

AFS Marine Fisheries Section (MFS) 2011 Business Meeting Minutes
September 6, 2011, 6 – 8 pm
Seattle, WA
Washington State Convention Center

President Ken Beal called the meeting to order at 6:20pm on Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

President Beal introduced the MFS Executive Committee.

President Beal announced the winner of the Berkeley Fellowship, Valentina Di Santo (not in attendance)

President Beal proposed to make the Student Awards at this point. Student Travel Awards were presented to Megan Nims (University of Texas at Austin) and Tim Ellis (North Carolina State University).

President Beal also announced the Honorable Mentions for the Berkeley Fellowship, Lewis Barnett (University of California Davis) and Pablo Granados-Dieseldorff (Texas A&M University).

President Beal presented the Oscar Elton Sette Award to Brian Rothschild of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. The statement that was used to introduce Dr. Rothschild is attached below.

Dr. Rothschild made some remarks regarding his history with Elton Sette.

President Beal asked for comments on the 2010 minutes. Don Cowan should be changed to Jim Cowan (paragraph 6) and mention should be made of Mike Prager receiving the Sette Award in 2010.

John Boreman moved to accept the minutes, and Larry Miller seconded. The minutes were accepted. The Treasurer's Report also was presented by President Beal. Caroline Griswold moved to accept the report, and John Hoenig seconded the motion. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.

President Beal asked attendees to consider an MFS Spending Budget developed by Doug Vaughn and Deb Lambert. John Hoenig suggested spending more of the budget on Travel Awards and not "give away" any funds for non-MFS projects. John moved to increase the Student Travel Award to \$1,050, of which \$200 will come from a personal contribution from John Hoenig. The motion was seconded by Selina Heppell. Des Kahn expressed concern about not being able to balance the budget. Abigail Franklin shared that even a small amount can be helpful to a student. John Boreman suggested that the MFS is spending too much for refreshments, and the \$600 budgeted for MFS President travel is too low. Des Kahn stated that having food and drinks is helpful in attracting people to our annual meetings. John Hoenig offered to donate \$200 of his own funds as a "challenge grant" to help increase the student awards. Roger Rulifson made several points about the seriousness of the MFS's financial

situation and expressed support for the \$350 amount for the student travel but felt that the travel reimbursement is insufficient. Roger also credited NMFS for helping to support administrative expenses for the annual business meeting, and Lee Benaka mentioned that the NMFS support may be extended for five years.

Selina Heppell wondered what the MFS offers to students to make them want to get involved. John Boreman suggested that a continuing education course would be a good activity. Lynn Waterhouse mentioned that it would be helpful to not schedule the business meeting at the same time as the student social.

The amendment to the motion to increase the student travel award to \$1,050 was approved by a vote of 7 to 3.

Larry Miller moved, and Selina Heppell seconded, to eliminate charitable donation funds to help balance the budget. There was some more discussion of the overall proposed budget and at what point it is balanced. The motion was approved unanimously.

Additional concern was expressed with the cost of traveling to the Governing Board meetings.

Doug Vaughn spoke regarding ideas to increase the MFS Treasury, including publication of a new book.

John Boreman moved to eliminate the food and drink item from the budget and increase Travel Reimbursement to \$1,000.

Kevin Somerville offered to get his institution to make a donation for student travel to help balance the budget.

Section members continued to discuss the challenge of funding MFS President travel.

John Boreman's motion failed on a vote of five to four.

The MFS voted to approve the proposed budget as amended. The motion passed with a vote of 10 to 1. The approved budget is attached below.

Doug Vaughn made a pitch for sales of Beverton books and made several sales.

Tom Idhe announced his symposium that is taking place on Thursday, September 8.

President Beal also mentioned that the MFS sponsored the bycatch symposium at the AFS 2011 meeting as well.

John Hoenig asked for a discussion of whether the MFS would like to sponsor a symposium for the AFS 2012 Annual Meeting. There was a brief discussion about AFS guidelines for symposia length. Roger Rulifson suggested that MFS sponsor a marine contributed paper session.

President Beal invited MFS members to contact Doug Vaughn if they have ideas for Minneapolis.

Ken Beal moved to adjourn.

Attachment #1: Statement used to introduce Brian J. Rothschild, the 2011 Winner of the Oscar E. Sette Award.

This year's awardee was nominated by Dr. Changsheng Chen of the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

In a special way, the award this year rekindles a connection. Brian knew and worked with Sette; they coauthored a paper on skipjack tuna in 1966, although Brian denies the rumor that he was actually Sette's godfather. Brian was able to let the members of the Sette Committee know that Sette was actually known by his middle name, Elton.

Brian Rothschild has been working in fisheries for nearly 60 years, and he continues working in fisheries, recently publishing a thought-provoking paper critiquing a winter flounder stock assessment. Recently, as Dean of SMAST at the University of Massachusetts, he established the first University-wide graduate marine program.

Brian has written on several subjects, including fisheries ecology, stock assessment and fishery management policy. He has edited seven books, written 20 book chapters and published 82 peer-reviewed papers and reports. His 1986 book, *Dynamics of Marine Fish Populations*, was ground-breaking in the areas of recruitment, growth and reproduction, utilizing historical, life-history and modeling contexts.

Brian has worked with both regional and international scientific and fishery management organizations. Some of his arenas include the Cod and Climate Program of ICES, International GLOBEC, FAO and service as secretary of SCOR. He has served as Director of Policy at NOAA, where he oversaw the implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976. Brian left his mark on the fisheries of the Chesapeake Bay, including the blue crab and oyster arenas, when he worked at the University of Maryland. Prior to his time at the Universities of Maryland and Massachusetts, he taught at the University of Washington. His doctoral students include influential marine biologists such as William Fox, former Director of NMFS and Vaughan Anthony, stock assessment leader at the Northeast Fishery Science Center. Brian has served as an international advisor on doctoral committees around the world.

I hope you will agree with us that Brian is a fitting recipient of the 2011 Oscar Elton Sette Award from the Marine Fishery Section. Thank you.

Attachment #2: Annual MFS Spending Budget

Approved Annual MFS Spending Budget	
Student Travel Awards [Will give 2 student travel awards at \$525 each (\$500 for travel, \$20 for membership, and \$5 for award certificate). Awardees also receive a free Beverton notes book. Dr. John Hoenig donated \$200 at the 2011 MFS annual meeting to use towards student travel.]	\$1,050
Food and drinks for joint MFS and Estuaries business meeting.	\$400
Travel reimbursement for MFS President to attend Mid-year and Annual Meeting. Note: This travel budget will not fully support travel (airfare, lodging, food) to both meetings. Alternative sources of funding will need to be acquired to fully support travel.	\$600
Sette Award (certificates @ \$5, plaques @ \$15, and shipping \$5 each)	\$25
Charitable donations	\$0
Total =	\$2,075