



**SOCIETY OF NEMATOLOGISTS
56TH ANNUAL MEETING (2017)
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: 8/16/17
LOCATION: Williamsburg, VA
Executive Board will be referred to as EB in these minutes.

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION / INFORMATION	ACTION / STRATEGY / RESPONSIBLE PERSON
1. Call to order	President Patricia Timper called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm EST time.	
2. Appointment of Parliamentarian	Jon Eisenback	
3. Approval of agenda	A motion to approve the agenda was made by Eisenback, Thomas seconded, all in favor.	The motion passed unanimously.
4. Approval of minutes	A motion to approve minutes from the 55th Annual Meeting held in Montreal, Canada was made by Andrea Skantar, Steve Thomas seconded, all in favor.	The motion passed unanimously.

5. Passing of Members: President Timper acknowledged the passing of members in the past year including Dale Ivan Edwards, Robert Vincent Anderson and Bill Brodie. Most recently, right before the meeting, our heart-felt loss of Virginia Ferris and George Kariuki. A moment of silence was observed for 1 minute.

6. Executive Board Reports: Written reports will be published on the SON website.

a) **President – Patricia Timper**

The EB would like to encourage a greater presence of members on the SON website, and increased visibility of SON on the World Wide Web so as to promote the science of Nematology. The EB would like to solicit standing committees to submit project proposals and requests for funding from EB to achieve this goal. A RFP will be announced on when to submit your proposal. Examples of committee project include generating plant-parasitic nematode distribution maps, listing nematode resistant cultivars for different crops, uploading nematode images or cool videos on biological control, and producing videos on different techniques in nematological studies. The EB wants more students to enroll and engage in committees. Besides holding symposia and workshops, we want various projects that can get recognition by new members, or attract new members to the society. We will make access to some of these products password protected to increase benefits for membership. We also want to encourage students with great ideas to post on SON website. These proposals will be reviewed by EB. If selected, SON will sponsor the proposed project based on the budget requested. Our goal is to increase SON visibility in the public.

- b) **President-Elect – Nancy Kokalis-Burelle:** Thanks everyone that helped in putting the meeting program together. Beside the Local Arrangement Committee that did a fantastic job, she thanked all the speakers, section chairs, and symposia organizers for a productive meeting.
- c) **Vice-President – Billy Crow:** He spent most of his time this year trying to reorganize committee membership list and update them on SON website. Nothing more to add to the written report. Recruitment for 2019 meeting site selection has been made. There are proposed locations but nothing is confirmed.
- d) **Past-President – Byron Adams:** Nothing to add. He spent most of his effort in office this year advocating for science in general.
- e) **Secretary – Koon-Hui Wang:** Nothing more to add.
- f) **Treasurer – Kathy Lawrence:** Not present, but had submitted a budget report that will be posted online.
- g) **Editor-in-Chief (EIC) – Andrea Skantar:** Regarding social media, there are >1000 that joined our facebook/twitter accounts from many countries. She encouraged members to tweet or share information on facebook, or members can send information to Skantar to tweet out.

Regarding the status of the journal, a PowerPoint was presented to the members. First Skantar welcomed our incoming SON EIC-David Shapiro-Ilan and new editors: Horacio Lopez-Nicora, Ian King, Raquel Campos-Herrera. Skantar will be rotating off from EIC in December.

In the PowerPoint, Skantar showed the track of number of manuscripts received, and time from manuscript submission to decision made since 2012 (when Nancy Kokalis-Burelle became EIC). Number of manuscripts received by JON is steadily increasing with close to 100 manuscripts in 2016. Time from submission to first decision is on the decline. Skantar encouraged members to accept editors' invitation when asked to review, and greatly appreciated prompt response to requests. If you are the perfect person to review it, the editor will wait for your review, but please avoid long lingering responses.

Cost of Journal publication is increasing. Ever since we went to open access, the journal costs an average of \$15k/yr, or \$4k/manuscript. The Florida Center for Library Automation website that is hosting our open access journal (<http://journals.fcla.edu/jon>) is great for a free service, and is very responsive. However, the website is quite bare bone with limited functions. We are considering possible ways to offset the cost of journal publication. Exeley Inc. in New York City provides publication services for open access journals. Their server can improve the public appearance of JON. The EB and EIC are considering this publication option. Exeley also generates DOI for each article with links to references, can work on digital preservation of journal content, and presence online. It provides journal and author's info-metrics, crosscheck on indexing tools, and offers payment service tools. This is an option if SON website can't receive payment for publication. It allows formatting for review on mobile device or computer, provides authors an array of tools such as who read the paper, and your paper publication track. It is convenient for tenure track faculty as it provides the impact of your publications by generating a dashboard for each paper and each author, and where the readers are from. This website can link to many social media platforms. They provide options to publish graphical abstracts, and visual abstracts of your paper. It is a free journal hosting site, which is a great option. Exeley has uploaded two latest JON issues on their website (https://www.exeley.com/journal/journal_of_nematology). You can set up an alert to notify you when new publications are posted, and be linked to the DOI number. Web version, supplemental files are easy to attach, can choose pre-formatted / preview options. The journal is online. Timper asked if we need to move away from Sheridan? Skantar said we have not decided yet. We need to confirm the cost. Will work with Exeley Inc for options we want. They also use Peer Track, but Skantar wants to make sure we don't have to sign up reviewers all over again. Exeley is ok if we want to keep Allen Press for our reviewing platform, and they can just do the publishing. In the last 6 months, we have more papers per issue. Its good time for a change.

- h) **Web Page Editor – Mario Tenuta:** Not present.
- i) **Newsletter editors: Eisenback and Vieira --** Reminded the members that this is a newsletter for members, so please submit any interesting news you want to publicize to web editors. They want pictures, PDF, papers

or articles. This is a good opportunity to show case what your lab is doing. Eisenback said he will only serve for one more year.

7. **Other Reports:** Written reports will be published on the SON website.
 - a) **N. A. Cobb Foundation – Richard Davis, *President*:** Reminded members that the importance of NA Cobb foundation which was established >20 yrs ago as an independent non-profit foundation to benefit the science of Nematology. It is operated through donation by people like you. With several endowment options, donations will add up. In recent years, the donation amount has been declining. You can donate to the Cobb Foundation through the SON website when you renew your membership.
 - b) **Archivist – *Jon Eisenback*:** Nothing to add.
 - c) **American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) – *Pete Masler*:** Nothing to add.
International Federation of Nematology Societies (IFNS) – *Andreas Westphal*: IFNS is in the process of fundraising to support 50 student travel awards. They are planning to write a proposal to get grants to support as many scientists as possible to travel to the congress. Between 2017 and 2018, IFNS councilors are planning the meeting program. A draft of the program will be submitted to SON and other societies for review around May 2018. You can find updated information about 2020 ICN on their website. It is estimated that registration will be \$700 for regular members and \$500 for students. If you have ideas of potential topics for symposia please submit to Robin Giblin-Davis or Andreas Westphal. The council aims to streamline the registration process. Videos are on the website about meeting location, hotel price range, walking distance from meeting site and safety. This should be a great meeting.
8. **Standing Committee Reports:** Written reports will be published on the SON website.
 - a) Biological Control of Nematodes – no additional report.
 - b) Ecology – Zane Grabau - Planned to host a multivariate analysis workshop next year, generate a list of nematode ecology related weblinks on the website.
 - c) Education – Ann McGuidwin – Working on website and ideas for symposium,
 - d) Entomophilic Nematology – Harit-Bal (not present), Byron Adams reported for Bal that they will submit a written report about the committee proposed activities. Timper reminded that committees could also report electronically.
 - e) Extension – Plan to generate Nematode distribution maps, and potentially making videos.
 - f) Finance Advisory – Lawrence -- not present.
 - g) Graduate Student – plan to make student webpage.
 - h) Honors and Awards – Richard Davis – try to increase opportunities for students to participate in presentation competition.
 - i) Industry – Axel Elling – not present
 - j) Long Range Planning – Byron Adams. No report, will sort out plan electronically.
 - k) Meeting Site Selection – Billy Crow: Will follow up through online reports. Timper asked for any members on the floor that might like to volunteer for hosting a meeting for 2019. Tesfamariam Mangistu asked if we are considering having a joint meeting with other societies like Society of Invertebrate Pathology (SIP). They often host the meeting at similar time as SON. David Shapiro-Ilan said that it is worthwhile to explore. SIP usually host 200-300 people, but some time they host meetings abroad. Timper said we can't handle an international meeting before 2020, but we can explore joint meetings.
 - l) Membership – nothing to add.
 - m) Plant Resistance – nothing to add.
 - n) Regulatory – Janet Brito – Planned to organize a symposium for 2020 ICN on Seed-born nematodes (soybean, bean crops).
 - o) Systematic Resources – Tesfa Mangistu – Planned to reach out to high school students by providing high quality education materials online. They are still discussing about potential symposium topic for 2018.

9. Old Business

- a) 57th Annual SON Meeting (2018) -- Steve Thomas shared a video on meeting site location in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Meeting date will be July 22-25, 2018. He passed around booklets about Albuquerque. The meeting will take place in a hotel at Down Town (Hyatt Regency Hotel), located in the middle of the city, \$119/room, free parking. He selected this location rather than in the old town (which is close to down town) because it has easy access to the airport, and participants can go to down town easily. For sightseeing, people can visit the old historic town or the south nearby. LAC is considering to rent the botanical garden for SON banquet event. Unique to the area include regional vegetation at the botanical garden, mountains on the east have lots of cultural activities such as native American culture.
- b) Reducing the publication cost of JON: Timper informed the members that the Executive Board is considering a publication fee for the journal. Originally, EB was considering Elsevier publication model, but had a concern that small colleges or scientists from third world countries could not access the journal for free. This would affect JON impact factor. Now we are exploring publication with Exeley, which offers many options like Elsevier but would be a significant saving for the society. We want to propose charging a flat publication fee for either members (\$200) or non-members (\$400). There will not be a page charge. Considering this as a publication charge for an open access journal, our fee is of minimal cost. The Society is willing to subsidize the rest of the publication cost. Ernie Bernard made a comment that comparing this to another taxonomic journal, this is very cheap for open access. SON previously was charging \$80/page, which had discouraged many authors. Jim LaMondia agreed that this approach also would be a member benefit. Timper said the idea is also to increase SON membership numbers.
- c) SON Business Manager – Steve Thomas has been volunteering to run the business office for the society since last year, it helped us to get through the transition stage with the website down last year. However, Thomas will step down from Business office after next year's meeting. Timper preferred that we go back to hire someone that is closely associated with the society to run the business office. Steve Thomas asked members to provide him feedbacks and comments about the business office, so that he can pass down the lesson learn to the next Business Manager.

10. New Business

- a) Recognition of Support for 56th Annual Meeting:
Timper thanked all the industry involvement in this meeting. She especially thanked those industry representatives that spent their valuable time sharing experience at the Student Committee workshop. In addition, Timper also thanked each industry that contribute money to support this annual meeting: Bayer, Monsanto, Dow AgroSciences, Syngenta, Novozymes, Dupont, ADAMA, Marrone BioInnovations, Virginia Tech Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology and Weed Science, University of Delaware Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, Nematology Solutions Associates, LLC, University of Maryland Extension, and Virginia Tech Agricultural Experiment Station. Their contribution meant a lot to the society.
- b) Bids for Annual Meeting in 2019: No bid for 2019 meeting yet.
- c) Business from the floor: Nothing to report.

11. Recognition of Service to SON:

- a) Timper handed a plaque to *Andrea Skantar, Editor-in-Chief of JON*, she will rotate off at the end of December, 2017.
- b) Timper handed a plaque to *Web Editor, Roxana Myers*, who served as interim web editor for additional 6 months beyond her term. Our current web editor, Mario Tenuta, is on sabbatical leave. She had put in

extensive efforts in rebuilding the society website, and helping in transition of the business office to new operation.

- c) Timper thanked the *Local Arrangements Chair, Jon Eisenback*, and his committee for a fantastic program and meeting. Jon Eisenback thanked his committee, Maryln Eisenback, Chuck Johnson, Paulo Vieira with great insight, student Noaa Adamo.
- d) Many thanks to the editors that are rotating off:
 - Christine Griffin – Dec. 2016
 - Sergei Subbotin – Dec. 2016
 - Richard Davis – Dec. 2016
 - Zafar Handoo – Dec. 2017

12. Installation of Officers

- a) Editor-in Chief -- David Shapiro-Ilan.
- b) Vice-President – David Bird
- c) President-Elect – Billy Crow
- d) President – Nancy Kokalis-Burelle
- e) Past President – Patricia Timper

First order of business, Kokalis-Burelle presented a plaque to Timper thanking her for her excellent service and leadership for the society.

13. Adjournment	Eisenback moved, Andrea Skantar seconded to a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 pm EST.	The motion passed unanimously.
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Respectfully submitted by Koon Hui Wang.