



NOMINATION APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Applicant Details:

Name: Carlos Carreras Huergo

Date: 11/11/2025 22:47:37

Email address: carreras@ub.edu

Nominated position: Board of Directors (2 x Open Positions)

Professional affiliations: Universitat de Barcelona

Country of residence: Spain

Geographic area of work: Mediterranean

Section 2: Applicant Response:

How would you describe your work with sea turtles?

I am a teacher at the University of Barcelona and a researcher on Marine Turtle Biology, with a particular focus on genetics.

How many years have you worked with sea turtles?

24

Which Annual Sea Turtle Symposia, or Annual Workshops have you attended?

2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2022 (virtual), 2024 and 2025

Have you been involved with any Symposium activities?

Yes. I have been several times in the Scientific Committee, chairing sessions and acting as Student evaluator (for poster and oral presentation awards).

What would you like the Nominating Committee, Board of Directors, and membership to know about you as a candidate for your nominated position? In what ways would you like to contribute to the Symposium/ International Sea Turtle Society?

I consider myself a passionate person in my job, but at the same time organized and pragmatic. After many years of enjoying the ISTS symposiums, I decided that I could do a step forward towards a more active participation in the society as a member of the Board of Directors. I expect to contribute with enthusiasm and hard work to the ISTS, in order to help to continue with its success but always looking for ways to improve.

How do you envision using the Symposium to advance sea turtle biology and promote conservation?

The role of the ISTS Symposium in these aspects is clear. It is the most important annual meeting point of people working on marine turtle research and conservation worldwide, thus facilitating synergies among different stakeholders. In my opinion, the Symposium should keep working in the same direction, trying to maximise the attendance of people from all disciplines and regions to build even stronger connections. The research and conservation efforts and teamworking worldwide is starting to produce solid results in terms of conservation, with real improvements on conservation status in many species and regions, a clear sign that this is the way to work.

Why is the ISTS as an organization important to you, professionally and personally? What is your vision for the ISTS over the next 5 to 10 years?

In my opinion, the ISTS and their symposiums represent unique opportunities to share our work and experiences with people from very different backgrounds, from research to management and conservation. In my case, many networking projects and ideas have been conceived under the umbrella of the ISTS, and I made many friends in the process. I envision an ISTS over the next years continuing and reinforcing this important role within the sea turtle research and conservation community, while improving its self-sustainability

Please include a 250-word bio

During my life, I have been fascinated by the ability of marine turtles to migrate across oceans, but at the same time to maintain deep population structuring. I have been working on marine turtle research and conservation over more than two decades, particularly in the use of genetics and genomics to unveil migratory routes and to detect patterns of structuring and adaptation to changing environments. I have led regional initiatives, particularly within the Mediterranean and Atlantic, to coordinate sampling and genotyping to provide basic information on structuring and migration to inform management and conservation strategies. These initiatives have revealed how individuals from distant regional managements units gather in common foraging areas without gene flow, how male and female philopatry shape current population structuring or how new populations can be generated as a response of global warming. I am part of the IUCN-MTSG and scientific advisor of Spanish national and regional authorities, participating in different actions aiming to bridge the gap between scientific knowledge, conservation and policy. As a member of Academia, I have also dedicated significant efforts to mentor students at different levels, from degree and master students to PhD candidates as, in my opinion, are the fundaments of a solid next generation people devoted to marine turtle research and conservation. Last, but not least, public awareness has been also a priority in my life, promoting both the interest for science and the love to preserve the environment.

Photo:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1WIYCIY0ghOWgKOK1UN6OT-5YClpdPZd_

Section 3: Declaration

Circle your response to the below statements:

I am a current member of ISTS Yes

I have read and understand the ISTS by-laws and constitution Yes

I have read and understand the terms of reference for the position which I am nominating for: Yes

For Board of Directors nominees, I understand that the Annual Board Retreat is usually in the 3rd week of August: undefined

For Board of Directors nominees: Please read the following statement and add your initials below to confirm you understand the workload involved:

The Board is a working Board. All members of the Board are expected to carry the workload, share the responsibility of assigned tasks, and respond to written communications – this can typically be 40+ hours per year in addition to the Board meeting at the Symposium and the Board Retreat. If a Board member does not maintain their ISTS membership and demonstrate a high level of commitment to the ISTS as described in the Board members' TORs, they will be asked to resign from the Board. High level of commitment is defined as a Board member physically attending a minimum of three mid year retreats during their 4-year Board term, attending online Board meetings consistently, serving annually on multiple Committees, completing assigned tasks, and being responsive to online communications and requests.

The 2025 Board retreat is 10th to 15th August 2025 in Washington DC.

CCH