

**Society of Nematologists  
51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting  
First Executive Board Meeting  
12 August 2012, Savannah, GA  
Recorded by Richard F. Davis, Secretary**

- 1) **In Attendance:** Jim LaMondia (President), Brent Sipes (President-elect), Jon Eisenback (Vice President), Inga Zasada (Treasurer), Richard Davis (Secretary), Nancy Kokalis-Burelle (Journal of Nematology Editor-in-Chief), Sally Stetina (Nematology Newsletter editor), Paula Agudelo, David Shapiro-Ilan.
- 2) **Announcements: none**
- 3) **Call to Order: Jim LaMondia called the meeting to order at 8:08 am.**
- 4) **Approval of Agenda: *Jon Eisenback made, and Brent Sipes seconded, a motion to approve the agenda. The motion passed.***
- 5) **Approval of Minutes of Electronic Executive Board Meeting: *Brent Sipes made, and Jon Eisenback seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the Electronic Executive Board meeting. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.***
- 6) **Old Business**
  - a) **Budget 2012:** The accounts of the Society are in good standing, with approximately \$275,000 in total assets. SON made about \$28,000 from the annual meeting of the Society in 2011. Accounting for SON is now on a calendar year (January through December) instead of a July-through-June fiscal year that roughly corresponds to our annual meeting. The numbers in this report are based on 2011 calendar year. This change is considered simpler and less confusing for the Treasurer and SON Business Office. Journal of Nematology subscriptions are lower than before. Previously, JON had about 250 library subscriptions, but now is has only 72 library subscriptions. This decline is attributed to JON not being published on time for so long. The business office is reaching out to those who dropped subscriptions asking them to start again now that JON is back on schedule. Nancy Kokalis-Burelle and Inga Zasada may explore having Elsevier or another company market JON to increase subscriptions. The SON Website cost the society \$1,210 for the year. Credit card processing costs about \$1,000 per year. SON expenses for the Business Office were \$22,000 for a partial year (April-December). Membership has declined to approximately 130 members, and we need to try to get people to renew.

- b) **JON Progress, Transition to electronic format:** Publication of the Journal of Nematology is now back on schedule. Indexing through PubMed is back on track as well. The database of reviewers in the peer track manuscript submission and tracking system is building as more manuscripts are reviewed. Nancy Kokalis-Burelle is trying to recruit new editors for the Journal. Following Vote by the Executive Board last year, no one is assessed page charges for publishing in JON, but Nancy questioned whether we should charge a fee for non-members. There are pros and cons, but the issue was not discussed in detail and no action was suggested.
  - c) **Committee structure and composition:** The SON Membership Committee is inactive and should be revived. The proposed Constitutional changes regarding moving committee names from the Constitution and into the Mamnual of Operations is proceding and will be discussed at the annual SON Business Meeting.
  - d) **Business office:** SON is trying to hold costs down. Currently, SON is paying about \$2,500/month for business services. Inga is working with the the Business Office and the Webpage Editor to try to streamline membership updating. The learning curve for the new business office should be mostly over, so the Society should find out in the coming year what more normal costs are going to be.
  - e) **Plans with APS – joint meeting? Terry Niblack is acting as our Liaison with APS:** A joint meeting with APS would not be before 2016 or 2017. Brent Sipes and Jim LaMondia will follow up on this.
  - f) **Vistas II:** Jim LaMondia followed up on this after last year’s meeting. The original principle organizers have stepped aside and this project will not proceed. Contributions from individuals will still be considered by the editor for publication in JON.
  - g) **Student representation on Executive Board (tabled):** Brent Sipes appointed a student, Horacio Lopez-Nicora, as one of the incoming Executive Board member liaisons. The newly appointed Executive Board members are Nathan Schroeder and Horacio Lopez-Nicora. When Horacio rotates off, the Executive Board may reconsider the benefit of having the student perspective on the Executive Board, possibly through inviting a student representative to present a report at the Executive Board meetings and discuss issues of concern.
- 7) **New Business**
- a) **Budget 2013:** A detailed, proposed budget was presented to the Executive Board by Inga Zasada. JON had a greatly reduced number of subscriptions from libraries and a corresponding reduction of income. Subscriptions from libraries are a major source of income for the Society. There was consensus that the abstract fee should be increased to \$50 and that the fee should be attributed equally (50%-50%) for accounting purposes between the annual meeting and the Journal. Both still incur expenses regarding abstracts, and the abstract fee contributes to the profit or loss of

- each endeavor. Membership is down significantly from recent years. Additionally, SON only has ten sustaining members, which is low. Total income for 2013 is projected to be \$155,000. Total expenses are projected to be \$159,980. Brent Sipes moved that we approve the proposed budget including the changes suggested during the discussion, and Sally Stetina seconded the motion. The motion passed and the proposed budget was approved.
- b) **Journal of Nematology editorship:** Nancy Kokalis-Burelle discussed recruiting editors and a senior editor to become the new Editor-in-Chief following her. This is JON Editorial Board business and will be handled by Nancy in coordination with Jon Eisenback, who will be President at the time the appointment will need to be made.
  - c) **Membership renewal/campaign:** SON will try to rejuvenate the Membership committee. The option to renew a membership should be more obvious on the website. The link to the renewal page should be included in the renewal reminder email sent to members.
  - d) **Honors and awards responsibilities:** The Honors and Awards committee has asked that something be done to spread the work load more effectively. The Executive Board will ask the Honors and Awards committee to make a proposal on what should be done rather than the Executive Board trying to devise and impose a solution.
  - e) **IFNS feedback:** Larry Duncan is the Society's liaison for IFNS. IFNS has not yet incorporated, but they want to incorporate and may ask SON to help pay the costs to incorporate in the US at some point. IFNS has not yet made a request.
  - f) **Website updates:** Byron Adams was not present at the 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Board meeting, so this will be brought up again at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Board meeting.
  - g) **Other:** The Education Committee has been involved in creating an online nematology course, and some universities have expressed interest in using such a course.

## 8) Executive Board Reports

- a) **President: Jim LaMondia** – No additions to the written report.
- b) **President-Elect: Brent Sipes** – Discussed the process to reimburse for meeting expenses. Inga Zasada requested the use of a standardized form requesting reimbursement.
- c) **Vice President: Jon Eisenback** – Attended and made a presentation at the USDA listening session regarding science funding. Most speakers pushed the idea of reducing the funding for large multidisciplinary grants in order to fund a greater number of smaller projects.
- d) **Past President: Parwinder Grewal** – not present.
- e) **Secretary: Richard Davis** – Initiated the process to change the Constitution regarding the term lengths of appointed Executive Board members and the naming of subject matter committees in the Constitution.

- f) **Treasurer: Inga Zasada** – no additions to written report
- g) **Editor-in-Chief, JON: Nancy Kokalis-Burelle** – no additions to written report.
- h) **Nematology Newsletter Editor: Sally Stetina** – no additions to written report.
- i) **Web Page Editor: Byron Adams** – not present.

9) **Other Reports**

- a) **N.A. Cobb Nematology Foundation: Patricia Timper** – A comprehensive written report was submitted. An award was given to fund a student travel award to the Evolution of Nematodes Conference. The Foundation has not previously funded such an award, but doing so increased the Foundation's visibility to a new audience. Five awards were given to fund student travel to the 2012 SON meeting. A donor who wishes to be anonymous gave a gift of \$10,000 with the stipulation that it not be invested but be used in the next few years to fund student travel awards. Donations are down from previous years. The Cobb Foundation made more than \$2,000 from the silent auction held in Corvallis at the annual meeting. Another silent auction is being considered for the SON meeting to be held in Ohio in 2013.
- b) **Archives: Patricia Donald** – not present.
- c) **Local Arrangements : Patricia Timper, Local Arrangements Chair** – Preliminary estimates are that SON may make about \$6,000 profit on the 2012 SON meeting, but the final expenses are not in yet.

10) **Standing Committee Reports from the Executive Board Liaisons**

- a) **Biological Control: Paula Agudelo:** The committee has been active active.
- b) **Ecology: David Shapiro-Ilan:** The committee published a review paper with many authors.
- c) **Education: David Shapiro-Ilan:** Working on Ag Idea project for an online nematology course. They also established a teaching excellence award.
- d) **Entomophilic nematology: David Shapiro-Ilan:** The committee published a series of review papers.
- e) **Extension:** no report.
- f) **Finance Advisory:** no report.
- g) **Honors and Awards:** no report.
- h) **Industry:** no report.
- i) **Long Range Planning:** no report.
- j) **Meeting Site Selection:** no report.
- k) **Membership: Paula Agudelo:** not active and needs new members. Vice president should appoint new members
- l) **Plant Resistance:** no report.
- m) **Regulatory:** no report.

- n) **Systematic Resources: Paula Agudelo:** The committee has been meeting and is very interested in support for collections. They were involved in determining how JON could meet the expectations and requirements for systematic resources once the journal changed to an electronic format.
- o) **Student Committee: Paula Agudelo:** Membership of this committee fluctuates a lot, so there is less continuity than there should be.

**11) Affiliated Organizations**

- a) **AIBS:** Pete Masler: not present.
- b) **CAST:** Senyu Chen: not present.
- c) **CoFarm:** David Chitwood: not present.
- d) **IFNS:** Larry Duncan: not present.
- e) **NSCA:** Lynne Carta: not present.

- 12) **Adjourn.** A motion to adjourn was made by Jon Eisenback and seconded by Nancy Kokalis-Burelle. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:49 pm.