

**Business Meeting Minutes**  
**Southern Association of Marine Laboratories**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**2 June 2011**

**Approval of Minutes of the Spring 2010 Meeting**

Meeting was called to order by President Shirley Pomponi who thanked Wes Tunnell for all of his support throughout the year; minutes for the Spring meeting were distributed by Secretary Sylvia Galloway and a call for approval was followed by a motion to approve with changes by S. Pomponi and seconded by Bob VanDolah. The minutes were approved by acclamation.

**Past-President's Report**

W. Tunnell

Wes indicated that he has visited 39 labs over his years with SAML. The SAML brochure and handbook were two his projects. The GoM retrospective will be in press later this year.

**President's Report**

S. Pomponi

Shirley stated that she wears two hats when attending meetings, always representing SAML along with her other duties; indicated that NAML provides strong advocacy, e.g. emphasizing the importance of the Marine Laboratories during the DWH event. Shirley suggested that SAML members join the NAML public policy calls (once a month) in that they are very beneficial and involve an hour with the NAML lobbying representative Joel Widder.

**Treasurer's Report**

K. Mahadevan

The report was presented by Kumar. After a short discussion Wes Tunnell moved that the report be accepted and Aswani Voley seconded the motion; the report was approved by acclamation.

**Financial Committee Audit Report**

(Committee Members: Joe Boyer, Mike Piehler, Rick DeVoe, Steve Jordan)

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report including some additional support information and declared the Report to be in order. The committee offered a recommendation: SAML has the resources to do more as an organization: one consideration might be to develop a policy statement on travel of guests; another would be to have the Financial Committee develop an annual budget. Transfer of funds from NAML is not consistent, but cannot be controlled from SAML.

A lengthy discussion followed and encompassed the following topics: ad hoc student travel requests, advocates for all of the meetings that students request support for, criteria for student awards. It was decided that we need a group of volunteers (Bob VanDolah, Rick Devoe, Dave Eggleston, Joe Boyer offered to serve) to make recommendations of how SAML should use its funds to best support SAML goals; it was suggested that this proposal be submitted to the Executive Committee by December 2011 and sent out to the membership prior to the next annual meeting.

Matt Gilligan is preparing a separate proposal for enhancing diversity in the Marine Sciences and will be submitting it for funding on behalf of SAML. He will be making a formal request to

SAML for some travel (and related expenses) to Minority Serving Institutions to obtain the information he needs to complete the proposal preparation.

Other funding priorities suggested were SAML web-site development and maintenance, and a small discretionary fund for the Executive Board.

### **Nominating Committee**

The nominating committee (Jim Sanders, Bill Hawkins, Lou Burnett, John Rummel) offered their nominees and the attendees were polled for additional nominations; no nominations were made from the floor.

### **Nominees for Member at Large – 2012-2014** (replacement for Kelly Clark)

Two excellent candidates were nominated by the committee, Joe Boyer and Dave Eggleston. An election by ballot was held and Joseph Boyer was elected in a close vote.

### **Nominees for President-elect—2012-2013**

One excellent candidate was nominated, Lou Burnett, and he agreed to serve.

### **SAML Future Meeting Plans**

Spring 2012

Gulf Coast venue

Three labs were offered and Florida Gulf Coast University new marine lab was chosen.

Spring 2013

Atlantic Coast venue

Two offers were made: BIOS and Jacksonville Univ/Mar. Sci. Res. Inst. \*

### **Other Meeting Updates**

NAML winter 2011 meeting

S. Pomponi

A full overview/briefing materials are available to members on the NAML website. The NAML fall meeting is scheduled for September 27-28 at University of Connecticut. Note that NAML needs to have a nominee from the Southeast for President-elect; a consideration is that this is a 6-year term (2 yr each as P-elect, Pres, Past Pres). JoAnn Leong will become NAML president in January 2012.

Jim Sanders mentioned that OBFS-NAML have put in a proposal for a meeting to discuss the future of field stations, Nov 17-18, 2011 (full copy of proposal in the NAML Annual Meeting briefing).

### **New Business**

Nomination of Matt Gilligan as NAML Emeritus Member based on his past, present, and continuing service to NAML/SAML, specifically in the areas of undergraduate and graduate education, and increasing diversity in marine sciences:

Motion to accept the nomination was made by Bob VanDolah and seconded by Rick DeVoe; the motion was approved by acclamation.

John Rummel moved that the Executive Committee consider associate membership for our Mexican partners and the motion was seconded by Kumar Mahadevan; after discussion the group decided that non- US labs in our geographical area should be considered for associate membership and that this could be initiated by invitation. Further discussion was tabled.