

# Plenary Session of the 39th Annual Sea Turtle Symposium

February 8, 2019  
Time: 3.00 pm

Meeting called by:  
Ken Lohmann

Type of meeting: ~ 121 - 154 people  
Plenary Session

Secretary:  
Manjula Tiwari

## Agenda

President's welcome	Ken Lohmann
Treasurer's Report	Terry Meyer (for George Balazs)
Trends in ISTS Finances	Terry Meyer (for George Balazs)
Travel Committee Report	Alex Gaos
Student Committee Report	Katy Shaw & Chris Gatto
ISTS Code of Conduct update	Andrea Phillott
Post-Symposium survey update	Andrea Phillott
Condensed minutes	Richard Reina
Election results	Natalie Wildermann
2020 Symposium Overview	Diego Amorocho
Other business	

## Additional Information

Special notes:

## Agenda

**President's welcome****Ken Lohmann****3.18 pm**

Lohmann: Approximately 850 participants from 50-55 countries at the Symposium. Over 200 students, which is a sign of the health of the Society. Record number of workshops—25. Some people came just for the workshops. This was a weird year – government shutdown, difficulties fundraising under present administration, etc. However, we made our fundraising goals thanks to smaller sea turtle and conservation groups. We should be in good financial shape and possibly in the black. The future – from small gathering to large – poses some challenges. The current infrastructure for organization was put in place when limited number of people attended the Symposium. Need to recognize that things have changed and need to give it some thought and keep thinking about it. Need to address issues of redundancy in the Society – one President, one Treasurer, one Secretary, and now a Treasurer's Assistant. Need to think about a Vice Presidents or Co-President and something similar for the Secretary's position. We have grown and need to accommodate our growth. This Symposium ran smoothly and we will improve things for the future e.g., website, etc.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Treasurer's report****Terry Meyer****3.26 pm**

Year to Date

## Revenues

Registration Income - Online	\$107,866.79
Registration Income on Site	53,637.00
Donations and Grants - General	20,000.00
Donations and Grants - Japan	115,925.00
Auction Income	17,891.00
Investment Income	<u>4,175.52</u>

**Total Revenue****319,495.31**

## Expenses

**SYMPOSIUM EXPENSES**

Accommodations & Facility Exp	63,329.00
Food and Beverage	35,804.00
Travel Grants	47,401.00
Translation Services	33,044.00
Symposium Coordination	19,218.00
Participant Gifts	6,347.00
T Shirts	5,668.00
Credit Card Fees	5,643.32
Conferences Expense	4,284.00

Speaker Fees	4,173.00	
Poster Displays	4,092.00	
Printing	3,899.00	
Student Awards	3,811.00	
Entertainment	1,057.00	
Transportation	1,909.00	
Insurance Venue	1,124.00	
Travel Other	939.00	
Technology Expense	775.00	
Supplies	749.00	
<b>SUB TOTAL SYMPOSIUM EXPENSES</b>		<b>243,266.32</b>
Operating Expenses		
BOD Retreat	27,593.61	
Accounting Fees	9,000.00	
Treasurer Support	2,000.00	
Asst Treasurer Support	2,000.00	
Secretary Support	2,000.00	
Web Manager Support	2,000.00	
Web Site Expense	2,510.63	
Investment Advisory Fee	1,864.12	
Insurance	965.00	
Bank Fees	681.88	
Office Expense	655.26	
Loss on Foreign Exchange	410.12	
<b>SUB TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b>51,680.62</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>294,946.94</b>
<b>NET REVENUE</b>		<b>\$24,548.37</b>

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**ASSETS**

Current Assets		
Money Market Account	\$120,100.35	
Operating Account	327,606.80	
Investment Account	<u>102,161.56</u>	
Total Current Assets		549,868.71
Other Assets		
Prepaid Expenses	1,243.56	insurance & web hosting
Deferred Expense	<u>12,919.36</u>	2019 meeting expenses paid in 2018
Total Other Assets		14,162.92

**Total Assets** **\$564,031.63**

**LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL**

Current Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	\$23,000.00
Deferred Income - Next Year Grants	25,500.00
Deferred Income - Next Year Reg Income	<u>198,478.97</u>

Total Current Liabilities 246,978.97

Capital

Unrealized Gain/Loss on Securities	(6,745.97)
Retained Earnings	299,250.26
Net Income	<u>24,548.37</u>

Total Capital 317,052.66

**Total Liabilities & Capital** **\$564,031.63**

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Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report: Aliko Panagopoulou  
Ana Barragan: Second

Discussion:

Jack Frazier: Request Board to present a 10-year financial transect and ask the Board to analyze it.

Motion passes unanimously.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Trends in ISTS finances & travel grants**

**Terry Meyer**

**3.32 pm**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Revenues</b>								
Donations and Grants	212,239	217,273	212,006	132,120	169,133	155,484	106,533	57,430
Registration Income	66,393	181,113	76,079	156,596	212,926	117,840	114,480	193,495
Auction and Other	9,472	29,420	27,217	33,034	33,591	32,672	25,068	28,606
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>288,104</b>	<b>427,806</b>	<b>315,302</b>	<b>321,750</b>	<b>415,650</b>	<b>305,996</b>	<b>246,081</b>	<b>279,531</b>
<b>Cost of Symposium</b>								
Facility, F&B, Translation & Travel	207,118	271,955	213,180	340,519	174,292	184,403	122,100	205,288
Symposium Coordination, Registration Fees	35,502	22,958	31,297	17,107	18,504	16,640	17,761	18,634
Awards, Bands, Gifts and T's, & Misc	25,812	37,510	34,186	36,122	14,295	40,776	28,348	15,963
<b>Total Cost of Symposium</b>	<b>268,433</b>	<b>332,423</b>	<b>278,663</b>	<b>393,748</b>	<b>207,092</b>	<b>241,819</b>	<b>168,209</b>	<b>239,885</b>
<b>Gross Revenue</b>	19,671	95,383	36,639	-71,998	208,559	64,177	77,872	39,646
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	38,413	47,413	53,624	61,768	45,649	27,174	61,970	45,309
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>-18,742</b>	<b>47,970</b>	<b>-16,985</b>	<b>-133,766</b>	<b>162,909</b>	<b>37,003</b>	<b>15,902</b>	<b>-5,663</b>

**Travel Grants**

<b>Account Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cash/Rooms</b>			
Travel Grants	12/31/10	65400	2010	India	
Travel Grants	12/31/11	42434	2011	San Diego	
Travel Grants	12/31/12	36209	2012	Mexico	
Travel Grants	12/31/13	40984	2013	Baltimore	
Travel Grants	12/31/14	Rooms	2014	New Orleans	
Travel Grants	12/31/15	Rooms	2015	Turkey	
Travel Grants	12/31/16	48775	2016	Peru	
Travel Grants	12/31/17	36074	2017	Vegas	
Travel Grants	12/31/18	47401	2018	Kobe	

**Discussion:**

Terry Meyer: Should add to the Travel Grant file how much was raised by the auction.

Ken Lohmann: 17K from Kobe auction. The Board guaranteed an additional 17K and we were able to fundraise the amount.

Alex Gaos: Every year I provide a cash equivalent for the rooms. Not sure why just “rooms” in the file. I wasn’t consulted, but some numbers don’t look quite right. I will be happy to help next time.  
Terry Meyer: I am pulling this out of our accounting records. Your help would be valuable. I feel confident with the numbers listed.

Alexander Girard: Do we have a list of names of those who received travel grants? And is that public info?

Alex Gaos: Can I share the info?

Aliki: Private information so can give numbers but not names.

Manjula Tiwari: Will look into it.

Alex Gaos: Why do you want to know the names?

Alexander Girard: So few Africans so want to see why.

Alex Gaos: Visa issues. Almost everyone got a room.

Alexander Girard: Think together how to find a way. Start way in advance.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**Travel Committee Report**

**Alex Gaos**

**3.45 pm**

Gaos goes through the Travel Committee allocations below:

Chairs	Region	Applications received		Beds allocated	
		# ISTS39 applicants	% of applicants	# beds applicants supported	% rooms by region
Angela Formia	Africa	11	6.3%	6	4.7%
Kelly Stewart	US/Canada	64	36.4%	43	33.9%
Karen Eckert	Caribbean	4	2.3%	3	2.4%
Andrea Phillott	So. Asia	8	4.5%	7	5.5%
Mark Hamman	SE Asia/Pacific	6	3.4%	6	4.7%
ALan Rees	Middle East/No. Africa	1	0.6%	0	0.0%
Alejandro Fallabrino	So. America	32	18.2%	27	21.3%
Aliki Panagopolou	Europe	16	9.1%	11	8.7%
Emma Harrison	MX/CA America	34	19.3%	24	18.9%
		<b>176</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

2019 TG budget	
Amount	Sources
\$17,000	Kobe Auction
\$6,300	The Conservation Foundation
\$11,350	ISTS
\$34,650	Total TG Budget

Available	\$34,650.00
Room cost per night	\$147.24
x 6 nights	\$883.44
x 34 rooms	\$30,036.96
14% tax	\$4,205.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,242.13</b>
<i>Remaining</i>	<i>\$407.87</i>

Gaos: This year we tried to establish standard criteria for how people are selected, but it is challenging. But regional chairs have some freedom.

Discussion:

Motion to accept Travel Chair's report: Aliki Panagopolou

Second: Jeanette Wyneken

Motion passes unanimously

Gaos: This year was the smoothest handling between hotel and travel grant rooms.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

## Student Committee Report

Katy Shaw & Chris Gatto

3.49 pm

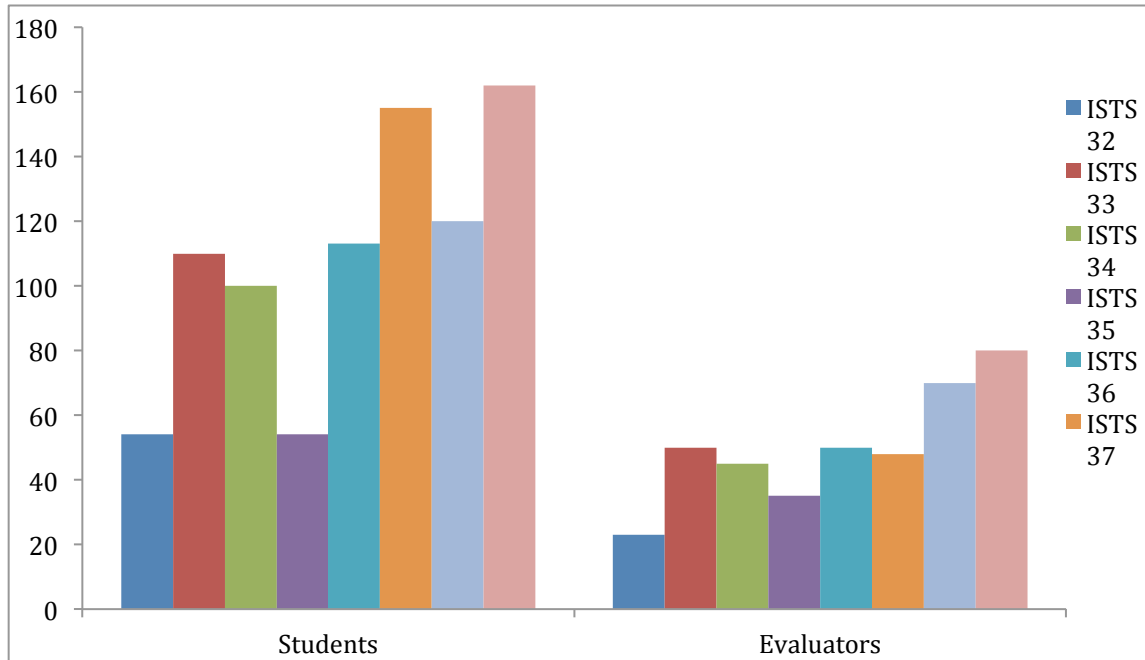
Title: Trending Research Topics and Techniques

Date: Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February (1:30- 5:30pm)

7 speakers covering 7 different topics/techniques

Attendees: 25

### Student feedback:



### Financial summary:

Event	Amount
Student workshop	\$125
Speed chatting	\$108
Student raffle	\$76
Evaluations	\$0
<b>Costs</b>	<b>\$111.82</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$197.18</b>

The associated costs were thank you gifts for people participating in the speed chatting.



Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Code of Conduct (CoC) update                      Andrea Phillott                      3.54 pm**

Phillott: Based on the extensive feedback received we are still revising the CoC to try and get it right. Will go through the Board and then come back to membership for comments in Oct/Nov and prepare for Colombia.

Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Post-Symposium survey update                      Andrea Phillott                      3.55 pm**

Phillott: Results were shared with the Board and discussed at the retreat to see how to improve the Symposium and Society. Summary is available on the ISTS website. Had sent messages to Cturtle but did not go through. There will also be a survey about this Symposium.

Jack Frazier: Congratulations! Thank you!

Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Condensed minutes                                      Richard Reina                                      3.58 pm**

Membership requested more information in the condensed minutes so Richard Reina, Andrea Phillott and Manjula Tiwari are working on it. Will release it in the next couple of weeks

Conclusions:		
Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:


**ISTS Elections**

**Natalie Wildermann**

**4.00 pm**

- 3 female and 8 male nominees representing 9 countries
- only 179 votes, which we need to improve
- Results:

1<sup>st</sup> Board member: Neca Marcovaldi

2<sup>nd</sup> Board member: equal number of votes between Marco Garcia and Alexander Girard, so will require a 2<sup>nd</sup> round of voting.

President-Elect: Kellie Pendoley.

Nominating Committee: Roldan Valverde (ex-Board member), Mustapha Aksissou, Gabriela Velez-Rubio

Career Awards Committee: Hector Barrios-Garrido

Motion to accept Nominations Committee's report: Aliko Panagopoulou

Second: Jeanette Wyneken

1 abstention

Motion passes.

Conclusions:

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

**2020 Symposium overview**

**Diego Amorcho**

**4.06 pm**

- Cartagena, Colombia, March 16-21 2020
- Theme: A new scope of what should be community-based conservation worldwide applying technologies and field techniques for new researchers to deal with future challenges in conservation biology of sea turtles.
- Easy to access from the Americas and Europe
- Many venue options
- Many hotel options with prices ranging from \$20 - \$250
- Food is inexpensive
- It is a region of natural beauty and culture
- It is safe and secure
- Several potential sponsors have been contacted
- Greening the Symposium

Conclusions:

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Other business**

**4.26 pm**

Alex Gaos: What is happening with the Proceedings ?  
 Ken Lohmann: We will put how the Proceedings for this year  
 Manjula Tiwari: The others are under preparation by NOAA.

Conclusions:

Action items:	Person responsible:	Deadline:

**Additional Information**

Frank Paladino: Motion to adjourn  
 Matthew Godfrey: Second  
 Adjourned at 4.30 pm.