



NOMINATION APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Applicant Details:

Name: Terry Meyer

Date: 11/11/2025 01:54:10

Email address: tmeyer@seaturtlehospital.org

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

Professional affiliations: The Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center

Country of residence: USA

Geographic area of work: North Carolina, SE United States

Section 2: Applicant Response:

How would you describe your work with sea turtles?

Nesting Beach Manager, Rehabilitation Center Manager

How many years have you worked with sea turtles?

30

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

1997 through 2025 with the exception of Indonesia, Greece, Australia and Japan. 1997, 1998, 1999. 2000, 01, 02, 04, 05, 07,08, 2010, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25.

Have you been involved with any Symposium activities?

Board of Directors 2009-2017, 2019-2021

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 bring a combination of deep institutional knowledge, hands-on conservation experience, and financial management expertise at a critical moment in ISTS history. My 28 years of membership, 11 years of Board service as Treasurer, and continued role as bookkeeper mean I understand both our history and culture, and our operational realities. I know what has worked, what challenges we face, and what a transition to professional management requires. Evolution requires honoring what makes us special while building capacity for greater impact. My commitment isn't just to serve on the Board; it's to ensure this transition positions ISTS to thrive for the next 28 years and beyond.

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

Fostering collaboration: Intentionally creating opportunities for interdisciplinary connections.

Prioritizing inclusivity: Expanding travel grants, virtual participation, and mentorship programs.

Bridging research and practice: Structuring sessions to highlight practical applications alongside theoretical advances.

Amplifying conservation advocacy: Leveraging the Symposium's convening power to address policy, funding mechanisms, and emerging threats.

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?

Professionally, the symposia have provided opportunities to stay current with research and conservation techniques, and to build collaborative (and fun) relationships.

Personally, ISTS represents a global family united by a shared commitment. ISTS is where science meets passion, and where individual efforts combine into meaningful global impact. As a long term member, I am deeply invested in ensuring it continues to serve future generations of sea turtle scientists and conservationists.

I envision ISTS strengthening its role as the premier platform for sea turtle science and conservation by: enhancing year-round engagement beyond the symposium through digital platforms and working groups; developing mentorship programs that connect emerging scientists with established researchers; developing sustainable funding models that ensure long-term organizational health; and increasing our voice in global conservation policy.

Most importantly, I see ISTS maintaining the welcoming, collaborative culture that has made it special to me since 1996. Professional management should empower—not replace—the passionate spirit that drives our mission.

Please include a 250-word bio

Terry Meyer has been a dedicated member of the International Sea Turtle Society since 1997, bringing nearly three decades of commitment to sea turtle conservation, biology, and organizational leadership. With attendance at 23 of the past 27 symposia, she has maintained deep engagement with the ISTS community and its evolving mission.

Terry has served on the ISTS Board of Directors for 11 years across multiple terms (2009-2017, 2019-2021) as Treasurer and continues to serve the Society as bookkeeper, providing important financial continuity and institutional knowledge. This sustained involvement has given her comprehensive insight into ISTS operations, culture, and membership needs.

Currently serving as Deputy and Conservation Director at the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, Terry brings hands-on field experience to her Board service. As an inaugural member of KBSTRRC, now in its 28th year, she directs the organization's 42-kilometer beach nesting program, and oversees facility operations and financial management. Additionally, she has served on its Board of Directors for 25 years.

Her unique combination of conservation experience, business leadership, and ISTS membership positions her to guide the Society through its transition to professional management—balancing ISTS heritage with the operational sophistication and sound governance needed for sustainable growth while staying true to the mission to promote understanding, appreciation, and value of sea turtles.

Terry would be honored and committed to serve the Society as we navigate this pivotal

transition together.

Photo:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1x5eZZy2EdCkxf-sp2bQrC7qzQQaboKr>

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.

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