

DEEP-SEA BIOLOGY SOCIETY

DEEP-SEA BIOLOGY SOCIETY (DSBS) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 30th August 2017

START TIME: 18:30

LOCATION: Chemosynthesis Based Ecosystems Conference, Woods Hole, MA, USA

AGENDA:

1. President's report. Updates and future plans on governance, conferences, awards, communications, membership and students.
2. Proposal for a Deep-Sea Biology Journal.
3. Treasurer's report.
4. Vote on the new constitution.
5. Q&A for members.
6. Free social and networking event.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

President: Adrian Glover

Past President: Craig McClain

Vice President for Public Affairs and Communications: Holly Bik

Secretary: Diva Amon

Non-Office Bearing Committee Member: Rachel Boschen

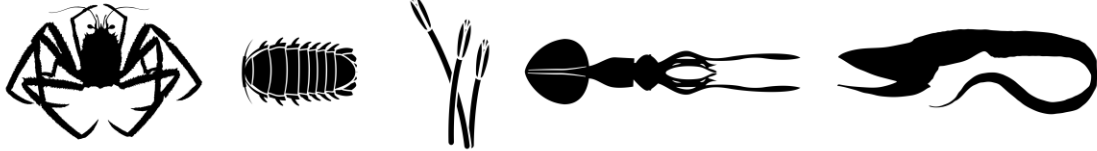
1) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Adrian Glover ran through the agenda (numbers 1-5 in this document) and introduced the Society to attendees. He related the purpose of the Society to other organizations (ESA, IPBES, IODP) and also those within the deep-ocean network (INDEEP, DOSI, and DSBS). DSBS is meant to organize symposia, publish, represent and help all scientists, and try to diversify the demographic. Functions of the Society fall into these major categories: Governance, Membership, Symposia, Awards, Mentoring, Students, Publishing. The Society is a legal non-profit organization that can now employ people, own property, apply for grants and receive tax-exempt donations. Adrian Glover also ran through the board of trustees and executive committee introducing those present. He spoke about the new membership system (Wild Apricot), the Symposium (next one in Monterey Bay in 2018), the awards (Conference travel, Dive Deeper Research Bursaries, Lounsbery Workshop Award, Paper of the Year, Student talk and poster prizes), the mentoring program, and the students section. He also detailed the purposes of society: communicate, collaborate, disseminate, learn, help, mentor, diversify, publish.

2) PROPOSAL FOR A DEEP-SEA BIOLOGY JOURNAL

Adrian Glover introduced the idea of a Deep-sea Biology journal. This could help foster community spirit and generate society income. Many members of the Society have supported the idea but there have also been some dissuading comments. We will need to do this properly so will not be rushing if this idea is taken forward. Feedback from the committee about the type of journal desired includes:

- Full open access
- Low APC
- Membership benefit
- Ability to host festschrifts, project special issues etc.
- Ability to have opinion pieces and a range of paper types



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- Cool features e.g. automatic data upload to OBIS, video embedding, XML markup of papers, metrics

Less important criteria are traditional print and impact factor.

Adrian Glover explained that he had one meeting with BMC (Springer-Nature) Journal Development Editors - Alexendar Mulhern and Chris McEntee. They would need 30-40 papers per year (not negotiable!) but there are about 200 papers published on deep-sea biology by community per year currently. ~15 per year would be offered free APC (negotiation) e.g for DSBS symposium, festschrifts, invited pieces etc. The APC would probably be about 750-1300 GBP in most expensive case (non-members, developed countries). The journal is currently creating a business case, which will then be presented for approval to higher levels in the publishing house. If they get a go ahead, then we can start a negotiation.

Craig McClain asked about profit sharing, which Adrian Glover said was certain but unsure of percentages.

Lisa Levin asked what Adrian presented as the case for the journal during the meeting with the journal development editors.

Adrian Glover: This is a rapid growing field and this was a niche that needed filling.

Adelaide Rhodes said that she is a representative of Frontiers in Marine Science and asked whether there could be an option for a partnership with the Society.

Andrew Thurber asked whether we should partner with an already known publisher to investigate an open access option. He thought that many of the arguments for a journal are tenuous e.g. profits may not be that high, a low impact factor would dissuade many in reality: many will not publish best papers there.

Holly Bik suggested having a small journal could provide a venue for genome announcements, as these are typically cheaper but high volume.

Rachel Boschen agreed and added that workshop reports could also be published in the journal e.g. from Lounsbury workshop award. However, Rachel does think that the suggested fees are quite high.

Craig McClain asked what is the need from the community for a journal? Our deep-sea articles go into many journals so why have a specialist journal?

Ana Colaco: Has the Society approached the journal, Deep-Sea Research Part 1?

Adrian Glover explained that as this is a very new endeavour and not much research has been done yet, the Society had not but thought this point was worth investigating.

Craig McClain: Deep-Sea Research Part 1 is a large oceanographic journal and so may not want to start a biology partnership.

Ana Colaco: Did you look into Deep-Sea Research Part 2?

Craig McClain: I guess it comes back to: is there really a need for a Society journal?

Rachel Boschen: But it would be promotional for the Society.

Holly Bik: And bioinformatics products could be published there. Research products are changing and so we could be flexible to fill that need.

Sabine Gollner: I agree that we need to put data somewhere but should this role be filled by a journal? Will there be quality control?

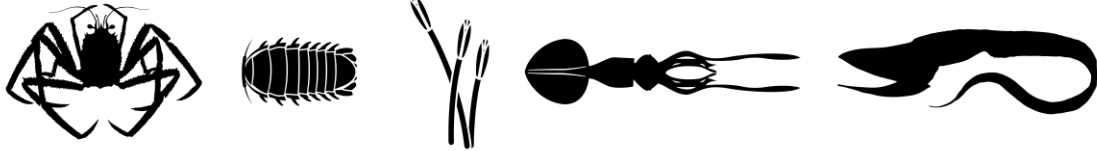
Adrian Glover: We would need to partner with a large publisher who can fill that need of quality control.

Nicholas Higgs: I would buy into this idea of a Society journal because I care about the Society.

Adrian Glover: This is a good point as we will need an editor and editorial board etc., which will need to come from our deep-sea pool.

Lisa Levin: The Society should put out an in-depth community survey to entire DOSI, INDEEP, DSBS network, asking specific questions like "What isn't being covered?" What would you want from a journal in terms of APCs etc." We also need to remember that it is really hard to get reviewers, especially for a new less-well-known journal.

Nicholas Higgs: It will be easier to get reviewers if it is something they care about.



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Lisa Levin: This will be easier to sell if you point out the niche being filled to the community.

Craig McClain: I have to ask a dozen reviewers for every paper and that is for Proceedings of the Royal Society B. But Nicholas's comment is that this is a journal for us by us.

Holly Bik: I am the subject editor for a new journal M-Systems that is doing really well. This may be because they handpicked an awesome team in their field. We are constantly growing. Rapid publishing and low charges are things we push and I think that helps. We also use two reviewers instead of three.

Adrian Glover: The journal Research Ideas and Outcomes is also like that.

Holly Bik: There are also some journals where you get the reviewers yourself and submit to the journal.

Sabine Gollner: You will get submissions but of what quality? Do you want species records, biodiversity notes or some sequences, or high-quality research? May have to make that choice.

Craig McClain: Does it have to be either one? Can it not be both?

Sabine Gollner: Then maybe you shouldn't be going for a conventional journal?

Adrian Glover: I'm getting the feeling from the room that BMC (Springer Nature) is not what we want.

Craig McClain: We need to figure out what we want and make that happen.

Adrian Glover: This is the beginning of a discussion and we will most certainly not be proceeding with anything that the community does not want. I definitely agree with Nicholas in that this can be something that people buy into because they care.

Andrew Thurber: The Society needs to reach out to the community as a few people behind a journal will not make it a success.

Craig McClain: What are the tangible next steps?

Everyone: Have a survey of what the community wants from the journal.

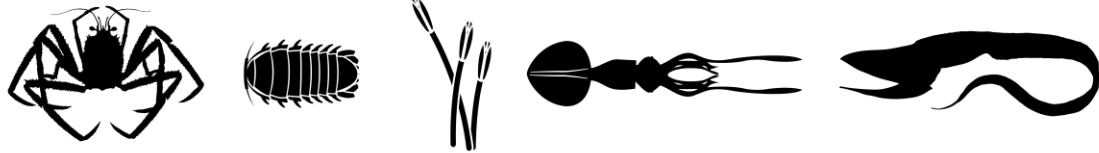
Rachel Boschen: Adrian, we appreciate you doing this research so far.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Adrian Glover ran through the financial account history. See below for a summary.

Year	Grants	Memberships	Expenditure	Net Income
2015	0.00	5,719.46	565.94	5,153.52
2016	33,849.99	5,557.18	1,846.54	37,560.63
2017*	0.00	5,329.66	11,448.82	-6,119.17
Total	33,849.99	16,606.30	13,861.30	36,594.98

He also detailed the 2017 finances. See below.



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Item	Income £	Expenditure £
Awards		5,000
Admin		113
CBE/AGM costs		417
Paypal fees		144
Projected award payments		4,200
Projected admin		380
Projected CBE/AGM		1,100
Projected Paypal fees		95
Lounsberry award carry over	7,500	
Membership 2017 to date	3,220	
Projected memberships	2,110	
Projected total 2017	12,830	11,449

Nicholas Higgs: Are you running on a three-year projected cycle given the link to the Symposium?

Craig McClain: We need to keep money for the Symposium to prevent institutions being out of pocket. e.g. New Zealand symposium left NIWA in the red.

Judith Gobin: Do you get many new members tied to the Symposium? Would it not make sense for members to join (and front load money) way before Monterey to help with deposits and spending?

Holly Bik: People may not join Society unless they see the financial incentive of a reduced Symposium price with membership, and this doesn't occur until a few months before the Symposium.

4) VOTE ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION

In addition to the vote during the AGM, an electronic vote was emailed to the membership that could not be attend the AGM. Members were told not to vote at the AGM if they had already voted electronically. 62 members voted to approve the constitution via the online ballot, while 15 voted in person at the AGM. The constitution was approved with a total of 77 in favour and none against.

5) Q & A FOR MEMBERS

Judith Gobin: What is the plan for recruiting new members? Have you assessed the membership by region? This could give clues for areas to target.

Adrian Glover welcomed this idea.

Holly Bik: We are currently recruiting student volunteers to manage the website. Please speak to myself, Amber or Emily. It would be something to put on CV and there may be compensation.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – 33 not including committee members

Joan M. Alfaro-Lucas

Shawn Arellano

Jill Bourque

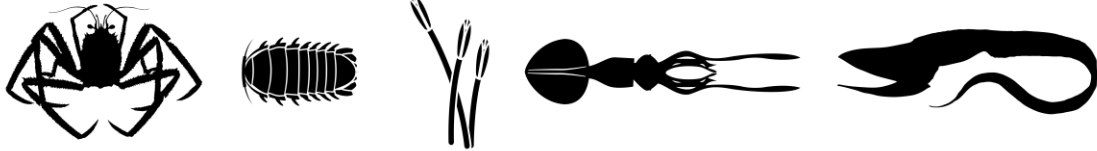
Amber Cobley

Ana Colaco (not currently a member)

Fabio De Leo

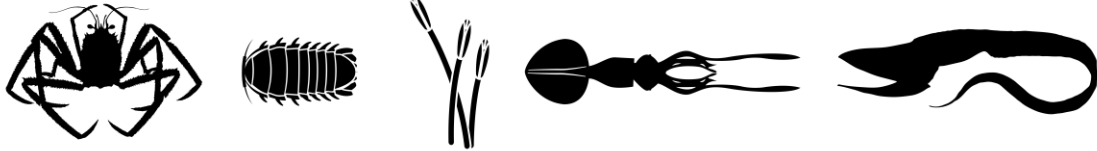
Cherisse Du Preez

Alanna Durkin



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Magdalena Georgieva
Judith Gobin
Sabine Gollner (not currently a member)
Nicholas Higgs
Ana Hilario
Shannon Johnson
Dimitri Kalenitchenko
Nadine Le Bris
Lisa Levin
Crispin Little (not currently a member)
Kaori Motoki (not currently a member)
Lauren Mullineaux
Clifton Nunnally
Maeva Perez
Adelaide Rhodes
Serban Sarbu (not currently a member)
Sarah Seabrook
Olivia Soares Pereira
April Stabbins
Midori Suzuki
Andrew Thurber
Phillip Turner
Hiromi Watanabe
Lelievre Yann (not currently a member)
Emily Young



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DEEP-SEA BIOLOGY SOCIETY (DSBS) STUDENT EVENT

Rachel Boschen gave a presentation constructed by herself and Paris Stefanoudis (DSBS Student Representative).

Rachel detailed the benefits to students of joining the Society:

- 1) Heightened networking with your international peers
 - There is a student members email list DSBS-STUDENT-request@jiscmail.ac.uk to foster communication between deep-sea students.
 - A closed (i.e. members-only) LinkedIn group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8417899> where student members share information on new papers, upcoming conferences and postdoc/job opportunities.
 - Twitter: #DSBstu
 - Posts on student section of webpage: <https://dsbsoc.org/students/>
- 2) Making professional contacts for career development
 - Main society mailing list: DSBS-request@jiscmail.ac.uk
 - Twitter: @DSBSoc
 - Posts on the webpage <https://dsbsoc.org/>
 - Links to DOSI, INDEEP, InterRidge
 - "Life after PhD" section on the DSBS website where members of the Society share their personal experiences about this important transition in a researcher's life: <http://dsbsoc.org/students/life-after-phd>
- 3) Awards – travel awards, best talk and poster at conferences
- 4) Discounted DSBSymposium registration

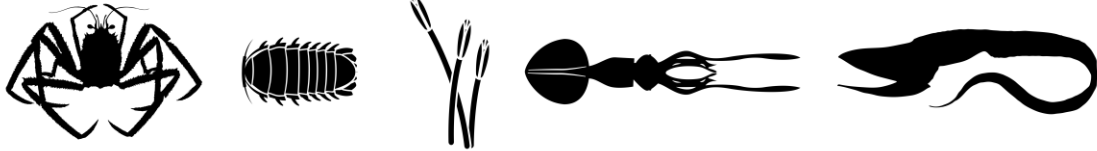
Rachel also spoke about future plans for students:

- Student volunteers curating the society's website, in particular the student section.
- Student mixer event at the next Symposium
- Prize: Best PhD-thesis at the next Symposium (details to follow early 2018)

The InterRidge Co-ordinator, Kamil Szafranski, gave a short talk to students on InterRidge and how students can get involved in InterRidge working groups/apply for cruise bursaries and travel support.

Finally, Rachel then initiated a discussion centered around what students currently like about the Society.

- Olivia Soares Pereira said she liked the awards and gave a testament about being able to attend CBE due to a travel award from the Society.
- Students also said they liked the emails advertising workshops and conferences. Even if they do not attend, it is still good to see what is going on.
- They also like student events at big meetings and conferences. For many students, it may be their first conference so this is a good way to get to know others in the community in a smaller setting. They requested games in Monterey during the student event. It might also be useful to get high-level researchers to give 5-10 min presentations and then be around for questions and chatting. Maybe tied into mentoring. Or flash talks 2-3 mins e.g. key things you need to know about deep-sea biology careers e.g. what would you do differently? Or maybe a panel event. Regardless all high-level researchers should be approachable.
- Sabine Gollner: The student meeting should be before the AGM next time to allow more mixing with the entire community.
- There were requests for the mentoring program to not only have high-level researchers. There should be all career levels for mentoring and being mentored.



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- A forum for students could also be useful for liaising e.g. "Are you going to ocean sciences. Yay. I am too! Let's meet up. We should share a room!" This could be hosted on Facebook.
- We should consider an event at Ocean Sciences for students and everyone e.g. a tweet up or

a program for conference mentors/buddies within your field. This can cut across geographical boundaries and levels.

- There is also a poll for students to complete about what they would like to see from the Society:
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/J669FR8>