessary tools to independently use this software. Additionally, there was an hour long mentoring matchup over lunch where graduate and undergraduate students were paired up.



*Joe Caracappa leading a workshop on the R programming language at the 2018 AFS Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey.*



*Introduction to R course participants after the successful completion of the workshop.*

The Subunit hosted a fish printing table at Rutgers Day in this past April and is currently looking for creative ways to fundraise to support our activities. We look forward to continuing to have a strong presence at professional meetings and planning activities that benefit both Subunit and MAC members. For more information on the Subunit's upcoming and past events check out our website:

<https://rutgersafs.marine.rutgers.edu/> or email us at: [rutgersafs@gmail.com](mailto:rutgersafs@gmail.com).



*Top: Pins created by Rutgers Subunit members at the first ever joint meeting of the Rutgers University, Stockton University, and The Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science (MATES) Subunits.*

*Top Left: Jessica Valenti (2nd from left), Sarah Borsetti (1st from right), and Daphne Munroe (2nd from right) receive certificates of appreciation from AFS President, Steve McMullin (5th from left), for their roles in the planning and execution of the 148th Annual Meeting of AFS.*



*Bottom Left: Emily Slesinger (2nd from right) receiving her Honorable Mention for the John E. Skinner Memorial Award at the 2018 AFS Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, New Jersey.*

## Montana State University Subunit

### Planned Activities 2019-2020

#### Fall 2019:

- During summer 2019, the MSU AFS subunit decided to sponsor an undergraduate member of the Montana State University Student Subunit to attend the AFS/TWS joint conference in Reno, Nevada. Graduate student officers reviewed undergraduate student applications. A \$1500 travel award will be given to successful applicant.
- We successfully selected an applicant for the student travel grant, our secretary Levi Umland. Congrats to Levi! Levi accepted the grant and is excited to be travelling to Reno along with other MSU AFS members to network and learn about national fisheries research.
- The MSU AFS subunit is co-sponsoring a visit by world-renowned fisheries scientist, Dr. Ray Hilborn, in collaboration with the MSU Ecology Seminar series. Dr. Hilborn will be presenting two lectures, open to the public, relating to his research. Additionally, MSU AFS students are invited to interact with Dr. Hilborn during a social sponsored by the MSU AFS student subunit.
- We will be conducting a tagging and marking workshop convened between the University of Missoula and Montana State University Student Subunits. Date TBD.
- We will be holding monthly meetings with invited guest speakers.

#### Spring 2020:

- We are excited to continue our sponsorship in the MT State Chapter raffle event.



## Officers



**President:** Andriana Puchany

Andi joined the Zale lab in January 2018 and is working towards obtaining a Master's degree in Fish & Wildlife Management. Her research objective is to assess the recovery of reintroduced Arctic Grayling and Westslope Cutthroat Trout populations in Yellowstone National Park.



**Vice President:** Hayley Glassic

Hayley is a PhD student working with Christopher Guy. Her dissertation is focused on determining the influence of lake trout suppression via carcass deposition on the food web of Yellowstone Lake. Hayley received her MS from Utah State University and her BS from the University of Georgia.



**Secretary:** Levi Umland

Levi transferred to Montana State University in the fall of 2018 and is working to complete a BS degree in Fish and Wildlife Management. Currently, he is assisting with research involving reproduction of Pallid Sturgeon in the Missouri River, Montana.



**Treasurer:** Mike Siemiantkowski

Mike joined the Guy lab in Spring of 2018 pursuing a master's degree in Fish & Wildlife Management. His research focuses on identifying and describing spawning grounds of an invasive Lake Trout population within Swan Lake, located in the Flathead River drainage of northwest Montana.



**Adviser:** Dr. Christopher Guy

Dr. Guy is the Assistant Unit Leader of the Montana Cooperative Fishery Research Unit and a Professor in the Department of Ecology at Montana State.

## Oregon State University Subunit

By: Sarah Busmire  
Secondary Oregon State University AFS Subunit Liaison

This past year, the Oregon State University AFS Subunit has been busy planning and conducting events for students to learn, network and discover the fisheries field. In the Fall term, the OSU subunit helped to plan the AFS Western Division Student Colloquium, which was held in Corbett, Oregon. The event hosted speakers from NOAA that did a hands-on workshop on infographics. There also was a day for students to present their research and be peer reviewed. On the last day, the students took a trip to the Bonneville Dam and Fish Hatchery and received a private tour. The colloquium allowed students to gain professional experience and



The Gyotaku Fish Printing workshop is always popular and allows students to learn this ancient Japanese art.

network with other students. The club then hosted a Fly Fishing 101 Workshop in February that allowed students to gain knowledge about necessary equipment, flies, proper casting techniques and reading the water. The workshop allowed students to learn about the Pacific Northwest tradition of fly fishing, and the recreational opportunities that abound in the area. In March, the club hosted a Gyotaku fish printing workshop, allowing students to make prints of different fish species and build their skills by adding eyes to the prints. The workshop allowed students to learn and appreciate this ancient Japanese art. In the Spring term, the subunit planned a Spring Break Professional Tour to Southern Oregon. While on the four-day trip, students got to volunteer with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw. The students were honored with the invitation to participate in a traditional canoe pull, rowing eight river miles to a new habitat restoration site where the students helped them break ground by planting cedar saplings. This allowed the students to gain perspective on the different

uses and meanings of natural resources to different stakeholders. Also while on the trip, students got to tour the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Wildlife Forensics Lab in Ashland, Oregon, which is the only wildlife forensics lab in the world.

During that tour, students were exposed to the possibilities of wildlife forensics as a possible career path. To wrap up the Spring term, the club planned a Chartered Fishing Trip. The students went on a charter fishing boat and had the opportunity to



The Spring Break Professional Tour group was invited to participate in a traditional canoe pull, rowing eight miles upriver to a new habitat restoration site. This was with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw.

take home their catch. All in all, it was a great year for the Oregon State University AFS Subunit. By planning these enriching and engaging The Spring Break Professional Tour group got invited to participate in a traditional canoe pull, rowing eight miles upriver to a new habitat restoration site. This was with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw. The club hopes to inspire, motivate and educate students about all the possibilities in the fisheries field. We have many events in the works for the 2019-2020 school year, and are excited for the opportunities to come!



## Upcoming Meetings

### **FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS**

### ***Catfish 2020: The Third International Catfish Symposium***

**February 18-20, 2020, Little Rock, AR**

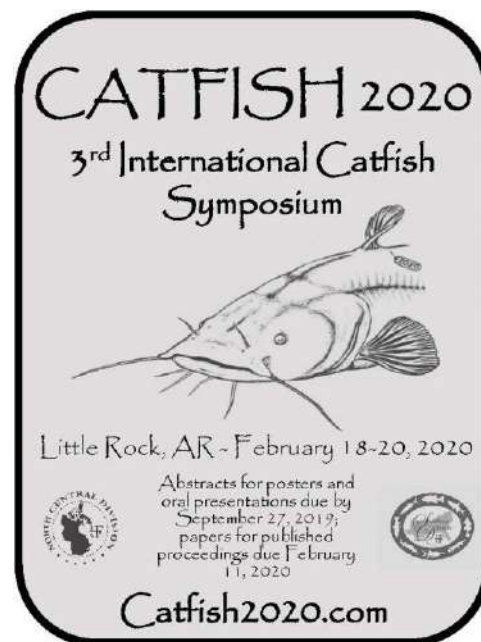
You are invited to attend and participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Catfish Symposium to be held February 18-20, 2020 in Little Rock, Arkansas, in conjunction with the AFS Southern Division Annual Meeting. This is the *FINAL* call for oral platform and poster presentations at the symposium, including those to be considered for publication within the resulting peer-reviewed proceedings in a special issue of *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*. This meeting will provide a forum for the exchange of information about the biology, ecology, management and conservation of worldwide populations of both game and nongame catfish species. Previous publications from the First and Second Symposia continue to sell and have served as important references for managers and researchers alike.

The theme for the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium is “Communicating Catfish Science” and will bring together the last decade’s work on the conservation, ecology, and management of worldwide catfish populations and their habitats. We encourage you to submit your research findings on any topic pertinent to management of catfishes and are actively seeking presentations pertaining to conservation and management challenges. Individuals interested in developing topical review papers are encouraged to contact the Program Committee Co-Chairs to assist with topic coordination.

To submit an oral or poster presentation and for the most up-to-date information on the symposium, please visit the web site at [catfish2020.com](http://catfish2020.com). The presentation **abstract submission deadline is September 27, 2019**. Symposium presenters may submit their manuscript for consideration using the AFS manuscript submission portal (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/najfm>) and indicate the Catfish 2020 special issue before the **manuscript submission deadline of February 11, 2020**.

Please contact Dr. Dan Shoup ([daniel.shoup@okstate.edu](mailto:daniel.shoup@okstate.edu)) or Ben Neely ([ben.neely@ks.gov](mailto:ben.neely@ks.gov)) with questions about the program and Dr. Tom Kwak ([tkwak@ncsu.edu](mailto:tkwak@ncsu.edu)) or Mark Porath ([mark.porath@nebraska.gov](mailto:mark.porath@nebraska.gov)) with questions about the proceedings.

**Visit [catfish2020.com](http://catfish2020.com) for updated information, guidelines for oral and poster presentations, manuscript submission instructions, and symposium details.**





## Western Division American Fisheries Society



### Save the Date!

Join us for the AFS Western Division Meeting  
Hosted by the WA-BC Chapter in 2020

April 12-16, 2020

Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel, Vancouver, BC

<https://wa-bc.fisheries.org/2020-meeting/>



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## AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY & THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY 2019 JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WHEN  
SEPT 29 - OCT 3

WHERE  
RENO, NEVADA

## 2018 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2018; Atlantic City, NJ (5-7:30 pm)

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### I. Call to Order

Mark Fincel called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

### II. Introduction of Guests

Fincel recognized the Past-Presidents of the Education Section in attendance.

### III. Determination of a Quorum

A quorum (10% of membership) was present and confirmed by Hamel (43 members were in attendance).

### IV. Approval of Agenda

Fincel introduced the agenda, which was approved with no changes (agenda was approved unanimously).

### V. Approval of Minutes from 2017 Business Meeting

The minutes were available to the membership on the Section webpage and in the Section Newsletter. Minutes were approved with no changes (minutes were approved unanimously).

### VI. President's Comments (Mark Fincel)

Fincel thanked the members for attending.

### VII. Treasurer's Report (Marty Hamel/Mark Fincel)

Hamel reported the financial statement for 2017-2018. Previously held C.D.'s were sold and the proceeds were transferred to a newly established investment account set up in the treasurers' name at Wells Fargo. The current balance of the investment account is \$127,005.47. The AFS investment account currently has \$23,011. The Education Sections total assets to date were \$190,833.63.

### VIII. Comments by AFS Officer

Brian Murphy addressed the section and talked about the future plan of study for incoming AFS president Jesse Trushenski. Trushenski wants to 1.) increase diversity (new committee), 2.) improve our communications, 3.) revise the strategic plan by making it concise and digestible (5 pages max). Murphy talked about the 2019 meeting in Reno, NE and how it will be the first joint meeting with the Wildlife Society. Murphy encouraged sections to integrate with TWS counterparts and to have joint symposia were appropriate. He also pointed out that the TWS has an active Education Section. Finally, Murphy talked about the Hutton Program and how they are working on ideas to get students interested in fisheries earlier in their life.

### IX. Committee Reports

Newsletter (Hilary Meyer, Seth Fopma)

Neither were present, but Hilary Meyer corresponded through email: Katie Schlafke stepped down as co-editor last spring, and Seth Fopma (SDSU PhD student) volunteered to take over as co-editor. We are trying to spot-light different regions now with our newsletter, with the thought that we would highlight whichever region/division is hosting the annual meeting, in our summer newsletter.

### Web Page (Steven Ranney)

Fincel reported for Ranney that the Education Section's webpage is chugging along. Ranney wanted to gauge interest in someone else taking over his position.

### Excellence in Fisheries Education Award (Trent Sutton)

Sutton thanked the committee members for their service. Sutton introduced the recipient of the award to Dr. Neil H. Ringler who was not in attendance.

### Skinner Award (Julie Harris)

Harris was not in attendance, but husband Patrick Connolly presented on her behalf. Connolly started by acknowledging the Skinner Award Committee. This year there were 71 applicants from 44 colleges and universities. There were a lot of very qualified applicants and the judges had a hard job selecting winners. Below are the 10 award winners and 6 honorable mentions (in alphabetical order):


2018 Skinner Award			
Winners	University	Degree	Award
Britta Baechler	Portland State University	PHD	Winner
Jacqueline Chapman	Carleton University	PHD	Winner
Bobby Cope	North Carolina State University	MS	Winner
Amanda Croteau	University of Florida	PHD	Winner
	University of Massachusetts		
Matthew Devine	Amherst	PHD	Winner
Kayla Key	Tennessee Tech University	PHD	Winner
Larissa Lee	University of Arizona	MS	Winner
Joseph Mrnak	South Dakota State University	MS	Winner
Cheyenne Stratton	University of Missouri	BS	Winner
So-Jung Youn	Michigan State University	PHD	Winner
Corey Dunn	University of Missouri	PHD	HM
Casey Pennock	Kansas State University	PHD	HM
Emily Slesinger	Rutgers University	PHD	HM
Amy Teffer	University of Victoria, BC	PHD	HM
Sarah Walsh	Auburn University	MS	HM
Jeff Williams	Missouri State University	MS	HM

Following their introduction, a photograph was taken of those individuals in attendance.

### Best Student Paper-Poster 2017 Awardees (Trent Sutton)

Shoup announced that the BSP co-chairs this year were Mark Fincel, Amanda Rosenberger, and himself. Last-year's award winners were:

- 1) Oral presentation winner - **Brendan Runde** "Estimating delayed mortality of Gray Triggerfish using surface and bottom tagging"
  - 2) Oral presentation honorable mention (tie) – **Margaret Walker** "Effect of spatial scale and habitat on the distribution of Black Sea Bass and White Grunt"
- and



**Lucas Nathan** “Identifying conservation opportunities for Eastern Brook Trout using riverscape genetics”

- 3) Poster presentation winner - **Nicholas Haddad** “Gut content analysis of the invasive Pike Killifish (*Belonesox belizanus*) in Tampa Bay.”
  - 4) Poster presentation honorable mention (tie) - **Corey Dunn** “Predicting potential refugia: spatially explicit determinants of great-river fish richness within two free-flowing tributaries of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.”
- and

**David Ferranti** “A comparison of the abundance and size of Black Sea Bass in the Delaware and Maryland Coastal Bays.””

#### Best Student Paper-Poster 2018 Symposia (Trent Sutton)

This year had 11 oral and 36 posters submitted. Given the large number of entries and the challenge in finding enough judges, we requested that the students submit their posters early electronically for pre-judging. As a result, only 20 of the 36 students were able to submit their posters early for pre-judging consideration. Out of those 20, 6 student presenters are finalists for the poster symposium and will be considered for the Best Student Poster Award.

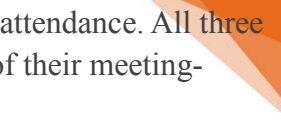
Ten professionals completed the pre-judging of the posters and 4 judges each for the oral presentation and poster sessions. Sutton thanked all of the judges for their efforts.

A number of changes will be made to the BSP process for the 2019 AFS meeting in Reno. The current approach requiring all potential student presenters to submit abstracts and extended abstracts through the Confex system just does not work. Dan, Amanda, and Sutton have been discussing changes to the process to make it less challenging and problematic. We will continue those discussions following this meeting and then present the new process in the next Education Section newsletter and listserv.

#### Early Career Professional Awardees (Dan Dembkowski)

Rebecca Krogman gave the report on behalf of Dembkowski who was not able to attend the meeting. The Early Career Professionals Travel Award was established to promote attendance of recently graduated professionals at the Annual Meeting who have made substantial contributions to the field through continued education, outreach, and AFS service. The Award provides up to \$1,000 in travel support to attend the Annual Meeting. The Committee solicited applications through several outlets including emails to the general membership, announcements in the Education Section newsletter, and posts on social media pages. This year, the Committee received applications from fifteen well-qualified individuals. As usual, the judges faced a tough decision but three applicants stood out above the rest. Krogman recognized the following three individuals as recipients of the 2018 Early Career Professionals Travel Award:

- 1) David Schumann (Post-doctoral Research Associate - Mississippi State University)
- 2) Marty Hamel (Research Assistant Professor – University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- 3) Patrick Shirey (Ecologist – Ecology Policy, LLC)



Following their introduction, a photograph was taken of those individuals in attendance. All three will receive \$1,000 for meeting travel expenses and will provide a write-up of their meeting-related experiences.

Membership & Early Career Professional Committee (Dan Dembkowski)

Dan was not present and has noted that he would like to step down as Chair of the Membership and Early Career Professional Committee after the 2018 annual meeting.

Nominating (Katie Bertrand-Graeb; not present)

Election of new Division Representatives

Northeastern Division: Dan Weaver

Northcentral Division: Jeff Jolley

Experiential Learning Committee (Amanda Rosenberger, Mike Barnes – Not present)

Preparing a white paper about experiential learning. Hoping to publish in Fisheries

Education Section Sponsored Webinar Series (TBD)

Will be responsible for 2 webinars each year

X. Ad-hoc Committees and Special Projects

Inter-section Committee on Education (Trent Sutton)

Sutton acknowledged the committee membership and discussed the primary charge of this particular committee. Sutton then described the proposed changes to the professional certification guidelines that were sent out through the Education Section listserv. There was no discussion on the proposed changes. The committee has submitted their proposal to the AFS Management Committee and Governing Board for further review and discussion. The committee will be wrapping up their duties during this next year and will look to publish two manuscripts in Fisheries.

Undergraduate Travel Assistance Award (Dan Weaver)

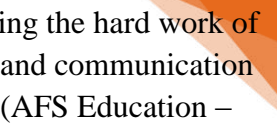
This Undergraduate Travel Assistance Award gives \$500 to 4 undergraduate students based on their professional involvement in AFS at some level and intention to participate in the opportunities at the Annual Society meeting. This year, the committee received 23 applicants and made the difficult choice of awarding 4 students. These students were:

- 1) Rachael Young (Rutgers University)
- 2) Cheyenne Stratton (University of Missouri)
- 3) Chloe Mikles (Cornell University)
- 4) Sabine Bailey (McGill University).

For comparison, the committee had 7 apply in 2017 and zero in 2016. Weaver thanked the executive committee (Division Reps, President-Elect, Social Media operators) for pushing the advertising of this award and thanked all the students that applied. A photograph was taken of the recipients and each will receive \$500 for meeting travel.

XI. Additional Reports

Student Subsection (Dan Weaver)



The Student and Early Career Subsection had a very productive year continuing the hard work of the previous executive committee to re-invigorate our social media presence and communication with students. Please follow us on Twitter (@AFS\_Students) and Facebook (AFS Education – Student Subsection) for very up-to-date information. I would like to thank President-Elect Lisa Izzo, Kari Dammerman, and Kyle Bales for keeping up with those outlets.

We have also been working with AFS staff in Bethesda on several projects that seek to engage students and further improve our ability to communicate with them and effectively deliver information. We worked with Lauren Maza, AFS’s Director of Student and Professional Development to co-host a statistics webinar that had over 100 attendees.

We also worked with Mary Webb Banning to launch the first Hutton Scholar Pen Pal program in which graduate students or early career professionals were paired up with a Hutton Scholar (high school students). The objective of this program was to allow fisheries students and professionals to communicate with the Hutton Scholars by sharing their insights on academic fisheries programs and work as a fisheries professional. We received overwhelming interest in the program. There were only 18 Hutton Scholars this year, but we got twice that many AFS students and professionals interested in being a pen pal. I’ve already heard several success stories of Scholars making long lasting mentoring connections with our AFS members.

This year, the Subsection has put together a symposium entitled: “Engaging the Next Generation of Fisheries Scientists: Strategies for Student Subunits of AFS.” The goal for this symposium is to share ideas and discuss strategies and challenges facing student subunits. We have 14 presentations from 12 U.S. states and 2 Canadian provinces. We will also hear from Dan Cassidy the Deputy Executive Director, Lauren Maza, Student and Professional Development, and Drue Winters, AFS Policy Director all of whom will give students perspective on how they can become more involved with AFS and what resources AFS can provide students. I encourage student and faculty attendance at this symposium.

## XII. Other Awards and Recognition

Out-going Division Representatives and Officers:

None in attendance

## XIII. Old Business

None

## XVI. New Business and Announcements

Student-Professional networking event – Reno 2019 (Dane Weaver, Craig Paukert)

Working with the TWS to come up with an idea to put on a joint student-professional event.

Development of active learning open educational resources for fisheries classes (Gary Grossman)

Passive education – teacher talks, students listen. Want to shift to incorporate active learning techniques. Open Educational Resources – web-based resources that students can get a hold of to do something active with. Students are given videos of fishes behaving in nature and then they are asked to observe and think about what the animals are doing. Students identify behaviors and explain what is going on. They have had previous material (sexual selection, etc.) to make an educated hypothesis. Students are interviewed to see how the active learning techniques fair.

Requesting money to do more exercises. Will do 3 or 4 with the money...possibly more.

Gary Grossman put a motion that the Education Section provides \$9500 to support the development of active learning open education resources for fisheries classes. Brian Richards seconds. No further discussions. Motion passes 7-2.

#### Book Sponsorship Request (Dan Dauwalter)

Dan provided information on a book entitled, "Multispecies and Watershed Approaches to Freshwater Fish Conservation". The book is based on a symposium held at the 2018 Annual Meeting of AFS in Tampa, FL, and it contains over 30 chapters that highlight case studies of freshwater fish conservation assessment, planning, and delivery at watershed scales. The target audience is fishery managers, conservationists, educators, and students that want to learn about various aspects of real conservation action for freshwater fishes. The book is scheduled to be completed in spring of 2019.

Dan is requesting \$4,000 for the sponsorship of this book. Dan Dauwalter put forth a motion for the Education Section to provide \$4,000 for the sponsorship of the book, "Multispecies and Watershed Approaches to Freshwater Fish Conservation"

There was discussion about how much money the Ed Section would receive in royalties. Christine Moffit made a motion to have a clear proposal that has a thorough explanation of royalties/income as a result of book sales. Brian Richards seconded the motion. Marty made a comment that the Education Section has a lot of discretionary funds to help fund things such as this. Everyone agreed and Christine withdrew her motion and Brian withdrew the second. Gary Grossman seconded the original motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Catfish 2020 (James Lamer)

James talked about the Catfish 2020 meeting and said that the program committee is seeking funds from the various AFS entities. He stated that the Education Section donated \$5,000 for the Catfish 2010 program and the funds helped with complimentary registration for students.

Additional discussion ensued about the publication product that would result from the meeting and it was stated that the donated funds may help to support that publication.

Tom made a motion to request \$2,500 from the Education Section to support the catfish 2020 program. Nathan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Hutton program (Christine Moffit)

Christine provided background about the Hutton program and the importance of trying to help diverse and underrepresented populations. Christine had two requests: 1.) to identify who in the section would be part of the movement. Patrick Shirey volunteered to help. 2.) Looking for funding (\$2,500) from the section to help with the Hutton program next year.

Discussion: Can the Hutton student be from outside the U.S. Yes, there have been previous students from Canada, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

Gary Grossman provided a motion to provide support to the Hutton program in the amount of \$2,500. Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

#### XVII. Adjournment

Fincel motioned to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.



*Join the Education Section for our symposium in Reno!*

## **Casting a Wider Net: Increasing Stakeholder Communication and Collaboration as an Early Career Scientist**

Symposium Organizers: Heather A. Stewart, & Lisa K. Izzo

September 30, RSCC Room: A17

It is increasingly evident that rigorous science and successful management and conservation of our natural resources requires collaboration and strong communication with stakeholders. This is a skill that receives little application and development in graduate programs. Further, it is not widely encouraged within academia. In line with our first-ever joint national conference of AFS and TWS, the goal of this symposium is to display current efforts in building fruitful collaborative research, management, and/or outreach initiatives by students and early career professionals in both societies. We welcome all presentations working to increase interactions, tackle complex issues, incorporate traditional ecological knowledge, and break down barriers between stakeholders, addressing the very “human” element of fisheries and wildlife. Whether working with tribal fisheries commissions, recreational and/or commercial fishers, industry partners, NGOs, the public, or zoos/aquariums, we encourage presenters to share successes, experiences, and lessons learned with others in the early stages of their career.

*Join the Education Section for our symposium in Reno!*

## **Fisheries and Wildlife Education: Needed Competencies, Current Pedagogy, and Distance Learning**

Symposium Organizers: Dean Stauffer, Brent Bibles, Mark Fincel, & Henry Campa III

September 30, RSCC Room: D4

The educational needs for fisheries and wildlife programs continue to evolve with employer requirements and the changing nature of students coming into the field. This symposium features three sections of talks and an open panel discussion focusing on current trends in student education throughout the natural resources field. The session includes 1) undergraduate competencies matching employers' needs to university products, 2) current best practices in pedagogy: re-educating the educators, and 3) distance learning opportunities in wildlife and fisheries: success failures and stigmas. Each session will offer talks from educators from both wildlife and fisheries backgrounds. It will also include presentations from state and federal employers giving an interesting counter view of undergraduate and postgraduate education. These talks will culminate in a round table discussion at the end of the day. Attendees are welcome to engage presenters and openly discuss topics covered during the days' talks.



## The Education Section of AFS

*The American Fisheries Society*



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## Editor's Note

Comments or suggestions are always welcome! Please feel free to contact us at any time. We encourage submissions and ideas for future issues of the newsletter.



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### Your name here!

We are currently looking for a co-editor.  
If interested please contact Seth Fopma.