



Founded 1968

OBFS

Annual Report

2006

www.obfs.org

Executive Board (2006)

President: **Jan Hodder** jhodder@uoregon.edu
Past president: **Sedra Shapira** Sedra@sdfoundation.org
Vice President: **Larry Weider** ljweider@ou.edu
Secretary-Treasurer: **Claudia Luke** cluke@sciences.sdsu.edu)
Member at large: **Amy Whipple** amy.whipple@nau.edu)
Member at large: **Dawn Wilson** dwilson@amnh.org
Editor: **David White** david.white@murraystate.edu)
Network Coordinator: **Mark Stromberg** stromber@berkeley.edu)

Standing Committees (2006)

Member Support - **Hilary Swain**, Acting Chair.
 Governance - **Eric Nagy**
 International - **Rick Wyman**
 Annual Meeting - Vice President **Larry Weider**
 Small Field Stations Subcommittee - **Bo Dziadyk**
 Diversity Subcommittee - **Brian Kloeppe**
 Organizational Development - **Kari O'Connell**
 Outreach Committee - **Philippe Cohen**
 Website Subcommittee - **Mark Stromberg**
 Nominations Committee - **Past President**
 Investment Committee - **Philippe Cohen**

The OBFS Annual Report is posted on the web site (www.obfs.org) as a PDF file. It is available to all members in good standing. Hard copies will be sent only to members who specifically request them. A reminder to specifically request hard copies will be e-mailed to all members at the time of publication.

Please remember to vote in the Annual Election – Ballots have been sent to all members in good standing. If you do not receive a ballot, let us know at Editor@OBFS.org.

Contents

Editor's Note	1
Minutes of 2006 Annual Meeting	2
Welcome Address	2
Overview of Flathead Lake	2
OBFS Business	2
Enhancing Diversity	3
NEON	5
NSF Support – <i>Gerald Selzer</i>	7
NSF Strategic Planning/EPSCoR	7
Liability Issues at FSMLs	8
New Facilities Slide Show	9
Secretary Report	10
Financial Report	11
Support Committee	11
Governance Committee	12
International Committee	12
Web Committee	13
Education at Field Stations	
Panel Discussion	13
Small Field Stations Committee	16
Diversity Committee	16
Organizational Development	
Committee	17
Outreach Committee	18
Greening of FSMLs	18
Nominations Committee	19
Concluding Remarks	19
Summary of Motions during meeting	19
Minutes of Board and Chairs Meeting	20
OBFS Annual Meeting Exit Survey	21
OBFS Financial Report 2005-2006	
I. Operating Funds	24
II. Restricted Funds	25
III. Proposed Operating Budget 2006-07	26
2006 Meeting Participant List	28

Editor's Note; As of this edition, the information formerly available just in the Newsletter is now divided between the Newsletter and an Annual Report. The Newsletter will contain news from member stations, election materials, opportunities and services for members, annual meeting information, funding possibilities, and other 'news'. The Annual Report will contain the minutes of the annual meeting, other meeting minutes, budgets, meeting attendees, and other business of the organization. There maybe some overlap; however, the divisions probably will become clearer over time. Both publications will be in .pdf format. The Newsletter will be sent via e-mail to all members in good standing and will be available on the website. Hard copies will be sent upon request to the Editor. The Annual Report will be available on the website, and an e-mail will be sent to all members indicating its posting. Normally, both publications will be completed in December of each year. *D.S. White* 2006 OBFS ANNUAL REPORT POSTED ON WEB SITE 12/20/06

Minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Organization of Biological Field Stations, Hosted at Flathead Lake Biological Station, Montana

Thursday, September 14, 7:30 pm -10:15 pm

Welcome Address – Jan Hodder

OBFS President Jan Hodder called the meeting to order with the Tom Callahan Memorial *Big-Assed Gavel*, and introduced the members of the Executive Board: Vice President Larry Weider, Secretary-Treasurer Claudia Luke, Network Coordinator Mark Stromberg, and Members-at-Large Dawn Wilson and Amy Whipple. Past-President Sedra Shapiro and Editor Dave White were not in attendance. Jan gave a brief summary of the “state of the organization,” and

- showed a graph of past and current membership in the organism and noted that of the 197 station members this year, 24 are new members to OBFS.
- noted that positions up for elections this year are Secretary-Treasurer, Member at Large, Network Coordinator and Editor.
- reviewed the history of strategic planning for OBFS in the last two years and noted the increased level of participation of committees within the organization and described committee responsibilities.

Overview of Flathead Lake Biological Station and Research Program – Jack Stanford

Director Jack Stanford provided a history of Flathead Lake Biological Station, the second oldest field station in the country (established in 1899). He reviewed the ecosystem-level research being conducted at the station that is employing new technologies, such as LIDAR, and large-scale collaborative programs that assess the quality of salmon habitat throughout the Pacific Rim.

Executive Board and Chair Meeting - Open to All Members

All members of the Executive Board were present except Vice-President Sedra Shapiro, and Editor David White. Also present were Tom Arsuffi, Philippe Cohen, Gerald Selzer, Brian Kloepfel, Bo Dziadyk, and Eric Nagy. The primary issues discussed were

1. Governance

Friday September 15, 8:15 am – 12:00 am

OBFS Business – Member Station Introductions and Announcement of Committee Meeting Agendas

Jan Hodder asked all meeting attendees who were new to an OBFS meeting to stand. Twenty-nine (almost half

- a. OBFS tax-exempt status. Claudia, Jan and Eric will work with a non-profit lawyer to bring OBFS up to date on IRS requirements, including Bylaw changes. This group will send all recommended actions to the Executive Board for approval.
- b. The EB will recommend to the membership at this meeting to split the Secretary-Treasurer position due to high levels of work for each of these two positions.
2. Appointment of Nominating Committee. The President appointed Amy Whipple and Philippe Cohen to the nominating committee and asked them to recruit an additional person to help. (This person was later identified as Hilary Swain).
3. Strategic Planning. Jan reviewed the responsibilities of the Committees and the EB’s role in keeping track of strategic planning. She commented that
 - a. we need a way to keep track of what the committees are doing and recommended more regular contact.
 - b. Philippe resigned from the Finance Committee. Jan will talk to Hilary Swain and Peter Connors (the other two members of the committee) about a new chair.
 - c. Jan and Claudia handed out directions to Committee Chairs, copies of last years meeting minutes for the committees and the strategic planning guidance document to help them lead committee discussions this year.
 - d. Bo had concerns about being the chair of the Common Interest Committee and concomitantly of one of the Subcommittees. EB noted that we need clarify procedures for the Common Interest Committee.
4. Investment Policy. The EB recommended that Philippe present the Investment policy to the membership as part of the Business Meeting.
5. OBFS Newsletter – this was deferred until Sunday meeting of Board and Chairs

of the attending members were first-time attendees. During introductions, they were asked to comment on

why they came to this meeting. A quick tally of the responses is as follows:

12 are starting or want to start a new field station,
6 are new employees at existing member stations,
3 are building or planning to build new facilities at an existing member station,
2 are starting a new ed program at their field station,
2 received an NSF planning grant and want advice,
1 wants to contact other field stations in their area;
1 wants to recruit field stations to the Association of Ecosystems Research Centers,
1 from NSF and wants to communicate with field stations about programs, and
1 new faculty at a member station

Concurrent Committee Meetings, Block 1

Governance, Member Support, International, and Website Committees met concurrently from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

Enhancing Diversity at FSMLs

Diversity Committee Chair, Brian Kloeppel (Coweeta Hydrological Lab, University of Georgia) introduced speakers Bill Swaney (Salish Kootenai Tribal College, Flathead Indian Reservation) and Amy Whipple (Merriam-Powell Research Station, Northern Arizona University) and led a question and answer session about enhancing human diversity at field stations. The Diversity Committee was identified as a priority for OBFS during strategic planning. The goals of the Committee are to promote recruitment, identify training opportunities, promote recruitment of diverse student body, and develop partnership and collaboration with minority organizations.

Bill Swaney provided a perspective on the cultural challenges of working with students from the tribe. He earned his BA/BS from University of Montana in wildlife biology and worked for tribal government for 15 years. With over 570 Native American tribes that govern over 100 million acres, the chances are your field station is next to a reservation.

Cultural challenges of working with Native American students include

- Indian people are place-bound. Advertisements to encourage students to travel to work with first class scientists are often not appealing to students, and it is very difficult to move students into an unfamiliar environment - even a half hour away.
- Hierarchy is not conducive to learning. If a teacher is perceived as intimidating, it stifles interaction. "Students don't care what you know if they know you don't care."

Actions needed for success include

- Educate yourself on status and proximity of tribal lands.
- Meaningful participation is critical. Do not undertake last minute applications that do not rely on meaningful communication with tribal members.
- Establish personal relationships with students. This is especially important if you are going to attract diversity.
- Field stations need to place-based projects for students that are relative to their lands (e.g., fishing).
- Learn where students are from and how your facilities can establish connections on their home reservations. Another avenue to identify potential students is tribal colleges.

Amy Whipple provided a summary of her NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates program which focused on involvement of tribal and community college students near NAU. Recruited students are supported to conduct their own research, usually during the summer, under the direction of a mentor. Stipends are paid to participating students. Amy had the following recommendations and comments:

- Decide on what your measure of success is. Graduation success rates for tribal students are very poor at NAU. Success may simply be to increase the rates of graduation for participating students.
- REU or other field station programs may be able to increase diversity of their recruits by changing the criteria for who gets priority for entering the program, or by recruiting from non-traditional sources. For example, a quick survey of the applicants to the NAU program showed that 10% of the applicants from 4-year universities were underrepresented minority students. In contrast, 88% of the applicants from 2-year schools were underrepresented minority students.
- Consider on-site recruiting and bring along previous students as examples
- Establish mentors on site to help students with complex applications and a friendly face to ask questions.
- Increase the amount of time scheduled to communicate expectations of the students. Short-hand descriptions used commonly in academic circles may be meaningless to students for whom work and school are not the first priority.
- Schedule more time to develop skills and background knowledge needed for research. This may include computer skills.
- Plan to spend more time on communication with students, since many are not easily available by email.
- Early on identify mentors who have the time and commitment to deal with less prepared students
- Obtain real institutional commitment to the program before beginning.

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Brian Kloepfel reminded attendees of SEEDS (Strategies for Ecology Education, Development and Sustainability), a program of the Ecological Society of America's Education Division. The program runs 1-2 field trips per year and includes at least 20 ethnic minority undergraduate students and 3-6 faculty mentors. The students and faculty spend 3-5 days of immersion in field ecology to promote interest and recruitment in further undergraduate and graduate ecology programs. The field station has to come up with the funding. Of the 8 trips undertaken since the program's inception, 5 have been at OBFS stations. SEEDS field trips have included Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve (June 2003), Kananaskis Field Station (June 2004), Sevilleta (November 2005), Konza Prairie Biological Station (June 2006), Coweeta Hydrological Laboratory (planned Nov 2006). SEEDS representatives are very interested in developing collaborations and may be coming to next year's meeting. Brian notes that he received more support and interest from his home institution (University of Georgia) for this field trip than any other request. The University was very interested and is going to meet personally with the students.

Question, Comment, and Answer Session

1. Have you done follow up experience with your students? Amy: The graduation rate after 3 years at NAU was about 50% for our students, which is a huge improvement. A couple of students have gone on to graduate school.

2. Are there differences among students living on and off reservations? Bill: I'm mostly familiar with reservation settings and am hesitant to make broad statements. In general, certain students learn and process information differently. I stop short of saying that there is a cultural difference. Urban Indians are a little more exposed to wider diversity of situations.

3. Jim Gosz (NSF EPSCoR program): Diversity programs are very fertile ground in NSF. If OBFS can come up with success stories, Gerald Selzer (NSF) will be able to highlight this to enhance NSF funding for field station programs.

4. We ran a similar NASA internships program for 40 interns. We started by working with a tribal member and bought out 1/3 of his time to be a mentor for the student mentors. We also found it was very important to listen to cultural beliefs and needs. You want to force them into your program, but you really have to go out of your way to bend your program to fit their interests. If they quit don't give up on them. They had 2 out of 6 drop out.

Amy: This program is the most consuming and important thing I ever did. The hardest part revolved around helping students with whatever came up in one way or

another. We didn't have anyone quit but I did have to track students down. Bending is important.

Bill: Relationship aspect is so important. Just keep trying.

5. Philippe Cohen (Stanford University, Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve): We worked with a high school in East Palo Alto that was primarily Black and Hispanic. Since Jasper Ridge and Stanford staff was not going to have the time. We successfully hooked up undergraduate students as mentors to the high school students. Now some of those high school students have been accepted into the undergraduate program at Stanford.

6. Nathan Rank (Sonoma State University): In general, underrepresented students are not encouraged to go into environmental biology. One Native American student described her interests in going back to work with her tribe on community integration issues. How to we accept balance of trying to get people into environmental biology vs. other good pursuits?

Brian: At the Oklahoma meeting, we had a presentation regarding recruitment of Latino students. They found that to be successful, they needed to make connections with both students and their parents. They tried to develop value for the student's parents. However, you do need to think about what's best for the student.

Bill: It also comes down to knowing what your facility offers and how that relates to the students cultural values and beliefs. For example, how do urban ecology issues relate to me personally?

7. Nevin Aspinwall (St. Louis University, Reis Biological Station): Do you think we are trying to attract these students too late? Should we be targeting middle school kids?

Bill: That is very important. I would add that it is the experience that the students have that determines their interest. Even just in the area of being asked what they think. A lot of students grew up in areas where people didn't care what they thought.

8. Tom Arsuffi (Texas Tech University Field Station): We were a partner in the original SEEDs program and were paired with a 99% Black college. The key to success was working with a mentor at that particular college to train them in ecology. We also used an environmental restoration project to help both mentor and student to develop a sense of ownership. Also remember that not all students want to end up being an ecologist. But 85% of people in Texas live in urban areas and these are the people who are voting on environmental issues.

Brian: A lot of natural resource programs around the country have had similar experiences. In the 60, 70, 80s, most students enrolling in these programs had grown up in the country in a rural setting. By 80s and 90s, students began arriving without any experience in outdoor experiences. Many universities are now investing in developing these first experiences for students.

9. Deedra McClearn (Organization of Tropical Studies): The earlier we can give kids experience, the better. We had a group of kids that had been raised in rural areas come to La Selva for an environmental education program. They were not interested in nature; they live in nature and hunt tapirs with their dads. But they were blown away by the labs and we couldn't get them away from the microscopes. So you never know how you are going to touch them.

10. Bo Dziadyk (Augustana College): Have you found that using the insights of ethnoecology and traditional knowledge is a good transition for students into scientific ecology?

Bill: Yes, not only at the beginning but throughout the subject matter. Something I still need to work on is emphasizing Native American knowledge before scientific description. Nobody taught me my tribal history and so I need to continue education myself.

Amy: we have an advantage there because our tribes live in rural places and still have a strong connection to the land. We found that environmental health issues were of particular interest to tribes.

11. Investing in longer-term internship programs is a really good idea. We work with Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. Confidence and self-esteem needs several years to develop. Fourth year interns have learned a lot and have a lot to offer.

Amy: We have worked on that by piecing together money from a variety of programs to continue to engage our students.

12. In Minnesota, we are working with Ojibway on their land. We have given up on trying to convince people to come to the field station. We are also developing themes that are of topical interest to Native Americans (e.g., wild rice) instead of trying to attract specific individuals to our programs. We have also begun working with grandmothers to tell their kids to go get a degree.

Bill: When you do go back to your field stations, start modestly (1 or 2 students). Think modestly. It's not where you are, it's what direction you are going in.

Friday September 15. Afternoon NSF Sessions 1:00 pm – 4:45 pm

The National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON): Science, Education and Enabling Infrastructure - Bill Michener

Bill Michener (NEON Inc., University of New Mexico, Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) Network Office) provided an update on LTER training programs and NEON planning activities. Bill received a grant to develop databases for OBFS and provide individual training sessions in ecoinformatics and GIS for field station members. They are in the last year of this 5-year project and have sent out advertisements for the last of the training workshops which will be held in Costa Rica at La Selva. In total, the program provided 200 training weeks in ecoinformatics and GIS, and close to 70 3-day periods associated with sensor network training. He will be applying for supplements to this award to continue with training activities and sees training as an important activity in relation to NEON which will be coming on line in the next couple years. As with the other training programs, preferences will be given to underrepresented groups and field stations that have not sent an employee to a training session.

NEON began as an idea for a proposal to access MREFC (Major Research Equivalent and Facility Construction) program at NSF which funds large equipment purchases for science. Typically MREFC funds large infrastructure that can't be funded out of an individual NSF Directorate (i.e., if it costs more than 10% of a Directorate's budget, then it can be considered for the MREFC budget). Earthscope is precursor for NEON program in the sense that it applied for MREFC funds to construct a distributed network of GPS base stations and other equipment to measure seismic activity and deformation of tectonic plates throughout North America. NEON, like Earthscope will require the installation of cyberinfrastructure and coordination among observatories throughout the U.S. (For a detailed description of planning for the NEON program, please see notes from the 2005 annual business meeting.)

As with other MREFC projects, the MREFC will only fund infrastructure (concrete, gizmos and gadgets, construction workers, engineers, accountants, prototypes). Proposals will be submitted to other NSF Directorates (e.g., BIO, SBE, HER, GEO) to request funding for operating infrastructure (technicians, accountants, engineers, managers, archive/repository personnel) and research and education (e.g., scientists,

2006 OBFS Annual Report

technicians, students, teachers, engineers). Other sources of funds for operation and research/education could also come from other federal programs such as USGS, USDA, Dept of Education or private foundations.

NEON Science & Education – NEON's mission is to provide the capacity to forecast future states of ecological systems for the advancement of science and the benefit of society. Grand challenge areas still target infectious diseases land use, hydro-ecology, ecosystem function, and biodiversity (see www.neoninc.org for details). Here we note new information in NEON design since last year's meeting:

- NEON is designed for a 30-year lifespan
- The newest science plan focuses on a single Core Site located in a wildland area in each of the 20 climate domains. Earlier planning iterations had focused on land use gradients from wildland to urban. NEON is now focusing on a single wildland site as a core backbone. Wild sites do not have to be pristine, but they cannot be production or urban landscapes. Science will drive the placement of the core site but it will most likely be located in a representative area of the domain. The core site can encompass terrestrial areas, lakes, reservoirs, wetlands, rivers and possibly estuaries and shallow coastal ecosystems. NEON infrastructure will not be located in deep ocean and deep great lakes since these areas are covered by IOOS. Each core site will encompass a landscape of a few tens of square kilometers. An advanced BioMesoNet tower will anchor the site. Three field sites for deployment of sensor arrays (averaging one hectare or less) will be located within 100 m of the tower to ensure that variability is measured. Twelve additional sensor arrays will be distributed across the site. For more detailed description of NEON equipment and infrastructure that will be available, see www.neoninc.org.
- Five airborne observatories will provide remote imaging
- Transects will occur within and across domains and will measure some kind of land use or other environmental gradient.
- Experiments
- Sites of Concern
- Sites of Opportunity (e.g., dead zone in gulf, recovery from Katrina, invasive species process)

The intent is that all data will be made available. How that sharing will be done has not been determined.

NEON Education has not changed from earlier conceptions and will cover a broad diversity of programs. Early implementation will focus on cyberinfrastructure training to use this new suite of infrastructure and will include citizens, scientists and students. Curriculum

development will come out of proposals funded by education directorates at NSF.

There is significant concern that NEON be interactive with IOOS, WATERS and other developing systems, such as CUAHSI and CLEANER. Partnership opportunities include USFS (potential sites), NCEAS, AmeriFlux, Group on Earth Observations, USGS, The Heinz Center, LTER, CENS and others.

Principal facilities to be supported are

- NEON National Headquarters
 - Modeling Forecasting and Visualization Facility
 - District Headquarters
 - Observatory Biocollections, Analytical and Computer Support Facilities.
 - NEON Fielded Instruments: Structure
- NSF and NEON Inc want input from the community regarding where these sites will be.

The planning process from design stage to the Preliminary Project Execution Plan (PPEP) to a Project Execution Plan (PEP)(blueprint level) to Construction will take 7-9 years. In the last few months, NEON has made an additional Request for Information from the community to help develop the Preliminary Project Execution Plan. The RFI has 2 components: (1) a prospectus for backbone research sites, and (2) conceptual research proposals for use of NEON infrastructure (backbone site, regional/cross-domain science, proposed experiments, gradient studies). Ideas submitted via the RFI will be "cherry-picked" and could end up in the final design. Ideas from the community about what kind of sensor arrays will work best to addresses one of the grand challenges are especially valuable. Priority will be given to projects with a continental perspective or sites of national concern (e.g., Katrina damaged areas). RFI submitters will be individuals, field stations, institutions, people, and groups. It's wide open. For groups that are already formed and will be addressing the RFI, see the COREO website.

NEON Milestones and Tentative dates:

Documents

- September 25, 2006 – ISEP revised & posted (new science plan)
- October 23, 2006 – revised document that includes science plan (ISEP/CD/PPEP/PDP/costbook)
- November 6-9, 2006 – conceptual design review
- February/March, 2007 – Project Execution Plan (PEP): currently anticipated that at least ½ of the core sites will have been evaluated by teams at NEON Inc. since we will need to know how much it is going to cost.
- March/April 2007 – Preliminary Design Review (PDR)

Request for Information (RFI)

- October 6, 2006 – latest proposed release date for RFI
- October 20, 2006 – latest date for webcast (for any questions about RFI)
- January 1, 2007 – responses due for RFI

NSF Support of Field Stations - Gerald Selzer

Gerald Selzer (Program Director for NSF's Field Station Marine Laboratory (FSML) program) provided an update on NSF funding opportunities and the status of the FSML program. He began by describing a new program, URMB (Undergraduate Research Mentorships in Biology) that is replacing the UMEB program. This program broadens UMEB from ecology to all of biology and provides support for undergraduates from your and other universities. The URMB program funds mentorships and provides a minimum of one year support. The focus of program is on increasing diversity among students and other people doing science. A critical issue in the proposal is how to recruit underrepresented minorities. The current announcement is posted on the web and preliminary proposals are due in the end of October.

Supplement awards are also a promising area for field stations. Anyone with an NSF award (FSML, instrumentation, research, etc.) can easily get supplements. The following programs usually provide support for a single individual and each requires an argument that the individual identified to participate in the project is a worthy candidate for the project.

- REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) Supplements – You can call your program director and say you have a promising undergraduate that you would like to involve in your project. If students are minorities, you can be guaranteed of money.
- ROA (Research Opportunity Awards) Supplement – This supplement will help you bring in a faculty member with little or no opportunity to do research (e.g., 2 and 4 year colleges) during the summer or on sabbatical. Salary and research expenses are provided. If that person qualifies as an underrepresented minority, the money is practically guaranteed. As part of the program, you will need to ensure that the faculty member will transfer their experience to their students. (Hilary Swain commented that one challenge is that 2-year

- January 15, 2007 – review of RFI responses at EROS Data Center by NSF-appointed panel
- January 31, 2007 – NEON Inc. receives recommendations for incorporation into plan

colleges have no ability to manage research funding, and it may be difficult to deal with the money).

- RET (Research Experience for Teachers) Supplement – Faculty from K-12 (typically high school) are paid to work at a laboratory for the summer. Summer stipend varies but is usually the same rate as the teacher receives during the academic year. The program likes to see a plan for how the experience benefits teaching in the classroom.

Last year, the FSML program received 99 proposals, the highest ever. Average award was around \$180K with a success rate of 20%. This year, FSML received 51 proposals, which is more normal. The average award was about the same, but the success rate was higher (approximately 30%) because there were fewer proposals. The amount of money requested does have an effect on whether or not the grant was awarded. NSF wants to know that they are getting the biggest bang for the buck.

Question, Comment, and Answer Session

1. How can we get more money for the FSML program?
Gerald: that's a hard question to answer. The amount of money for FSML has stayed flat since 2000. The budget process is driven by getting new money for new things. It is hard to go to Congress to get new money for old things. The best thing that you can do is go to Congress and discuss field stations, talk to your own representatives to let them know what you do, and figure out something new to do.

2. Is there a risk of losing FSML budget to support NEON bricks and mortar?

Gerald: I have not been approached regarding a reduction in FSML funding for NEON.

NSF Strategic Planning, Funding Science Across Boundaries and an EPSCoR Overview - Jim Gosz

Jim Gosz (Senior Program Manager NSF EPSCoR) provided a review of NSF funding climate and the

EPSCoR funding. Two documents you should be aware of are

- NSF's Annual Budget Request to Congress. This is the best signal for where science is going. The request tells us what programs NSF wants to fund (see NSF webpage for latest request). The 2007 budget request stressed funding across boundaries.
- NSF Strategic Plan (posted to the NSF website in September 2006) addresses the strategic approach for NSF funding. Congress is intent on doubling the NSF budget in the next 10 years. But you don't get more money for doing the same thing. The funding will go to new programs that are big, different, and transformative. The plan is available on the NSF website. It acknowledges the expansion and support of networked cyberinfrastructure (e.g., NEON, Earthscope, CLEANER), emphasizes cross-disciplinary (including links between biology and the social sciences) investigations that are transformative, and the instant availability of real-time data to every student in the classroom. LTER Strategic Plan LTER All Scientists Meeting on Sept 20-23, 2006 will be the "Strategic Plan Rollout" for NSF (<http://www.lternet.edu/asm/2006>)

If a state gets less than 8% of the total NSF budget, it qualifies for EPSCoR funds. There are currently 26 EPSCoR states. EPSCoR's mission is to enhance research and development competitiveness through the development and utilization of the science and technology resources residing in a State's major research universities. EPSCoR funding is available for research infrastructure improvement (36 month awards

Saturday, September 16, 4:45 – 6:30

Liability Issues at FSMLs – Bohdan Dziadyk

Bohdan Dziadyk (Augustana College) provided the agenda and meeting notes from a Small Field Station meeting held during February of 2006. One of the agenda items, and most useful sessions, was about liability issues. Bohdan noted that of the 25 people that attended the Small Field Stations meeting, very few came to the annual meeting.

Question, Comment and Answer Session on Liability Issues

1. Who do I need to ask to sign waivers and how long to hold on to them? To be safe, have everyone sign. The University of California retains all waivers until minors turn 18 and for all adults for 3 years. UC General Council says that you can scan them if you want to save them generally. However, these requirements are very much State-dependent. Also remember, that all laws on the books are subject to interpretation in the courts. University lawyers track how case law is set since it

of up to \$9 million total), outreach to acquaint researchers with funding availability in EPSCoR States, joint support of proposals submitted by researchers from EPSCoR States, on-going NSF grant programs and special competitions (i.e., EPSCoR can fund proposals from FSML) and workshop proposals (multi-state and community efforts to define science themes, infrastructure and programs). This last funding opportunity is an invitation to OBFS.

Senate bill 3724 authorizes states participating in the grant program to include partnerships with out-of-state research institutions if the amount of funding transferred to another State does not exceed 5% of the amount of the grant in any fiscal year.

EPSCoR Research Infrastructure improvement grants require partnerships and mechanisms for sustaining infrastructure. (How you will maintain the infrastructure once it is developed is key to successful proposals). An example of a successful EPSCoR project is the Center for Conservation Research & Training at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. They used \$9M in EPSCoR funding to set up a mini-NEON. Working with Debra Estrom at UCSD, they set up sensor arrays in natural environments. You can visit their site by googling "InteleNet Overview – Limahuli Testbed."

The next proposal deadline is October 6. These will be submitted from your EPSCoR statewide office.

changes day to day. Waivers at UC keep changing in response to case law.

2. Do waivers actually have an effect?

Lyndal Laughrin (UCSB): A student rolled a university vehicle and crushed her hip, paralyzing her from the waist down. The field station operates under 2 release forms: UC and TNC. The University offered to pay medical expenses. The student's attorney sued TNC and the judge said that the waiver held.

Larry Weider (UO): Exposure to smoke put a student into anaphylactic shock since she forgot her inhaler. She was taken via helicopter to Dallas. Legal council at OU said waivers are fine but not worth the paper they are printed on. Even with a waiver they can come back at you. Another issue is whether you are personally responsible. In the State of Oklahoma, if you are acting as State Employee, then you are not personally liable, but they can come after the State. A waiver may mean that they have a lower probability of winning the case.

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Ian Billick (Rocky Mountain Biological Station) – We also had a student that rolled a car. We settled out of court to cover medical expenses.

3. What about hikers? In California, if you have public trail, you are not subject to the same scrutiny.

4. What about liability due to alcohol abuse?

Attending Member: We had a couple of incidents of partying and overdrinking. One time we found a student dead in the river after drinking. Now our faculty can not have an alcoholic beverage or let any students have any alcohol on a field trip. Is that true for everyone?

Larry Weider (OU): On campus, a student was found dead on a couch from alcohol poisoning after a frat house pledge. The dry campus policy also extends to the OUs field station. We have a “3 strikes you’re out” policy and a penalty of a minimum of one semester suspension. As field station director, I extended the ban to everyone. Now during the second year of this policy, our response is good.

Nevin Aspinwall (St. Louis University, Reis Biological Station): We adopted a policy that people over 21 can drink at the station in moderation. At one time, we said “no drinking at all” and ended up endangering students who would drive into town to drink and then drive home drunk.

Jeff Brown (UCB): We have a state facility on federal land and must comply with State and Federal laws. To do this, we adopted a responsible use policy that has worked well.

5. To what extent should a field station mitigate remoteness hazards?

Philippe (Stanford University): Jasper Ridge is not remote but every other year everyone on staff gets certified in CPR. This includes researchers and docents that are around a lot.

6. How do other field stations deal with providing communication for users and staff in the field?

Philippe Cohen: We provide cell phones and reserve picks up the cost.

Attending Member: Wisconsin provides radio tower communications.

7. Has anyone identified special issues regarding international field trips at stations? Any issues regarding liability for international travel?

Nevin Aspinwall: Our university developed a policy with their insurance company (AIG) for evacuating students from any part of the world.

Attending Member: Our students are required to buy international student ID cards that have evacuation insurance.

Attending Member: We required students had to buy travelers insurance, which includes both lost baggage and evacuation costs.

Ed Boyer (Prescott College): We have had unique issues come up with students traveling internationally at our field station in Mexico. White kids in Mexico get targeted by drug dealers or get caught in cross-fire. There are also health issues you wouldn’t run into in the States. We try to deal with these unique situations by providing a thorough orientation in risk management.

Ian Billick (Rocky Mountain Biological Station): International issues come at field stations in the states. Some students coming to our site have recently traveled internationally and then manifest an illness from other places. We make physicians aware that students are traveling internationally and could have uncommon diseases (e.g., malaria).

Dave Mahan (Au Sable Institute): We have students fill out a personal health form. Last summer, I had a student that didn’t tell us they were allergic to bee stings and didn’t want to go to the doctor because he didn’t know if his insurance would cover it. These can be scary circumstances where students were a long way from anywhere. Mental health has also been a problem.

8. Does anyone have any recommendations for situations where students are asked to do hazardous things (e.g., prescribed burns)?

Attending Member: We do our own training session but students are fully dressed in recommended protective gear.

Shorty Boucher (UCD): In California, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection does training and physical fitness tests.

Attending Member: TNC also does a lot of training. They have a 1-3 day certification training and in some cases offer it for free.

Friday, September 15, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm

New Facilities Slide Show and Next Year’s Host Station

Next year's OBFS meeting will be hosted by Texas Tech University Field Station at Junction Texas. Director Tom Arsuffi provided a PowerPoint presentation of facilities available at the meeting. Other field stations providing information on new facilities included

- Missouri State University Bull Shoals Field Station
- Sonoma State University Fairfield Osborn and Galbreath Wildlands Preserves
- University of Oklahoma Kessler Farm Field Laboratory
- Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS) Las Cruces, Palo Verde, and Las Selva Field Stations
- Illinois Natural History Survey Lost Mound Field Station

- Northern Arizona University Merriam-Powell Research Station
- Texas Tech University Field Station @ Junction Texas
- Orange Coast College Rabbit Island
- San Houston State University Center for Biological Field Studies
- St Cloud State University Cultural and Environmental Landscapes Laboratory
- University of California Merced, Sierra Nevada Research Institute
- University of Michigan Biological Station
- Yellowstone Ecological Research Center

Saturday, September 16, 8:15 am – 9:15 am

Secretary Report – Claudia Luke

Secretary-Treasurer Claudia Luke provided the following information regarding OBFS issues to be addressed by the membership:

Bylaw Change Required: Bylaw 3. The Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three members

2005 Meeting Minutes – One edit was noted by the Secretary-Treasurer. The 2005 Meeting Minutes were incorrectly published in the last newsletter as the 2004 Meeting Minutes. No other edits were noted by attendees. A MOTION was made and seconded to accept the 2005 meeting minutes with the publication of the above erratum. The motion passed by voice vote.

OBFS Services	OBFS Memberships	
	Individual	Station
List Serve	x	x
Newsletter	x	x
Field Station Directory		x
Field Classes Directory		x
Field Data and Contacts Database		x
Congressional Visits Day		x

Membership – The current administrative contact information for members was circulated for editing by the attendees. (Jan Hodder provided information in her address regarding the number of OBFS members: as of September 2006, total membership was 227 members with 197 station members and 30 individual members. New and returning members. New and returning members included 24 stations (19 new) and 5 individuals (2 new)).

at least two months in advance of the election date and notify the members of the Organization of the membership of this committee. The committee **shall be chaired by the Past President and** shall accept nominations from any three members for presentation on the ballot.

Bylaw Changes – Five changes to the Bylaws proposed by the Executive Board were presented to the assembled membership as a preview to what will appear on the Fall voting ballot.

3. Split the Secretary-Treasurer into separate Secretary and Treasurer positions to reduce workload of this position.

1. Change name of Investment Committee to Finance Committee to reflect a change that emerged from strategic planning.

Bylaw Changes Required: In most places this will mean replacing Secretary-Treasurer with Secretary and Treasurer. The substantive edit will be designating which years (odd or even) the Secretary and Treasurer serve. Bylaw 2. The President, ~~and~~ Vice President, **and Secretary** shall serve a term of two years and shall assume office on April 1st of even-numbered years. Individuals elected to these offices **of President and Vice President** shall not be eligible for re-election to the next succeeding term of the same office. The President shall serve a further two years as Past President, beginning at the end of term as President. The Secretary, Treasurer, ~~the~~ Editor and ~~the~~ Network Coordinator shall be elected for terms of two years and

Bylaw Change Required: Bylaw 10. "The fund will be invested under the direction of **an Investment Finance** Committee appointed by the Executive Board. (Note: Insertions are underlined and in bold. Deletions are shown with line drawn through the text).

2. Stipulate that the Nominating Committee will be chaired by the Past President, a recommendation that emerged from strategic planning.

2006 OBFS Annual Report

will assume office on April 1st of odd- numbered years. The Secretary, Treasurer, Network Coordinator, and Editor may be reelected for any number of terms.

This change will require that the membership vote simultaneously on a candidate for the Secretary-Treasurer or Secretary and Treasurer in 2007 and whether or not the position should be split. Should the membership decide to not split the position, the candidate(s) for Treasurer identified by the Nominating Committee must agree this year to accept the position of Secretary-Treasurer, and the candidate(s) for Secretary must agree to step down. The first term of Secretary will be a one-year term so that the two positions will be staggered.

4. Change language regarding membership services to reflect changing services of OBFS. In the last 5 years, OBFS has developed a variety of services that are typically provided to station members.

Financial Report – Claudia Luke, Larry Weider, Philippe Cohen

Financial Procedures and Tax Exempt Status – Claudia Luke. During strategic planning, the Governance Committee identified the need for a document describing how OBFS conducts its financial procedures. During drafting of this document this year (draft version was circulated to membership at the meeting), I found that OBFS Bylaws and Tax-exempt status and not in compliance with IRS procedures. We have contacted a non-profit lawyer who provided us with an estimate of \$300 to bring our Bylaws up to date and \$1600 to bring us into compliance with IRS tax-exempt status. We are proposing \$2000 be spent as part of this year's operating budget to take care of any legal compliance issues.

Operating Fund – Claudia Luke. The financial report (August 31, 2006) for Operating and Restricted Funds follows these minutes. The balance as of August 31, 2006 was \$44,463.52, up from \$37,449.41 last year.

Operating Fund Audit Report – Larry Weider. Vice President Larry Weider reported that the audit of the

Bylaw Change Required: ARTICLE 3. There shall be two classes of membership: (a) Institutional and (b) Individual. Institutional membership shall be open to biological field stations which will designate a single representative, normally the station Director, who will cast the vote of the station and be eligible to hold office in OBFS. Individual membership shall be open to persons, regardless of institutional affiliation, who subscribe to the purposes of the Organization. Individual members ~~will have all the privileges of membership, except that they~~ will neither vote nor be eligible to hold office in the Organization except as Members-at-Large on the Executive Board.

5. Allow proposed Bylaws changes to be voted on by membership through an electronic ballot to expedite OBFS business during the year. This will be especially important this year as OBFS brings its bylaws up to the date (see below under Financial Report).

Bylaw Change Required: Bylaw 7. The Constitution and Bylaws may be revised by a 2/3 majority of the membership voting by mail or electronic ballot.

Operating funds was complete and that he found no errors.

Restricted Fund – Claudia Luke. This fund was established in 1998 and is managed by the Investment (Finance) Committee (Philippe Cohen – Chair, Peter Connors, and Hilary Saing) and is divided between two green funds (Citizens core Growth and Citizens Emerging Growth Funds). The balance in the Restricted Fund as of August 31, 2006 was \$63,596.59, up from \$57,192.51 last year. The auction is the main source of contributions to the restricted funds each year. Last year, we achieved our highest proceeds from the meeting \$6,131. Many thanks for the generous contributions of auction items, the generous bidding and to our auctioneers.

Investment (Finance) Report – Philippe Cohen. Chair of the Investment Committee Philippe Cohen report that.....

Adopt Budgets - Attending member George Banks made a MOTION to accept the Operating and Restricted Fund Budgets. Brian Kloeppel seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.

Saturday, September 16, 9:15 am – 10:00 am

Committee Reports – Block 1

Member Support Committee Report - Hilary Swain, Acting Chair. Thanks to Nina Consollati for notes. (List of committee participants on the committee not included in notes).

The Committee reviewed committee goals and tasks, provided committee participants with information about existing support materials, and identified web-based materials that would be helpful to a wide variety of field station members. Additions to the OBFS web site should

2006 OBFS Annual Report

be a task of this committee. Due to the strong interest in updating the OBFS manual with the information below, Hilary Swain and Mark Stromberg will develop an email that solicits information from members.

1. Operations Manual Information. Most committee participants were not aware of this resource.
2. IACUC Information. About half of the committee participants have IACUC related materials but have not used OBFS information on the web site. Dawn Wilson provided a description of procedures used at her site (Southwestern Research Station). Hilary Swain referred researchers to procedures established by professional societies. Greg Smith expressed concern that IACUC / permitting requirements make his site less desirable to visiting researchers. Hilary Swain and others noted that IACUC permitting forms may be field station specific or generated by higher authorities (e.g. home institutions, National Parks, etc.)
3. Endangered Species / Invasive species. The committee noted that examples of forms and procedures used by various OBFS member field stations would be helpful.
4. NEPA Requirements. Amy Whipple and Susan Cordell provided descriptions of procedures at their sites. The committee noted that examples of forms / procedures used, problems associated with NEPA would be helpful.
5. Advisory Boards. Many field stations operate under an Advisory Board. The may include "outside" members or not (e.g. science advisory board, community advisory board). Examples of advisory boards are needed for the website. Information on board responsibilities, accountability, by-laws, reporting structure, and interaction with field station director would be helpful to post on the web site.
6. Land Management and Conservation Plans. Templates are available elsewhere on web. It would be helpful to link the OBFS web site to other existing examples (e.g. www.nrs.uca.edu).
7. Training. A handful of the committee participants have sent people to OBFS/LTER technology and database workshops. The Committee provided a description of opportunities through OBFS / LTER for data management. The group also reported that they had a lot of interest in Fundraising training.
8. Field Course Advertising. Some of the committee participants regularly use this service.

Governance Committee Report – Eric Nagy, Chair. In attendance were Claudia Luke (*ex officio* OBFS Secretary- Treasurer), Brian Kloepfel, Jeff Brown, Sean Jenkins, Tom Arsuffi, Richard Rothaus, Peter Connors, Steve Harper, and Ian Billick.

The Committee discussed the following items:

1. Developing better job descriptions for officers and committees, and procedures manuals for committees, so that we have living documents that can be handed down from chair to chair and from officer to officer. Secretary needs to develop a format and request descriptions from current position holders.
2. Tax-exempt status. OBFS will be working on compliance with out tax-exempt status this year. The Executive Board has approved hiring of a non-profit lawyer to help us with this process.
3. Revision of Bylaws. OBFS Bylaws will need to be revised to come into compliance with national standards. The committee spent some time discussing how OBFS might proceed in the adoption of the new Bylaws, and recommended to the EB that
 - a. Recommend bylaw change to allow email vote of the membership
 - b. Pick other organization as models
 - c. Get timeline from the lawyer about how to proceed
 - d. Develop bylaws with lawyer; minimal needed for IRS; flag any new policy that has to be developed.
 - e. Seek EB and Governance feedback
 - f. We propose to adopt a Bylaw change that allows electronic mail ballots for the organization.

During this time, the Governance Committee recommends to the Executive Board that they consider revisions to levels of authority within the organization (e.g., perhaps the Executive Board should have authority to change Bylaws so that the membership doesn't have to deal with this during the meeting.)

4. Investigate Board of Director Liability. This changes state to state. We need to find out about Missouri liability laws.

In addition, the Governance Committee clarified its role with the Executive Board in that the Governance Committee serves as an advisory body to the Executive Board. All power and responsibility is with the Executive Board since the Executive Board members are elected to take responsibility in certain areas while the Governance Committee is a volunteer group.

International Committee Report – Art McKee, Acting Chair. In attendance were Ed Boyer, Bo Dziadyk, Kelli Elliot, Lyndal Laughrin, Deedra McClearn, Art McKee, Al Muth, and Larry Weider.

The meeting began with a brief history of the International Committee within OBFS and its relationship to the International Organization of Biological Field Stations (IOBFS) and the latter's accomplishments with support from OBFS. The discussion then moved onto

2006 OBFS Annual Report

how the International Committee could help further the goals of IOBFS.

One current goal of IOBFS is to secure funding to support a series of regional workshops around the world that would lead in three or four years to a world-wide meeting of field station directors. Several possible sources of funding and names of key people were mentioned, and it was decided to make an open appeal of the attendees for such suggestions.

→ So! Please send suggestions for contacts at foundations, NGOs, agencies, etc. that might support a series of organizational workshops to Rick Wyman <rlwyman@capital.net> and/or Art McKee <Art.McKee@umontana.edu>. ←

The group then revisited the 2005 request for support to bring one or two people from international field stations to the annual OBFS meeting. Such attendees would be selected based on their ability to represent FSMLs within their region, and the probability that the person would be an effective networker to “spread the word.” A set of selection criteria were discussed, and after the decision made that representatives should be recruited from FSMLS in Central and South America. It was then moved, seconded and passed to renew the request for support of international attendees at the next meeting.

It was also decided that a session be proposed to the 2007 OBFS agenda committee that addresses internationalization of FSMLs.

In addition, it was felt appropriate to renew the annual request for \$1,000 to support the activities of the IOBFS office at the Huyck Preserve.

The following day it was learned that Tom Arsuffi, host of the 2007 OBFS meeting has secured \$2,000 from his home institution (Texas Tech U) to help defray travel costs for international attendees.

Saturday, September 16, 10:15 – 12:30

Group Photo and Tour of Flathead Lake Biological Station

Saturday, September 16 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Education at Field Stations Panel Discussion - Jeff Savino, Hilary Swain, Jan Hodder

Jeff Savino (Lake Erie Research Center, University of Toledo) summarized graduate, undergraduate and outreach education programs at his field station. He

Web Committee Report – Mark Stromberg, Chair. In attendance were Larry Weider, Faerthen Felix, Philippe Cohen and Dawn Wilson. The committee discussed the following topics:

1. Web Design.

- The Web Committee is going to work with the Outreach Committee on brochure development to adopt a similar look on the website.
- The web portal will have three identifiable routes: for the interested public who want to find out what a field station is all about, for OBFS members who want to find out about jobs, meetings, etc. (“Intra-Net”), and a third for researchers/educators who want to find a field station for research or teaching

2. Web Functions.

- There was a suggestion to implement a ride board on the OBFS website for the annual meeting. This is a function that OBFS could assume independently of the hosting station and would lead to a more consistent experience for OBFS members. That is, they could learn it and know where to find it over the years on the OBFS website.

3. Back Up. A suggestion to back up the many websites maintained by OBFS members was far beyond the capacity of OBFS web services. However, it was a good idea to back up the entire OBFS website once every few months off-site. We could do this on DVDs or other servers. And it would be a great idea for us to update the OBFS Operations Manual on best practices for backing up digital files including websites.

4. Membership Database Update. We discussed proposed updates for the OBFS membership database, the small database that OBFS Secretary/Treasurer uses to track member status. A proposal was developed with John Kim to update that database and keep it merged with the larger LTER Site Capacity database at the LTER network office. This proposal was submitted to the Executive Board.

focused on the challenges of informal outreach, which included

- Local schools will stay several hours with relatively large groups
- Chaperones are looking for a break and will often not organize students
- Activities must be interesting enough to engage students
- Students show varying degrees of enthusiasm
- Other non-school groups (e.g., scout troops) often want their programs outside of business hours.
- Difficult to charge fees

Local home school community is an excellent resource for field trips:

- Available between 9 am and 3 pm
- They often have very engaged parents who are willing to participate
- Kids tend to be more motivated
- Can charge fees
- They have formed groups and associations that allow them to develop critical mass when seeking out field trips and tours.
- Provide members with a newsletter or website that communicates educational activities.
- Every metropolitan area has several groups and find them using a web search or group search.
- Enormously helpful in providing rapid feedback for ideas for new programs or what fees are acceptable. (Posting notes to their list servers and asking about interests)

Home schoolers create a very flexible source of students and can easily be fit in to your individual schedules and specialties.

Jeff suggested developing OBFS resources for outreach personnel at field stations.

1. Ask OBSF and other educator/outreach folks to gather up descriptions of different activities that you offer. Craft ideas, on hour to several sessions, different age groups and sizes. Adapt where possible to age groups, group sizes, station capabilities. Favorite ideas that have worked for you. Email to Jeff. He'll make a cookbook of their favorite recipes and distribute them. The create a searchable website that an education coordinator at any field station could search by variety of parameters.
2. Ultimately, we would create a WIKI where the whole system would become user generated and evolve into a self-perpetuating resource.
3. Offer website to consider workshop offerings geared to the teaching of environmental science to these groups.

Comment from Attending Member: The National Association of Outdoor Education has a website that advertises training opportunities for outdoor educators.

Role of Archbold Biological Station in Facilitating Field-Based Experiences for K-12 Students and Teachers – Hilary Swain

Archbold is dedicated to long-term ecological research, and conservation. The primary focus is on the organisms and environments of the unique Lake Wales Ridge and adjacent Central Florida. Archbolds' program is part of a global effort to understand, interpret and preserve the world's natural heritage. School kids have become the field station's best link to the local community. The huge community benefits from these programs more than outweigh the costs.

Station Education Program Employees include

- K-12 Education Coordinator (1.0 FTE).
- 2 Education internships (6 months each) develop education modules for field station
- Volunteers and docents
- Participation of staff and students

Program Goals: To give teachers and students a deeper understanding of science and the practice of science, along with a greater appreciate for the Florida scrub habitat.

The two main curricula are "Discovering Florida Scrub" and "Getting to Know the Real Florida." They spent a lot

of time making sure that all materials meet Florida State Education Standards and providing materials to teachers in formats that they need.

To develop Discovering Florida Scrub (2000) curriculum, Archbold received a grant from the State Board. Their goal was to distribute the curriculum to all school districts with scrub habitat, link it State standards, offer is via the website and provide teachers with development opportunities. The curriculum recently won the National Award from the National Science Teachers Association. As a recipient the curriculum is now linked to the SciLinks program, funded by NSF, to connect textbooks to useful online content. An example of the curriculum is "Palmettos: Old Timers of the Scrub" where student measure palmettos to estimate their age and then construct a timeline of Florida and personal history relative to plant growth. Development of the curriculum required a full-time person for one year and help from school teachers as part of grant.

"Getting to Know the Real Florida" is for 3rd to 5th graders and involves 13 schools from surrounding communities. Schools pay for transport, teachers and chaperons.

Sixty-two classes and 2000 students visit Archbold during this program each year. The in-school portion is a 4-day series of interactive PowerPoint slideshows that is available on-line and meets State Standards.

Archbold also has a grant-funded Middle School Mentoring Program where Lake Placid Middle School Honor Society students act as teachers aides on field trip day at Archbold. These students produce the Scrub Scribe Newsletter, mentor elementary students, receive community service hours, and build a website.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of education programs is a significant challenge. Archbold has evaluation programs for the effectiveness: pre and post tests for teachers, curriculum evaluation forms, and the track FCAT evaluations. However, this is all short term effects. No one has long-term impact assessments. In conclusion, there are still a number of questions that need to be answered to determine the effectiveness of these experiences of students:

Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12) at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology – Jan Hodder

Jan Hodder (Oregon Institute of Marine Biology) summarized an on-going NSF funded (GK-12) project called “Learning About Where We Live” to increase understanding of marine science in local community schools. The grant provides money for graduate students to teach in local schools and enhance graduate students’ abilities to communicate science. (to become more effective science and develop ethic regarding K-12). Not a teacher’s training program.

The program involves

- 9 UO Graduate students (\$30K per year fellowship from NSF)
- 2 UO undergraduates
- 3 school districts
- ~3,000 K-6 students
- 110 K-6 teachers
- 5 UO faculty (got faculty buy in that this is a good thing for graduate students to do)

Multiple Goals:

- Increase everyone’s understanding of marine environments
- Increase everyone’s understanding of science as a process of inquiry
- Teach more science in local schools
- Strengthen connections between OIMB and the local community
- Provide embedded professional development opportunities for teachers

- Do field experiences increase scientific literacy? Are student better able to synthesize across disciplines?
- Does K-12 student participation in field experiences lead to an increased likelihood of pursuing a science degree?
- Do the attitudes of K-12 students about science and biological issue change as a result of field experiences? Do students respond differently to questions related to environmental issues?
- What are effective mechanisms for encouraging people to study field biology?

To address these questions, we need

- Standardized FSML cross-site evaluation instruments (beyond current parochial instruments and anecdotal evaluation)
- Increase level of support for education programs
- Increase interaction with the academic science education community

- Increase graduate student abilities to communicate science
- Improve graduate students and faculty understanding of effective teaching and learning.

The program was phenomenal in increasing connections with the local community. Graduate students also made connects with the local community and provided 10 hours per week of professional development that is embedded in their work day. Graduate students say their understanding of science and effective methods of teaching are greater. The teaching skills they are learned will make them more effective university instructors.

Recommendations:

1. Engage the School Districts – work closely to find out what they need and offer it.
2. Make sure the program meets National and State Science Standards
3. Feel free to use curricula that are already available. OIMB used MARE Curriculum Marine Activities, Resources and Education developed at UC Berkeley Lawrence Hall of Science and augmented it with curriculum pieces developed by graduate students about their research. The curriculum was habitat based, active inquiry based, interdisciplinary, and involves field trips (graduate students were very good at developing field trips ideas).
4. Prepare the Graduate Students with workshops and weekly seminars.

2006 OBFS Annual Report

- a. For teaching: information on pedagogy, school culture, classroom management, learning styles, assessment. (At OIMB, Jan taught this section of the course).
 - b. For teaching the curriculum: workshop to explore the curriculum and learn marine science
 - c. Lots of one-on-one communication: identify mentor teachers
 - d.
5. Get the Teachers on Board (this was tricky, but having a few workshops with exciting things helped)
 6. Gain support of school administration
 7. Evaluate how the program is working using surveys, classroom visits, interviews with participants
 8. Revise programs as needed. At OIMB, we developed teacher-grad student workshops to expand the MARE curriculum to cover science standards not addressed and to develop inquiry activities for use on field trips
9. Disseminate your efforts in curriculum guides, on the web site, in conferences and presentations, by combining with other events (e.g., open house at OIMB turned into a "visit your scientist" day where parents, parents, school teachers, etc visited graduate students to see what they did when they were not at the community schools. Bring the hotdog and hamburger truck
 10. Other issues to consider: program sustainability (after the grant is over), competent teachers, service learning credit (for undergraduates), broader impact funding with NSF grants, University funding (school districts wrote to university president to let him know what a wonderful program this is), school district funding, private foundations.

Saturday, September 16, 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

OBFS Committee Reports - Block 2

Small Field Stations Committee Report – Bo Dziadyk, Chair. Twenty three people were in attendance. The Committee if a forum for of addressing interests of small field stations. The following topics were discussed:

1. Small Field Station Meeting. The Committee decided not to have another focused meeting as they did last year on February 20th.

2. Annual Meeting Topics. The Committee is going to work with the Annual Meeting Committee to schedule one or two major time blocks (2-4 hours) during the 2007 annual meetings. A working group including Linda Wallace, Dave Mahon, Dave Smith, and Ed Boyer will identify appropriate topics. These may include such items as

- how to start a field station from the ground up (nuts and bolts),
- how to set up an advisory board,
- efficient buildings and landscapes,
- basics of data management (101),
- how to seek and set up networks and collaborations,
- successes and failures we have known.

3. Website Information. The Committee is interested in capturing facility presentations for the website that include design issues, facility successes, and smaller projects that may be applicable to smaller stations.

Diversity Committee Report – Brian Kloeppel, Chair. In attendance were Jeff Brown (University of

California-Berkeley; Sagehen Creek Field Station), Tom Hayes (University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; Treehaven Center), John Kim (San Diego State University; Field Station Programs), Brian Kloeppel - **Chair** (University of Georgia; Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory), Richard Rothaus (Saint Cloud State University), Jennie Sheldon (Yellowstone Ecological Research Center; Bozeman, MT), Amy Whipple (Northern Arizona University; Merriam - Powell Field Station).

The Committee discussed three topics:

1. Reviewed Diversity Panel session conducted on Friday morning, 15 September 2006.

We received positive feedback from the committee attendees as well as several positive comments from other OBFS members regarding the structure, content, and question and answer session of the Diversity Panel Session. The session focused towards Native American minorities that was at least partially reflective of the minority populations of western Montana where the meeting was held.

2. One Day Diversity Workshop at the 2007 OBFS Annual Meeting. We discussed and suggested conducting a one-day workshop at the 2007 OBFS Annual Meeting to be held at Texas Tech University near Junction, TX. We suggest that this be conducted as a one-day workshop to be held towards the end of the meeting. However, the probability, schedule, and structure of the session will be reviewed by the OBFS Executive Board and the 2007 Annual Meeting Planning

Committee. We reviewed potential speakers for the workshop and a subset may include a) an urban minority speaker, b) a regional Latino speaker, and c) a Native American speaker to possibly include Bill Swaney - Salish Kootena Tribal College, Pablo, MT. It was also suggested to develop a mentoring system to encourage and provide advice for further developing minority programs. Potential mentoring linkages may include institutions, students, faculty, etc.

If the suggestion of a one-day diversity workshop is supported by the OBFS Executive Board and the 2007 OBFS Organizing Committee, Jeff Brown at the University of California-Berkeley - Sagehen Creek Field Station has agreed to serve as the organizer for the session. We have requested a \$3,000 budget from OBFS to partially offset the costs of the workshop and guest speakers.

3. Diversity Award. We discussed presenting an annual OBFS award to a member station for their efforts toward minority recruitment and involvement. We have discussed this among OBFS members, in this committee session, and have also presented it to the OBFS annual meeting attendees. We have received positive feedback from all groups, but we also need to have the OBFS Executive Board review the suggestion.

The discussion of this idea included

- a) an annual plaque would be awarded along with an award letter that could be included in future proposals, materials, etc.
- b) no funds would be awarded since the complications and legalities of awarding funds would likely outweigh the benefit
- c) contact the winning field station and involve their local media to announce their award
- d) discussion included how we would define success for the award
- e) the award would recognize excellence
- f) a potential title could be "Promoting Human Diversity in Field Science"
- g) the award could include a possible travel grant to receive the award at an annual OBFS meeting if travel funds are limited for the winning institution
- h) potential entry for award would likely be announced on the OBFS web site and email list in mid-January with a closing date of 01 March; review and winning station could be determined by 01 May
- i) materials to request in the award entry announcement may include program title, station, contact person, paragraph or two, photograph or two, logo, URL
- j) the materials could then be converted to the format for posting "Promoting Human Diversity in Field Science" on the OBFS web site

Organizational Development Committee Report **- Larry Weider, Acting Chair.**

In attendance were Dr. Nathan Rank (Sonoma State University,, Mr. Marc Perkins (Orange Coast College, Dr. Tom Arsuffi (Texas Tech University, and Dr. Steve Harper (Pinellas County Biological Field Station. A meeting agenda was provided by Dr. Kari O'Connell, Chair of the Committee, who was unable to attend the 2006 meeting.

This agenda included

1. passing around a signup sheet for names and e-mail addresses of people interested in being involved;
2. review of the goals and action items for the committee;
3. discussion of compiling a directory of funding opportunities for FSMLs to be placed on the OBFS website;
4. brief discussion about some of the presentations related to key partners (e.g. AIBS, NSF, NEON);
5. Congressional visits day update was provided to the general OBFS assembly by the recently appointed new liaison, Dr. Brian Kloeppe, who was unable to attend our committee meeting because he was chairing the Diversity sub-committee, which was meeting concurrently.

We discussed the possibility of establishing a couple of listings on the website:

1. a listing of funding opportunities from various governmental, public, and private agencies/foundations for research, infrastructure, and education/outreach;
2. a listing of potential links/partners for programs, who may or may not provide necessarily financial resources, but who could potentially aid in program development at FSMLs through volunteers/docents or providing letters of support to strengthen potential grant applications.

We discussed listing these funding opportunities and/or partner links on a hierarchical scale ranging from local, state, regional, national, and international. As a way of gathering the needed information, Tom Arsuffi has agreed to start putting together the listing of funding opportunities and will contact the general membership for "brainstorming ideas" and will interface with the Website Committee to get the necessary links established. Nathan Rank has agreed to compose a draft survey as for general OBFS membership assistance in identifying funding opportunities and partnerships. As part of this survey, a "success/failure story" component would also be constructed, again for posting on the OBFS website. Finally, it was suggested that the most useful place to have these funding/partnership links established on the website should be under the Operations Manual link with a funding subsection. This subsection could also include

the “do’s and don’ts” of attempting to get funding (e.g. for universities/institutions who have Development Offices, you need to work closely with them – “do not” make “unauthorized” contacts).

Outreach Committee Report – Philippe Cohen, Chair. In attendance were Rob Anderson, Ian Billick, Nina Consolatti, Bob Crabtree, Deedra McClearn, Mel Dean, Faerthen Felix, Jeff Savino, and Dawn Wilson. (Members not in attendance: Kristy Anderson, Bonnie Bowen, Geoff Carter, Laura Carter, LisaRenee English, Jan Hodder, Cathy Koehler, Ron Lawrenz, Dave Mahan, Christine Relyea, Hilary Swain, Larry Weider.

The Committee reviewed and updated tasks for the past year:

- Redesign and rewrite of brochure for the organization (see below).
- Education workshops for local and elected officials (no progress to date).
- Updating of databases on the website (Mark Stromberg is working on this).
- Work with Development Committee to identify sources for web-site improvements (no progress to date).

The Committee discussed the following topics:

1. Brochure Re-design. Philippe Cohen presented proposal to contract with Eliza Jewett (<http://www.elizajewett.com/>) to design and re-write the OBFS brochure. Philippe has worked with her in the past for the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve annual report. He presented summary description of Jewett’s background and the contract proposal.

The contract

- would include developing a ‘look’ that can be used to begin branding the organization and as the design for a portal in the website for information about field stations and OBFS for the general public,
- call for about \$5,000 to would cover a couple of drafts of the brochure so that at next year’s annual meeting, Eliza would attend, present, receive

Sunday, September 17, 9:00 am – 10:30 am

Greening of Field Stations and Marine Laboratories – Philippe Cohen and Dawn Wilson. Philippe Cohen (Stanford University) and Dawn Wilson (Natural History Museum) prepared a presentation on some of the obstacles, lessons learned

feedback and respond, and then make final changes, and

- Include a new design/layout, finding and selecting photos, maps, and other imagery from OBFS, correcting and placing photos, and 2-rounds of review/changes; obtaining input to determine specific topics, needs, resources, research and rewriting, 2 rounds of review/changes. The design, while not necessarily branding the organization, should give a clear sense of a possible branding and the design should lend itself to web/portal use. Any artwork created by Eliza Jewett will be owned by OBFS and will be available for use for other purposes to promote the organization.

Once the brochure contract is officially approved, Philippe would send out an email to members for important contributions/activities at their sites along with high quality photos we might use in the brochure. A strict deadline will be set for receiving these materials. Philippe will draft a re-design proposal to committee members and the Executive Board.

2. Additional Outreach Efforts. What kind of outreach efforts do we want to pursue in addition to the brochure and who are the target audiences? Audiences that ought to be targeted by OBFS include

- Congressional Visits Day materials
- Teachers

3. Media Training. Providing a media training session at future OBFS meetings garnered considerable support. Possible organization that might be able to provide expertise for such an effort includes AIBS, Union of Concerned Scientists, and COMPASS (Jane Lubchencko group). Philippe agreed to contact UCS about such training, Ian Billick will pursue AIBS contacts, and Jane Hodder will talk to COMPASS. We will see if they provide such training services and what kind of costs, if any, is associated with the training.

There was a discussion about the Committee assisting OBFS members to organize courses for elected officials and judiciary. After some discussion, we agreed this was too large a project for us to tackle at this time.

and resources available for sustainable building at your field station. Philippe Cohen began by reminding the attendees that the 2001 Sustainability Principles are posted on the OBFS website. They includes a proposal for a formal resolution by OBFS. Useful resources in the

2006 OBFS Annual Report

sustainability document include an overview of LEED certification, financial analysis tools, and links and information to design tools that allow you to anticipate efficiencies. He then provided advice and take home messages for the following are of green building construction and design:

Design

- Make sure that the RFP has the green guidelines in it.
- Question from Audience: How do you choose an architect?
Philippe: I submitted lists of names of green architects, but I didn't want to spend all political capital on choose architect. Exerted influence by helping to choose the one who listened.

Administration

- Your administration's first concern will be cost and second will be liability. Cost estimates usually are not accurate for green buildings. I went through the university's spreadsheet to identify assumptions and identify which ones were inaccurate.
- Who has control of the project? Identify someone associated with the institution who will advocate with you. If you can't find that person, it is possibly not worth starting the project.
- Get to know people in your Architects and Engineering Dept and identify someone who is sympathetic and will support project with university and with architects.
- You will need to spend time convincing institution that risks are lower than they think. It helps to provide contingency plans, and take time to educate them. They are nervous about cost overruns. Take their concerns seriously and accommodate them.
- If possible, do a peer review at the end of the project design period. This is very valuable because there were some simple changes that saved money even at the end of the design process. Philippe hired the founder of the Used Green Building Council to provide zero cost, low cost, med cost etc solutions. You could use your architecture school to do this.

Facilities and Operations

- Most institutions want Fac/Ops involved because they assume that they are going to maintain the building. However, Fac/Ops often get money for maintaining building but with green buildings they would do much less work. At Jasper Ridge the annual cost estimate was \$72,000/yr; but because the building is low maintenance, true costs are \$14,000/yr. First determine whether they are going to be an ally or not. They like to standardize all activities and work hard to make all facilities the same. Because of this, I worked hard to make sure they were not on the design team. Other field

stations have had good experiences with Fac/Ops. It seems like it depends on personnel and their views on efficient designs.

Permitting

- Permits are tricky. My County didn't know about alternative designs. Because of this, you will need all the testing information about new materials and new designs. Try to have an engineer available to talk to the county permitter to tell him/her how the construction meets their code.
- Ian Billick: Permitting guys don't necessarily know the code. So you need to know if there is code that supports your project.

Contractors

- Don't hire contractors that don't have experience with sustainable construction. Because they don't understand novel construction needs with regards to timing, they are going to make arguments for change orders. Change orders are additional costs that the contractors charge over their original bid. If contractors don't know the construction, the price goes up.
- Make sure that contractors working on project are at the kickoff meeting.
- Audience Comment: Find an architect that is willing to work with the contractors. A lot of architects don't provide enough details on the drawings and any additional drawings during the project become a change order.
- Tell your institution not to assume that contractors' estimates are real.
-

Nominations Committee Report – Amy Whipple, Philippe Cohen, Hilary Swain

The Nominating Committee provided the following candidates for the Fall election: Secretary Treasurer – Shorty Boucher

Secretary – Claudia Luke (1-year term)

Member at Large: Janice Green, Tom Arsuffi, or John Kim

Editor: Mel Dean, Faerthen Felix

Network Coordinator: Mark Stromberg

Concluding Remarks - Jan Hodder

Jan Hodder thanked Art McKee and the rest of the Flathead Lake Staff for hosting the meeting, to Larry Weider for the program, to the Committee Chairs for taking on new levels of responsibility. She closed the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

Summary of Motions Made During the 2005 Annual Meeting

2006 OBFS Annual Report

1. Motion to accept the 2005 meeting minutes with the publication of 1 errata. Passed by voice vote.
2. Motion made to accept the 2005 Operations and Restricted Fund Budget reports. Passed by voice vote.
3. Recommendations for Bylaw edits were presented to the meeting attendees and will voted on during the Fall Ballot

Sunday, September 17, 2006, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Minutes of the Board and Chairs Meeting

The following members of the Executive Board and Committee Chairs were present: Jan Hodder (President), Larry Weider (Vice President/Chair Annual Meeting Committee/Acting Chair of Organizational Development Committee), Claudia Luke (Secretary-Treasurer), Amy Whipple (Member-at-Large), Dawn Wilson (Member-at-Large), Mark Stromberg (Network Coordinator/Chair Website Committee), Bo Dziadyk (Chair Small Field Stations/Chair Common Interests Committees), Philippe Cohen (Chair Investment (Finance) Committee/Chair Outreach Committee), Eric Nagy (Chair Governance Committee). Absent Board and Chair Members were Sedra Shapiro (Past President), David White (Editor), Brian Kloepfel (Chair Diversity Committee), Hilary Swain (Acting Chair Member Support Committee), and Art McKee (Acting Chair International Committee). Other Members Present: Faerthen Felix (Candidate for Network Coordinator), Tom Arsuffi (Host for 2007 annual meetings) and Jeff Brown (OBFS member).

The Board and Chairs Meeting addressed the following topics:

1. OBFS Newsletter Format

Discussion regarding David White's proposal to the EB to return the OBFS newsletter to a paper format only (rather than primarily pdf).

- a. We need to provide both kinds of format because we have different people, those who prefer electronic versions and those who prefer paper copies.
- b. OBFS needs to advertise the availability of the paper copy more widely so that people know about it.

2. Newsletter vs. Annual Report.

Jan provided a summary of the contents of the last two years of fall and spring newsletters which prompted a discussion on what the newsletter should and should not address. After much discussion the group recommended that the materials typically included in an Annual Report be removed from the newsletter but still associated with the Fall newsletter and published at the same time. The Annual Report will occur as a separate pdf document. Contents of OBFS publications and materials should be

Newsletter: (the Fall Newsletter notes that Annual Report is attached)

- New station members or feature station
- Election results
- Opportunities and Services for Members
- Meeting Information
- Funding Possibilities
- Where to find information
- Activities of the Board and Chairs

Election Materials

- Supporting Information
 - Candidate bios
 - Details regarding Bylaw changes
 - Etc.
- Voting Card (or electronic vote ballot)

Annual Report

- Minutes of the annual meeting
- Other meeting minutes
- Budgets
- Meeting attendees
- Current membership lists
- Executive Board Members
- Committee Chair Members

3. Executive Board and Committee Chair Interactions.

After much discussion, the Board and Chairs

- a. generated a proposed format for the proposals:
 - Introduction
 - How Project Fits into Strategic Plan
 - Lasting Benefits to OBFS
 - Cost
 - Budget Justification
 - Who is Involved
 - Timeline
 - Must be electronic
 - 2-page limit
 - b. provided some dates and structure for committee chairs to send in proposals. This would require that the Executive Board regularly meet to approve any proposals. The following dates were recommended: October 16, January 15, April 16
4. The Board and Chairs reviewed all committee proposals that were identified during the annual meeting:

- Website Committee (requested \$6,600): Proposal to merge the administrative and field station information databases and make it available for members to edit. John Kim \$75/hr available to do the work. Total estimated cost is \$6,600. Executive Board recommended that a search engine be added that allows members to search any field in the database. Bill Michener may have some money to help support this project.
 - Diversity Committee (requested \$3,000): Proposal to develop an OBFS Diversity Award. Awardees will post descriptions of diversity projects on the web as a pdf. The \$3,000 would also go towards a one-day Diversity panel at next year's meeting with Jeff Brown and Amy Whipple as leads. This meeting would be pre or post day to OBFS annual meeting and would provide perspectives of different target groups (Native American, Hispanic) and develop strategies how to work with these groups.
 - Small Field Stations Committee (requested \$3,000): Proposal to convene a small field stations meeting during the year to refine how best to address needs of small stations, develop themes for annual meetings, and clarify the goals of the small field stations committee. The \$3,000 would be used for travel for members to meet and would be subsidized with funds from field stations attending.
 - Outreach Committee (requested \$5,000): Proposal to hire consultant to develop the OBFS brochure in conjunction with other OBFS branding.
5. Results of end of meeting survey. Larry Weider reported on the results of the end of meetings survey. These results are appended to the end of these notes (below). The take home messages were
 - Orientation for new members: presidents address "welcome to OBFS"
 - Agendas for committees developed before the annual meeting
 - Poster session instead of slide show (also helps with networking issue)
 6. Committee chair term limits
The Board and Chairs proposed an annual term limit for service of Committee Chairs. This allows the President to change appointments as needed. De facto time limit is 3 years. The Board and Chairs also discussed committee membership. Is any participant a committee members? Committee chair needs to introduce to meeting participants how the committee works. Welcome participation but you are not committing to anything.
 7. Other Business. Start thinking about sustainability of our meetings. Society of Conservation Biology is initiating activities: transportation costs of coming to meeting (carbon costs). How do we deal with some of these issues? Climate change will affect our organization more than many others. We need to consider these issues and investigate what other society's are doing. We need to start by raising awareness.

End of Meeting

**Organization of Biological Field Stations
(OBFS)
2006 Annual Meeting Exit Survey-
Results
U. of Montana Flathead Lake Biological
Station, 14-17 September 2006**

In an effort to help the Annual Meeting Committee assess the success of this year's meeting and to make sure that the annual meeting continues to meet the needs of our membership, we ask you to take a few minutes to fill out the following meeting exit survey. Your input is greatly appreciated. Thanks!

1.) Please rank the following informational sessions with respect to the usefulness of the information provided during each session, and how often this topic should be addressed at OBFS Meetings.

RESPONSES ARE BASED A TOTAL OF 37 RETURNED SURVEYS.

Enhancing Diversity at FSMLs:

[**70.3%**] Useful [29.7%] Somewhat useful
[] Not very useful
[30.6%] Yearly [**63.9%**] Occasionally
[2.8%] Rarely [2.8%] Once was enough

EPSCoR Overview

[31.4%] Useful [28.6%] Somewhat useful
[40.0%] Not very useful
[6.2%] Yearly [**53.1%**] Occasionally
[25%] Rarely [15.7%] Once was enough

NSF-FSML Update

[**81.1%**] Useful [16.2%] Somewhat useful
[2.7%] Not very useful
[**88.6%**] Yearly [11.4%] Occasionally
[] Rarely [] Once was enough

NEON Update

[**48.6%**] Useful [31.4%] Somewhat useful
[20.0%] Not very useful
[42.9%] Yearly [42.9%] Occasionally
[2.9%] Rarely [5.7%] Once was enough

Liability Issues at FSMLs

[**67.7%**] Useful [25.8%] Somewhat useful
[6.5%] Not very useful
[34.5%] Yearly [**58.6%**] Occasionally
[6.9%] Rarely [] Once was enough

Education at FSMLs

[**84.8%**] Useful [15.2%] Somewhat useful
[] Not very useful
[**65.6%**] Yearly [34.4%] Occasionally
[] Rarely [] Once was enough

“Greening” of FSMLs

[**86.2%**] Useful [13.8%] Somewhat useful
[] Not very useful
[51.9%] Yearly [48.1%] Occasionally

[] Rarely [] Once was enough

2.) Please suggest additional informational sessions that you would like to see at future meetings, and suggest how frequently these topics should be included in the agenda. *We are serious about wanting your feedback on this!* Or, add comments about specific sessions.

3.) For each of the following aspects of the annual meeting, please indicate whether the time allocated was appropriate. If you marked “too long” or “too short”, indicate under the “Adjust Time” column how we should reallocate the time for future meetings (e.g. “too long, Adj. time by 30 min.”).

New Station Intros/What’s new at your station session

[24.1%] Too long [**69.0%**] Just right
[6.9%] Too short [] Adj. time by 20-60 min (several commented move to earlier in meeting during the day)

Field trips

[] Too long [**95.2%**] Just right
[4.8%] Too short [] Adj. time by __ min (comment to include a ½ day mid-meeting field trip)

Facilities/Station tour

[] Too long [**96.8%**] Just right
[3.2%] Too short [] Adj. time by __ min (comment – would like more time to interface with diff. station staff members)

Panel discussions

[11.1%] Too long [**74.1%**] Just right
[14.8%] Too short [] Adj. time by _30_ min

Annual Updates (e.g. FSML)

2006 OBFS Annual Report

[23.3%] Too long [66.7%] Just right
 [10.0%] Too short Adj. time by +30
 min, -30 min -90 min

Committee meetings and reports

[12.9%] Too long [71.0%] Just right
 [16.1%] Too short Adj. time by +30 to -
 60 min

OBFS (plenary) business sessions

[29.0%] Too long [71.0%] Just right
 Too short Adj. time by -10 to -60 min

Informal “networking” time

Too long [39.4%] Just right
 [60.6%] Too short Adj. time by +30,
 +60 up to +120 min

4.) Did you find the Committee/Subcommittee Meetings that you attended to be well organized and worth your time?

Governance yes
 no
 Member Support yes
 no

TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS:

- funding sources or tips on grant writing (5)
- media training (3)
- orientation session at beginning of meeting for new members
- “how-to” sessions, “nuts-n-bolts” sessions, “stump-the-panel” sessions, “success & failure sessions”, (14)
- small-scale facilities development session

OVERALL COMMENTS:

- need more “down time” for recreation/exploration (4)
- place intro to other stations earlier in the program & during the day
- scheduling concurrent committee meetings is difficult
- shorter presentations (EPSCoR, NEON)

International yes
 no
 Web Site yes
 no
 Small Field Stations yes
 no
 Diversity yes
 no
 Organizational Development yes
 no
 Outreach yes
 no

If, “no”, please make specific recommendations to improve on these committee meetings.
 Just one comment about committee chair being a bit slow in getting the discussion going.

5.) Please provide any additional specific comments that might help us in organizing future meetings.

- how to plan a strategic planning grant for a field station
- how to begin a new station (offered every 2 years)
- how to form partnerships among FSMLs (2)
- diversity workshop as add-on or separate (3)
- international issues
- data management & policy (3)
- discussion of FSML cooperation with host institutions for financial support and academic coordination

- provide a bit more background on each subcommittee/committee
- post agenda of committee meetings early (Thurs) of the meeting
- produce poster or fact sheet about each station – get folks to bring to meeting and post (2)

2006 OBFS Annual Report

- maybe fewer formal sessions
 - education topic very good, but restructure
 - NSF-FSML presentation should be restructured
 - support SFS Committee proposal (4)
 - best punctuality of sessions of any conference I have attended
 - need a way to bring new members into the fold – should be a focused action item for EB
 - (meeting) format works!
- provide ~1.5 hrs of “down time” (without meetings) on Fri. and/or Sat. for people to talk with presenters (e.g. G. Selzer)
 - “greening” discussion extraordinarily useful and should be continued (2)
 - have OBFS business material (i.e. budget, by-laws, committee tasks) posted before hand
 - consider adding Sunday as a full-day of the meeting to provide enough time for other groups to meet

OBFS Financial Report 2005-2006

I. Operating Funds

	Actual	Budgeted
Previous Balance Aug 31, 2005:	\$37,449.41	
(\$27,610.69 in CDs; \$9,838.72 in checking account)		
Income:		
Membership dues	\$20,791.88	\$18,000.00
Interest (CDs, checking)	\$1,063.95	\$100.00
Reimbursements	\$315.15	\$0.00
Total Income:	\$22,170.98	\$18,100.00
Expenses:		
Regular Operating Expenses		
AIBS dues and public policy initiative	\$2,695.00	\$2,695.00
Bank charge	\$32.90	\$0.00
Missouri corporation registration	\$10.00	\$15.00
Travel OBFS committee	\$1,965.12	\$3,000.00
Congressional visits day	\$3,683.84	\$6,000.00
OBFS traveling exhibit shipping	\$402.45	\$700.00
Shipping		
Brochure		
Field studies poster	\$3,981.42	\$3,500.00
Office and website		
Secretarial and database support	\$1,650.00	\$900.00
Supplies	\$41.55	\$900.00
Website editing charges	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Database project with LTER	\$0.00	\$1,000.00

2006 OBFS Annual Report

IOBFS			
	Office and website	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
	Strategic Planning	\$499.07	\$0.00
	Newsletter	\$195.52	\$300.00
	Committee Expenses		
	Small Field Stations	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Governance	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Development	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Diversity	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Program Committee	\$0.00	\$500.00
	International	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Member Support	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Networking	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Outreach	\$0.00	\$500.00
	Subtotal Regular Operating Expenses	\$15,156.87	\$25,510.00
	Committee Proposals Contingent Upon Review by EB	\$0.00	\$13,250.00
	Total Expenses:	\$15,156.87	\$38,760.00
	Transfer to Restricted Fund:	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Balance August 31, 2006	\$44,463.52	

Fund Holdings	August-06	August-05
Investments - CDs:		
211125 3.94% (4.00% yield), 12 mos. due 11/01/06	\$7,237.59	\$6,989.15
211242 4.28% (4.35% yield), 12 mos due 1/28/07	\$4,216.78	\$4,077.55
211243 4.28% (4.35% yield), 12 mos due 2/02/06	\$6,313.82	\$6,105.35
212240 3.94% (4.00% yield), 12 mos, due 9/15/06	\$6,422.02	\$6,201.57
614444 3.94% (4.00% yield), 6 mos, due 3/25/07	\$4,379.29	\$4,237.07
Checking Account:	\$15,894.02	\$9,838.72

II. Restricted Funds

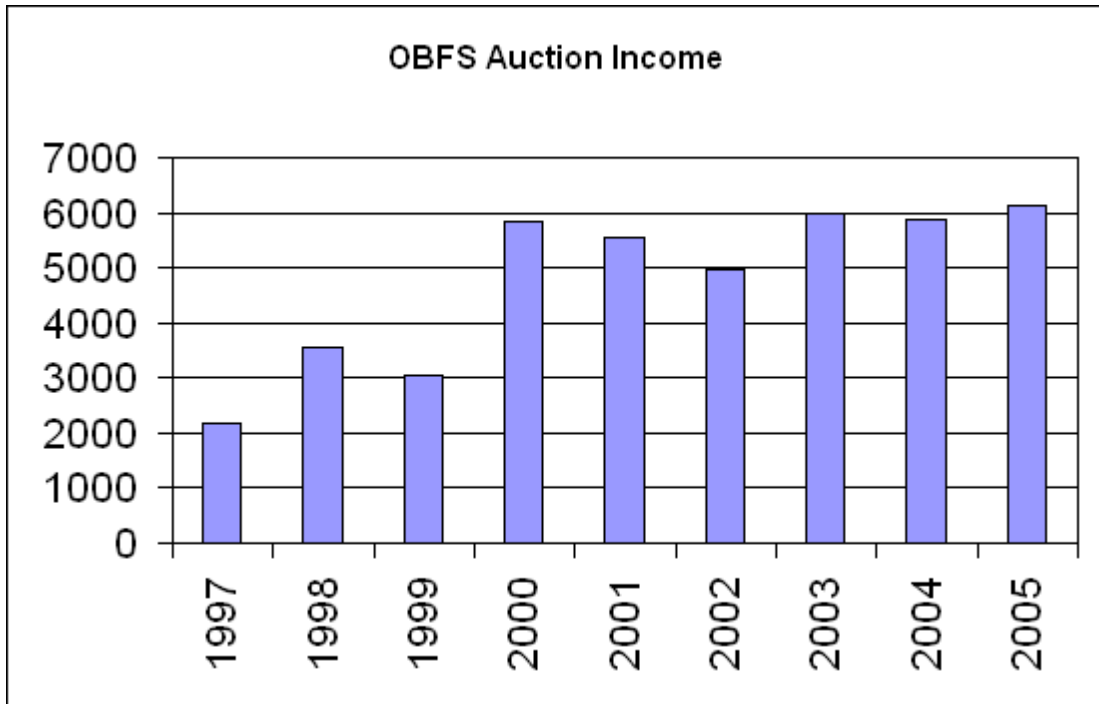
Previous Restricted Fund Balance Aug 31, 2005:	\$57,192.51
Contributions:	
Transfer from Operating Funds	\$0.00
Auction proceeds	\$6,131.00
Donations	\$0.00
Citizens mutual fund	\$273.08
Total Contributions:	\$6,404.08

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Expenses:	\$0.00
Restricted Fund Balance Aug 31, 2006:	\$63,596.59

Fund Holdings

Investments - Citizens Mutual Fund:	
Core Growth Fund (1,909.001 shares @ \$19.88)	\$37,950.94
Emerging Growth Fund (1271.860 shares @ \$15.72)	\$19,993.64
OBFS Checking Account:	\$5,652.01



III. OBFS Proposed Operating Budget 2006-07

	Proposed 06-07
Operating Fund Balance August 31, 2006	44,464
Income:	
Membership dues	19,500
Interest (CDs, checking)	500
Texas Tech hosting support	2,000
Reimbursements	0
Total Income:	22,000
Expenses:	
Regular Operating Expenses	
AIBS dues and public policy initiative	2,695
Bank charge	30

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Missouri corporation registration	10
Travel OBFS committee	3,000
Congressional visits day	6,000
OBFS traveling exhibit shipping	700
Field studies poster	4,000
Office and website	
Secretarial support and supplies	500
Treasurer support and supplies	1,800
Website editing charges	1,000
IOBFS	
Office and website	1,000
Newsletter	1,000
Committee Expenses	
Governance	500
Annual Meeting	500
Member Support	500
Common Interests	
Diversity	500
International	500
Small Field Stations	500
Organizational Development	500
Outreach	500
Website	500
 Subtotal Regular Operating Expenses	 26,235
 Committee Proposals Contingent Upon Review by EB	 16,000
Governance Committee - lawyer fees for Bylaws, tax-exempt status	2,000
Annual Meeting	0
Member Support	0
Common Interests	--
Diversity - 1-day workshop is assoc with 2007 mtg	3,000
International - travel for intl station attendees to 2007 mtg	2,000
Small Field Stations - travel funds for 5 member committee	3,000
Organizational Development	0
Outreach Committee - brochure	5,000
Website - update membership database	1,000
Other Committee Projects	0
 Total Expenses:	 42,235
 Transfer to Restricted Fund:	 0
 Net Gain/Loss	 -20,235

Projected Operating Fund Balance August 31, 2007

25,679

Organization of Biological Field Stations



ANNUAL MEETING 2006 PARTICIPANT LIST



Ms. Kristy Anderson
University of Nebraska
Cedar Point Biological Station
348 Manter Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0118
402-472-5977

Mr. Robert Anderson
University of Nebraska
Cedar Point Biological Station
348 Manter Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0118
402-472-5977

Dr. Tom Arsuffi
Texas Tech University
Field Station
254 Red Raider Lane
PO Box 186
Junction, TX 76849
325-446-2301

Dr. Nevin Aspinwall
Reis Biological Station - St. Louis
University
Biology
3507 Laclede Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-977-3902

Mrs. Cheryl Baker
Orange Coast College
Math & Science Division
2701 Fairview Rd.
P.O. Box 5005
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-5005
714-432-5847

Dr. Eric L Berlow
UC Merced
Sierra Nevada Research Institute
Wawona Station
Yosemite National Park, CA
95389
209-375-9917

Dr. Ian Billick
Rocky Mountain Biological
Laboratory
PO Box 519
Crested Butte, CO 81224
970-349-7231

Dr. Virginia Boucher
UCD NRS
JMIE
One Shields Ave.
Davis, CA 95616
530-752-6949

Dr. Ed Boyer
Prescott College
Kino Bay Center for Cultural &
Ecological Studies
220 Grove Ave
Prescott, AZ 86301
928-350-2209

Mr. Jeff Brown
UC Berkeley
Sagehen Creek Field Station
PO Box 939
Truckee, CA 96160
530-587-4830

Dr. Philippe S. Cohen
Stanford University
Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Gilbert 109
Stanford, CA 94305-5020
650-851-6814

Dr. Peter Connors
University of California Davis
Bodega Marine Laboratory
PO Box 247
Bodega Bay, CA 94923
707-875-3379

Ms. Nina Consolatti
Michigan State University
Kellogg Biological Station
3700 East Gull Lake Drive
Hickory Corners, MI 49079

269-671-2228

Ms. Susan Cordell
USDA Forest Service
60 Nowelo Street
Hilo, HI 96720
808-933-8121

Dr. Robert Crabtree
Yellowstone Ecological Research
Center
2048 Analysis Drive STE B
Bozeman, MT 59718-6829
406-556-1414

Dr. George Davis
Minnesota State University
Moorhead
Regional Science Center
1104 7th Avenue South
Moorhead, MN 56563
218-477-2092

Ms. Mel Dean
Rocky Mountain Biological
Laboratory
PO Box 519
Crested Butte, CO 81224
970-349-7231

Dr. Bohdan Dziadyk
Augustana College
Rock Island, IL 61201
309-794-3436

Ms. Kelli Elliott
Orange Coast College
Biology
2701 Fairview Rd.
Costa Mesa, CA 92826
562-598-6727

Mrs. Faerthen Felix
UC Berkeley
Sagehen Creek Field Station
P.O. Box 939
Truckee, CA 96160
530-587-4830

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Dr. Linda Fuselier
Minnesota State University
Moorhead
Biosciences
1104 7th Ave S
Moorhead, MN 56563
218-477-2571

Dr. Bruce Gilman
Finger Lakes Community College
Environmental Science
5308 Charland Road
Middlesex, NY 14507
585-554-3038

Dr. James Gosz
National Science Foundation
EPSCoR
4201 Wilson Blvd
Arlington, VA 22230
703-292-4965

Dr. Janice Greene
Missouri State University
Bull Shoals Field Station
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897
417-836-5306

Dr. Jack Grubaugh
University of Memphis
Department of Biology
Ellington Hall 217
Memphis, TN 38152
901-678-5487

Mr. Chris Halle
Bodega Marine Laboratory
P.O. Box 247
Bodega Bay, CA 94923
707-536-8914

Dr. Chad Hargrave
Sam Houston State University
Biological Sciences
Box 2116
Huntsville, TX 77341
405-326-3680

Dr. Steve Harper
Pinellas County Biological Field
Station
Environmental Lands Division
3611 Fletch Haven Dr.
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688
727-453-6933

Dr. Tom Hayes
UWSP

Treehaven Center
W2540 Pickerel Creek Rd.
Tomahawk, WI 54487
715-345-6316

Dr. Karen Hickman
Oklahoma State University
Dept. of Natural Resource Ecology
and Mgt
167 Ag Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078
405-744-9579

Dr. Ray Highsmith
University of Mississippi Field
Station
15 CR 2078
Abbeville, MS 38601
662-816-7836

Dr. Janet Hodder
Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
University of Oregon
PO Box 5389
Charleston, OR 97420
541-888-2581 Ext. 215

Dr. Eva Horne
Konza Prairie Biological Station
Biology
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506
785-532-5929

Dr. Mary Hufty
Archbold Expeditions
President
P. O. Box 2057
Lake Placid, FL 33862
650-851-4533

Dr. Sean Jenkins
Western Illinois University
Department of Biological Sciences
215 Waggoner Hall
Macomb, IL 61455
309-298-2045

Dr. Kathleen Kavanagh
University of Idaho
Forest Resources
CNR
University of Idaho
Moscow, ID 83844-1133
208-885-2552

Ms. Karen Kilbourne
Sutton Avian Research Center
Development

P.O. Box 2007
Bartlesville, OK 74005
918-336-7778

Dr. John Kim
San Diego State University
Field Station Programs
5500 Campanile Dr. LS-106
San Diego, CA 92182
858-531-1783

Dr. Brian Kloeppel
University of Georgia
Institute of Ecology
Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory
3160 Coweeta Lab Road
Otto, NC 28763
828-524-2128 Ext. 127

Mr. Michael Langston
Oklahoma State University
Environmental Institute
003 LSE
Stillwater, OK 74078-3011
405-744-9994

Mr. David Larson
Washington University Tyson
Research Center
P O Box 258
Eureka, MO 63025
314-935-8431

Dr. Lyndal Laughrin
University of California Santa
Barbara
Santa Cruz Island Reserve
Marine Science Institute
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
805-448-3491

Mr. Roger Long
Rio San Martin Biological Field
Station
1634 NW Saginaw Ave
Bend, OR 97701
541-318-5510

Dr. Claudia Luke
Bodega Marine Laboratory
P.O. Box 247
Bodega Bay, CA 94923
707-875-2020

Dr. David Mahan
Au Sable Institute
7526 Sunset Tr., NE
Mancelona, Michigan 49659

2006 OBFS Annual Report

231-587-8686

Dr. Deedra McClearn
Organization for Tropical Studies
PO 598
Lemont, PA 16851
814-867-1288

Dr. William Michener
LTER Network Office
Biology
University of New Mexico
MSC03 2020
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
505-345-8547

Mr. Nick Mihailoff
Pymatuning Lab of Ecology
University of Pittsburgh
13142 Hartstown Road
Linesville, PA 16424
814-683-5813

Dr. Allan Muth
Deep Canyon Desert Research
Center
University of California, Riverside
P.O. Box 1738
Palm Desert, CA 92261
760 341-3655

Dr. Knute Nadelhoffer
University of Michigan Biological
Station
Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary
Biology
1029 Natural Sciences
830 N. University Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1048
734-761-4461

Dr. Eric Nagy
University of Virginia
Mountain Lake Biological Station
P.O. Box 400327
Charlottesville, VA 22904
434-982-5486

Ms. Chen Yin Noah
Univ. of California Natural Reserve
System
1111 Franklin St.
Oakland, CA 94607-5200
510-987-0151

Mr. Marc Perkins
Orange Coast College
Biology
2701 Fairview Rd.

Costa Mesa, CA 92626
714-432-5847

Dr. Nathan Rank
Sonoma State University
1801 E. Cotati Ave.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
707-664-3053

Dr. Chuck Rose
St. Cloud State University
Environmental Studies
720 4th Ave S
St. Cloud, MN 56301
320-308-3129

Mr. Richard Rothaus
St. Cloud State University
Office of Sponsored Programs
720 Fourth Ave S
AS 210
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498
320-308-4932

Mr. Jeffrey Savino
University of Toledo
Lake Erie Center
6200 Bayshore Rd.
Oregon, Ohio 43618
419-530-8361

Dr. Gerald Selzer
National Science Foundation
Division of Biological Infrastructure
4201 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22230
703-292-8470

Ms. Kim Shannon
Sutton Avian Research Center
Development
P.O. Box 2007
Bartlesville, OK 74005
918-336-7778

Ms. Jennifer Sheldon
Yellowstone Ecological Research
Center
2048 Analysis Dr. STE B
Bozeman, MT 59718-6829
406-556-1414

Gregory Smith
University of Akron
Biology
185 ASEC-W
Akron, OH 44325-3908
330-972-7501

Dr. Mark Stromberg
University of California, Berkeley
Hastings Natural History Reserve
38601 E. Carmel Valley Road
Carmel Valley, CA 9392
831-659-2664

Dr. Hilary Swain
Archbold Biological Station
Executive Director
PO Box 2057
Lake Placid, FL 33852
863-465-2571 Ext. 251

Dr. Monte Thies
Sam Houston State University
Biological Sciences
Box 2116
Huntsville, TX 77341
936-294-3746

Ms. Karen Van Keuren
Finger Lakes Community College
Office of Resource Development
4355 Lakeshore Drive
Canandigua, New York 14424
585-394-3500 Ext. 7206

Dr. Alison Wallace
Minnesota State University
Moorhead
Biosciences
1104 7th Ave S
Moorhead, MN 56563
218-477-2843

Dr. Linda Wallace
University of Oklahoma
Kessler Farm Field Laboratory
770 Van Vleet Oval
Norman, OK 73019
405-325-6685

Dr. Lawrence Weider
University of Oklahoma
Biological Station
HC-71, Box 205
Kingston, OK 73439
405-325-4766

Dr. Daniel Wenny
Illinois Natural History Survey
Lost Mound Field Station
3159 Crim Drive
Savanna, IL 61074
815-273-3184

Dr. Matt Whiles
Southern Illinois University

2006 OBFS Annual Report

Zoology

mail code 6501
Carbondale, IL 62901-6501
618-453-7639

Dr. Amy Whipple

Northern Arizona University
Merriam-Powell Research Station
PO Box 5640
Flagstaff, AZ 86011
928-523-8727

Dr. Dawn Wilson

Southwestern Research Station
P.O. Box 16553
Portal, Arizona 85632
520-558-2396

Flathead Lake Biological Station Personnel

Jack A. Stanford, Director and
Bierman Professor of Ecology

W. Arthur McKee, Research
Scientist

Sue Gillespie, Asst. Director of
Operations

Mark Potter, Asst. Dir. of Facilities
and Prop.

F. Richard Hauer, Professor of
Limnology

John Kimball, Research Assoc.
Prof.

Mark Lorang, Research Asst. Prof.

Bonnie Ellis, Senior Research
Scientist

Eric Anderson

Michelle Anderson

Tom Bansak

Jake Chaffin

Jim Craft

Aaron Hill

Lorri Eberle

Anne Goulet

Lindsey Johnson

Lucas Jones

Marie Kohler

Kirill Kuzishchin

Judy Maseman

Phil Matson

Niels Maumenee

Claudio Meier

Mike Morris

Robert Newell

Jeremy Nigon

Kristin Olson

Sarah O'Neal

Natani Pete

Mike Piazza

Brian Reid

Scott Relyea

Don Schenck

Tyler Tappenbeck

Audrey Thompson

Joann Wallenburn

Diane Whited

Ke Zhang

