

Annual General Meeting Minutes 2024

AFO-SOC-WOS Conference, Peoria, Illinois

July 31, 2024 @ 12:30-1:30

Council Present: Danielle Ethier, Maggie MacPherson, Ann McKeller

Recording: Matt Furst

1. Welcome | Mot de Bienvenue

- Special thanks to AFO/SCO/WOS for hosting
- Larger audience than our usual AGM!

2. Review of Agenda | Révision de l'agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes | Acceptation des minutes

- Minutes were previously accepted

4. President's Report | Rapport du Président

- Continuation of program development and EDI priorities
- Danielle's transition from VP to President
- Thanks to our council members

5. Treasurer's Report | Rapport du Trésorier

- Revenues were less, likely due to memberships
- Higher expenses due to awards, communications, and the conference in AOS
- Contact Lisha Berzins for more information about the treasurers report

6. Membership Secretary's Report | Rapport du secrétariat au sujet des adhésions

- Total membership is below average, likely due to issues with the portal system
- Most members are regular or student members
- Great representation in ON, BC, AB, MB but we need more representation in Atlantic Canada and the northern Territories
- New membership portal (Canadian-based) and new incoming membership Secretary

7. Committee Reports | Rapport des comités

7.1. Nomination Committee/Elections

- New Council members incoming!

7.2. Student Research Awards

- Two awards co-administered with Birds Canada
- Four awards totalled for SCO
- Nelsy Nino, Connor Acorn, Alysha Riquier, (LAST PERSON I COULDN'T SEE)

7.3. Doris Huestis Speirs Award

- Ernie Jardine of Pickering, Ontario
- Teaching of birds and habitat and conservation

7.4. Jamie Smith Mentoring Award

- Kyle Elliot is stepping down for mentoring award
- Congratulations to Dan

7.5. Early-career Researcher Award

- Congratulations to Matt
- Announcement and advertisement of early-career award

7.6. ACE-ECO Advisory Committee

- Open access journal
- Published 43 articles in 2023
- Acceptance rate increasing
- Seeking a new EIC (With stipend) and members of the journal management committee
- Picoides published three times a year. Great opportunity to spotlight findings.

7.7 EDI Committee

- (Presented by Ann and Rebecca)
- Changed chairs with new chairs being Elizabeth and Jordan
- Largest the EDI committee has ever been
- Recruitment of four new members who represent EDI and 20% of all members
- Diverse age-related diversity
- Equal gender representation and growing minority gender & sexual orientation groups
- Lacking in ethnic and racial diversity
- Outline of activities supported by EDI (workshops, round tables, guidance, best practices)

8. Meeting Update for 2025

- Commitment from ECCC to host next meeting in SK
- Let's bring in some Motus!

9. Other business | Autres affaires

9.2. Fundraising

- (Presented by Maggie)
- T-shirts as main fundraiser but with only half as much revenue as annual fundraisers

9.3 Mentor/Mentee Program

- Running for last two years (reaching approximately 50 people per year)
- Providing a different avenue for advise and guidance
- Learning sessions focused on topics that are of consistent interest to students

9.4 Workshops

- 2024 workshops are more analytically focused
- Always seeking volunteers and committee members

10. Adjournment | Ajournement

- Great job, Danielle!