

THE 2016 ISBE GENERAL MEETING

The ISBE General meeting in 2016 was held in the Great Hall at the University of Exeter on Monday 1 August during the lunch break. Approximately 40 people attended. The new ISBE president Ben Hatchwell chaired the meeting, following the transfer of presidency from Nina Wedell at the ISBE Exit Meeting the previous day.

In his opening address, Ben began by reiterating the two main functions of the Society, which is to publish the journal *Behavioral Ecology* and to organise the ISBE Congresses. Ben congratulated the 2016 ISBE Congress organisers on a fantastic conference so far, which has been delivered to a very high standard. The vitality of the conference, Ben remarked, was also due in large part, to the number of students and early career researchers who were in attendance. In this regard, the Society was proud to be able to provide travel awards to support young researchers to attend the ISBE conferences – and that we should continue to encourage and inspire young behavioural ecologists.

Ben then provided an overview of the Council's membership. Ben thanked Gunilla Roseqvist, who had earlier stepped down from her role as past president and, in so doing, ended a long and distinguished association with the ISBE Executive. As part of this changeover, Nina Wedell becomes 'past president' and Andrew Cockburn becomes the 'president-elect'. Ben thanked the retired Councillors, Jutta Schneider and Marta Manser, for their service to Council and welcomed new Councillors Amanda Ridley and Suzanne Alonzo. Ben also welcomed incoming Treasurer Trish Schwagmeyer, who replaces Walt Keonig. Ben ended his opening address by briefly outlining the Constitutional changes that have been made to expand the Council's membership. Among the changes is the appointment of the past and future ISBE Congress organizers onto Council, which is designed to ensure a smooth

handover and transfer of knowledge between ISBE congress organising committees.

Leigh Simmons, as the Editor-in-Chief of *Behavioral Ecology*, then took the stage to go through the 2016 Editor's report (For details, please see the Editor's report on page 6). After the presentation, Ben thanked Leigh for his personal commitment in contributing to the outstanding success of the journal.

The Treasurer's report was next, with Walt Koenig, taking the stage for the last time in his role as Treasurer (see also below). Towards the end of his presentation, Walt reflected on his time as Treasurer and commented on his delight in being able to hand over the job to Trish on his first official day of retirement. Ben thanked Walt for his 16 years of dedicated service as Treasurer and presented him with a gift on behalf of the Society.

Bob Wong spoke on behalf of Andreas Svensson, the newsletter editor, and placed a call for more content to populate the pages of the newsletter, before officially relaunching the Society's newly revamped and refreshed webpage (see front page).

Finally, Ben spoke briefly about the venue of the 2018 Congress, the details of which were to be presented after the Hamilton Lecture. Before closing the meeting, Ben asked the membership for expressions of interest for the 2020 Congress, highlighting the desire to extend the reach of the Society and its conference into new countries and regions of the world.

Bob Wong
Secretary, ISBE
Monash University, Australia

A MESSAGE FROM THE PAST TREASURER

The primary source of funds for the ISBE is its agreement with Oxford University Press to share profits from *Behavioral Ecology*. Since it required nearly 15 years for any profits to be realized, the society's funds were modest in the early years, coming primarily from membership dues. Starting around 2003, however, the society began to benefit from the success of *Behavioral Ecology*, and now, despite the dramatic changes in publishing, it receives on the order of \$150,000 USD annually from the journal.

What the society does with these funds is to use them to support travel and attendance of students, younger professionals, and people from developing countries to attend the biennial meetings. Starting with the 2008 meeting in Ithaca and continuing through to the latest meeting in Exeter, the society has provided financial support to over 600 students and others in order to facilitate their attendance at ISBE meetings. Given the international nature of the society and the relatively limited nature of its activities—which consist of publishing a professional journal and a biennial

meeting — I believe that such support is, and will continue to be, the best use of the society's funds.

Since the founding of ISBE in 1986, there have been only three ISBE treasurers. The first hardy soul to hold this position was Carl Gerhardt of the University of Missouri, who held the post until I took over in 2000. After 16 years, the torch has now passed to Trish Schwagmeyer. As the premier society for its field, I feel honored to have had the opportunity to serve the ISBE as Treasurer, and look forward to its continuing success in the future.

Walt Koenig
Past Treasurer, ISBE