

ISBE 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The ISBE General meeting in 2018 was held at the Minneapolis Convention Centre on Wednesday 15 August during the lunch break. There were 15 people in attendance. The new ISBE president Andrew Cockburn chaired the meeting, following the transfer of presidency from Ben Hatchwell at the ISBE Executive Meeting earlier in the week.

In his opening address, Andrew began by announcing changes to the ISBE Executive, with the retirement of Past President Nina Wedell, as well as Councillors Doug Emlen and Mariella Herberstein. Andrew thanked them for their service on behalf of the Society and also welcomed Rebecca Kilner as incoming President, and Dan Blumstein and Claire Spottiswood as new Councillors.

During the president report, Andrew reiterated the two main functions of the Society, which is to publish the journal *Behavioral Ecology* and to organise the ISBE Congresses. Andrew outlined the Society's commitment to raising the profile of early to mid career researchers, with several new initiatives being investigated for the next ISBE Congress, including competitive awards. Processes that can help to alleviate the burden of Society administration and to better facilitate management of the Society are also being explored by Council.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Andrew in Trish Schwagmeyer's absence (For details, please see the next page of this issue). The report re-emphasised the importance of the income generated by the Society's journal, *Behavioral Ecology*, which dwarfs the income generated from membership fees and investments. The bulk of the Society's expenditure goes to supporting awards for students as well as delegates from developing nations. Andrew reaffirmed the Society's commitment to supporting these important initiatives. Indeed, following the meeting of the Executive Council, the Society would like to explore ways to increase the number of applicants and delegates from developing nations with plans to include awardee profiles on the

Society's website as a way of promoting the award to prospective applicants. Lastly, in regard to the Society's finances, Andrew highlighted the fine job that Trish has been doing in increasing investment return to boost the reserves, which are crucial for the health of the Society and to plan for contingencies.

Leigh Simmons, as the Editor-in-Chief of *Behavioral Ecology*, then took the stage to go through the Editor's report (see pages 10-14). Briefly, Leigh discussed changes to the editorial board and thanked the outgoing editors for their service. Leigh also discussed the journal's impact factor, presented data on manuscript submissions and processing times, and outlined the many key initiatives he has put in place to boost the esteem and impact of the journal. After the presentation, Andrew thanked Leigh for his commitment in contributing to the outstanding success of the journal.

Finally, Andreas Svensson, as newsletter editor, reiterated the primary function of the newsletter as an important forum for the dissemination of information that is relevant and of interest to the membership of the Society. In addition to book and conference reviews, advertisements, scientist profiles and conference calendars, Andreas would also like to see more opinion and perspective pieces from early career researchers and senior scientists. Given that the newsletter is only published twice a year, in an environment of rapid news turnover, Andreas has also been working very closely with Anna Hatzisavas (website) and Kate Umbers (twitter) to ensure that urgent information is conveyed to the membership of the society in a timely manner.

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Editor-in-chief Leigh Simmons at the meeting



Andrew Cockburn, president of the ISBE