



**Annual Business Meeting Agenda**  
**Lexington VA, June 19, 2019, 4:15 PM**

**Approval of 2018 Business Meeting minutes**

Movement made and seconded. No discussion. All approved.

**Announcements made by President Rich Bradley:**

- 1) In response to the catastrophic fire, the EC approved a donation of \$2000 to help the Arachnology Laboratory (Adriano Kury) at the Museu Nacional (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).
- 2) EC approved an annual donation to support World Spider Catalog (\$5,000/yr.)
- 3) A committee spearheaded by Greta Binford is working on new AAS web site with added functionality. It will be developed in coordination with the ISA.
- 4) EC approved raising dues for 2020 (to \$60 regular, \$35 students)

**Reports:**

**Secretary's report (election results, public relations) –Paula Cushing**

36% of membership participated in the electronic balloting. 37% participated in the voting.

Before announcing the results, I'd like to thank the nominating committee and, most importantly, thank the members who were willing to run for the Director position – Mercedes Burns and David Nelsen and the members willing to run for President Elect – Todd Blackledge and Andy Roberts. If you think you might be interested in getting more involved in the AAS, you can put your name in for a future Executive Committee position.

Now for the results: Congratulations to Mercedes Burns, the newly elected director of the AAS and congratulations to Andy Roberts, the newly elected President Elect!

AAS newsletter, American Arachnology.

JoA PRs

**Treasurers' report –Cara Shillington**

Cara took over role last year. Karen had been doing it for 15 years. We are on a somewhat of a downward slope financially over the last several years. We are a bit up in revenue from BioOne. Our printing expenses are higher – mostly due to larger issues. Additional expenses this year include our \$2K donation to the Rio museum. A new \$1K stipend for a new webmaster. Annual support for WSC - \$5K per year. Increase in amount of grant \$ going out to student via research and travel grants.

These additional expenses are reasons for raising dues to \$60 Regular and \$35 students.

### **Membership report –Brian Patrick**

Membership #s for 2019 are on track to be one of the strongest. Dues increase will go into effect on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. If anyone renews before that date, you would be charged old rate. We are on a bit of an uptick for membership. We currently have 480 members. Uptick largely due to regular members. Student membership has gone down a bit. 169 international members. Institutional membership (e.g., libraries) is holding steady.

### **Journal of Arachnology report –Deb Smith**

Issue sizes are getting larger (more pp). Page # for 2017 was 446; 556 for 2018. # of papers published also increased from 40 to 53 (2017 – 2018). We are ostensibly a better journal with an Impact Factor of 1.236. We are ranked 41/96 entomology journals.

Acceptance rate is 34% (46% of those sent for review). 103 mss submitted in 2018. 27 rejected w/out review. Of 76 sent for review, 25/76 rejected; 35/76 accepted; 16/76 pending (most of these still with authors – in revision).

Our income via BioOne is \$41,694 (up from 2017) and our JStor is up but not significantly. Our costs also went up – primarily due to large issues.

Top 10 institutions that look up JoA articles on BioOne include Ag Information institute (CAAS), Sao Paulo University, University of CA, Riverside, UNAM in Mexico, University of CA, Davis, University in Prague, Univ of CA, Berkeley, and a few others.

Users by country: largest in the US followed by China, Brazil, UK, India, Germany, Mexico, and Canada.

### **Student Research grants report –Andy Roberts**

The AAS provides two different kinds of research grants: The Arachnological Research Fund (ARF) and the Vincent Roth Fund for Systematics Research (VRF). # of applications were slightly down this year. 25 total submitted. 16 (64%) for ARF and 9 (36%) to VRF. Uptick in undergrad proposals. Becoming more and more international applications each year.

Budget is at \$15K – allowing AAS to fund more research. Total funding request this year just short of \$25K. Winners were listed in Andy's report and will be included in the *American Arachnology* newsletter. A round of applause for winners was given.

### **Old Business:**

none

### **New Business:**

The EC of the AAS agreed to recognize the service that Jan Weaver has given us for the last 15 years. A round of applause for her service in absentia.

The audience recognized and thanked the 2019 meeting host (Nadia Ayoub) and her team. The audience gave a standing ovation for her work and that of her team.