

**Minutes of the 2002 Marine Fisheries Section Business Meeting
Baltimore, Maryland
20 August 2002**

Prepared by Debra Murie, Secretary/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by MFS President, Anne Richards.

I. Introductions, additions to agenda

Everyone present introduced himself/herself along with his/her affiliation. There were no new items added to the agenda.

II. President's Report

II. A. AFS Governing Board Meeting

Mary Fabrizio presented the MFS annual report to the AFS Governing Board. Mary reported back that the AFS was now doing fine financially, and had a 205K surplus with 600K in the reserve fund. This may mean that the sections will receive a return on part of the dues paid.

II. B. Review of MFS Activities

II. B1. Oceans Act of 2000: An MFS committee chaired by past-president Steve Berkeley developed the basis for an AFS position statement to the Commission on Ocean Policy established by the Oceans Act of 2000. Visit the AFS website for more information.

II. B2. Beverton Lecture Notes I and II: Doug Vaughan summarized sales from the first series of Beverton Notes (1000 copies), of which we have about 300 left to sell. Last year, Emory Anderson also proposed that we purchase and sell a second series of Beverton Notes based on a lecture series given by Ray Beverton. The notes have now been transcribed and edited by Emory as a book and will be printed by the government printing office this fall for distribution. The book will be distributed to NMFS employees (~700) free of charge by the printing office. The MFS therefore estimates that we could sell ~300 copies. The book will retail for \$25 @ and we get 25% off. MFS will be advertising the book for sale in *Fisheries*. Doug Vaughan has agreed to receive the books for resale, so please contact him if you would like to purchase a copy (doug.vaughan@noaa.gov). Our thanks to Doug for taking on both of these projects.

John Hoenig also suggested that Ricker's translation of Baranov's works could be another MFS publication. John is going to go through the translations, but notes that the work is of really great historical value (catch curves, yield per recruit, etc.) John is going to proof read the translations and decide about figures that need to be in it, and maybe pen a biography of Baranov to go with it as well. Dan Pauly is working with John on it and to date it has been typed as a document. Alexei Sharov (Maryland DNR) may be able to help with this.

II. B3. Peer Review-ACCSP: MFS coordinated a peer-review for the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP). MFS identified a panel of experts in the area of expertise to review the ACCSP program. The review went well and the outcome was well received. The review was completed in January 2002.

II. B4. MFS Website: MFS web site is up and running now. Suggestions for future modifications included making the website a different color for printing in black and white and to make the section button (unit) easier to find and access. A big thank you to Anne Richards and Max Stocker for working on the web site over the past couple of years.

II. B5. Student Travel Grants: Two recipients were given travel awards this year: Patrick Campfield and Toby Auth. Both are Masters students working with Ed Houde and gave presentations during the conference. MFS discussed methods to get students to apply for the awards and become more active in the section (Also, see below).

II. B6. Meeting/Symposia Sponsorships: MFS provided a grant of \$1,000 to support an international workshop held in New Zealand during December entitled "Training Managers for the 21st Century". The workshop was primarily a New Zealand and Australian exercise for managers to garner a much more broad-based approach to management. There is to be a follow up session in Wellington, N.Z., in September 2003. The original workshop was believed to be well worth our support.

MFS provided \$1,000 support to the 4th World Fisheries Congress to be held in Vancouver, B.C., in May 2004. Members of the program committee for the 4th WFC came in to the MFS meeting to thank the section for support.

MFS provided \$400 support to the AFS International Fisheries Endowment Fund to help support/sponsor international participation in the AFS.

MFS is contributing to the 2003 AFS-sponsored symposium "Propagated Organisms in and for Aquatic Resource Management" through participation in the steering committee for the symposium.

II. B7. Election Results: The election for President-elect was won by John Hoenig.

III. Secretary-Treasurer's Report

As of 31 July 2002, there were 360 members in the Marine Fisheries Section. The balance of the MFS account, as of 31 July 2002, was \$10,603.43.

IV. Oscar E. Sette Award

The Sette Award recognizes meritorious contributions to the field of marine fisheries. For 2002, Des Kahn, chair of the Sette Award Committee, announced that Dr. William

Richards was the recipient. Des gave a brief biography of Dr. Richards who is currently with the NMFS in Miami, FL. Dr. Richards has a very extensive publication record focusing on larval fish taxonomy and development. He was not available to attend but sent his gratitude via Anne Richards.

V. 2002-2003 Program of Work

V. A. Marine Population Dynamics Workshop: The MFS will collaborate with the AFS Northeast Division and the Continuing Education Committee to develop a Marine Population Dynamics Workshop. Steve Murawski said that the workshop was originally planned for sometime this fall in Connecticut but is being rescheduled; it will perhaps be held in conjunction with the Northeast Division meeting in April in Newport.

V. B. Student Travel Grants-Further Development: There was not a great response to the Student Travel Grants this year (only two students applied). The two students that did receive them were excellent students, however, and deserved the awards. The MFS needs to increase the level of participation by students, however, in both the travel grant applications and membership. Various suggestions were made and discussed, including:

- make the travel grant a competition with a monetary award (rather than a travel grant);
- give the travel grant (or award) a name to give it more prestige;
- advertise better and increase the visibility of student items on the web site;
- give the student a membership as part of the award so that they do not have to be a member to apply for the award in the first place;
- get faculty members to promote the value of being a member of a professional society to their graduate students;
- promote the MFS section in general since our membership is dwindling a bit (it used to be over 400 members). It is important to communicate to people what the MFS can do for them, through the newsletter, travel grants, etc.;
- partner with the education committee to advertise the travel awards. Most students receive information via email over the list server;
- reduce the fee required for students. Anne Richards will look into this again. The Estuary Section has reduced their student fee to \$2 (regular members pay \$7);
- various discussions ensued as to whether the student should be a member of the section to apply or just a *bona fide* student. Some sections are having trouble getting student members because the students do not know how to become a member of a section. Other students want to be able to belong to multiple sections, or at least have some time to decide what section(s) they want to join.

Out of these discussions, various motions with amendments were proposed, of which the following two motions survived:

John Hoenig made a motion that the excom institute a \$2 fee for student members. The motion was seconded by John Boreman. The motion passed.

John Hoenig made a motion that the excom work on the problem of student participation, including the travel awards. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

V. C. AFS Symposia for 2003: Doug Vaughan et al. are going to put together a symposium for next year's meeting in Quebec. They plan to have a one-day symposium that concentrates on looking at data poor situations. John Boreman et al. also are planning a one-day symposium in Quebec city, entitled "Large Scale Fishery Independent Surveys: Looking to the Future by Learning from the Past". A general list of topics to be covered includes: History, Sampling Methods and Technology, Statistical Methods for Design and Analysis of Survey Data, Uses of Survey Data, and the Future of Fishery Independent Sampling.

John Hoenig requested that Mary Fabrizio contact the program chairs in Quebec to request that they do not overlay the symposia on the marine sections of contributed papers. This has happened in the past and we should make sure that the program chairs know of our concerns.

VI. Sette Award Committee: The Sette Award Committee needs to add a few more people to the committee. Des Kahn will chair it again this year. Ed Houde and Churchill Grimes volunteered to participate on the committee. Ken Able will be contacted to see if he will also do it.

VII. Installation of New Officers: Anne Richards turned the gavel over to Mary Fabrizio. Mary's first order of business was to give Anne a plaque of appreciation for her service. Mary looks forward to the next year and encourages people to send her emails of any concerns, etc. John Hoenig is now president-elect.

VIII. New business: There was no new business.

VIV. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.