

2016 Summer Trustee Report

Greetings District 8 AALAS members,

The AALAS Board of Trustees (BOT) had a wonderful summer meeting in Memphis where a lot of work was accomplished. The full minutes from the meeting have been posted on the AALAS website under Leadership/BOT Minute Archive.

We started off by selecting the location of the 2022 National Meeting and I expect to see you all in Louisville, Kentucky in the future!

The Federacion de Sociedades y Asociaciones Hispanas de America Del Norte, CentroAmerica y el Caribe de la Ciencia de Los Animales de Laboratorio, A.C. (FESAHANCCAL) was elected as a new affiliate organization of AALAS. www.fesahanccal.com

2016 National Award Winners were approved but you will just have to wait until Charlotte to see who they are!

After a long process starting with surveys and immense work from the ADHOC membership structure committee we finalized the membership restructuring. It was determined that it was in the best interest of our community to keep our current 3 tiered individual member structure. The costs for individual memberships have had a nominal increase in order to support the growth in programs that AALAS has seen over the last several years. Institutional and Commercial memberships will receive discounts based on the number of additional individual memberships they purchase. Commercial memberships will also now have the option of a Base or a Premier membership. These changes will go into effect January 1st 2017.

The BOT also approved the proposed changes to the AALAS *Policy & Procedures Manual* (PPM). The proposed changes were made based on review by AALAS Legal Counsel, staff and committees. I can't possibly go over each change in the hundreds of pages of the PPM in this letter and many where for consistent grammar and terminology. I am happy to say that we used this opportunity to add in a non-discrimination policy.

There is one change that may cause some confusion with branches so I do want address it. The position of Technician Branch Representative (TBR) has been removed from the PPM. The original intent of the TBR position was to serve as a communicator between the branch and national AALAS but essentially this role has been superseded by technology via websites, email, and social media. It was also found that many branches were inconsistent with appointing TBR's and with them being members of AALAS. So TBR's are no longer a requirement for branches of

AALAS. That however doesn't mean your branch can't have one! If you have a TBR position that is valuable to your Branch, certainly keep it going. The Committee on Technician and Awareness and Development (CTAD) which runs the TBR listserv and the TBR of the Year Award is already brainstorming changes to these items to fit with this revision of the PPM.

The 2016 elections wrapped up on June 30th and I look forward to working with our new leadership.

Morag Mackay – Vice President Elect

Dr. Sonja Chou –At-Large Trustee

Dr. Richard Huneke- At-Large Alternate Trustee

Dr. Gregory Boivin – District 5 Trustee

Marilyn Watson- District 6 Trustee

Cristopher Southern- District 7 alternate Trustee

Amber Carte- District 8 Trustee

Roy Hoglund- District 8 Alternate Trustee

I hope you are getting ready for Charlotte and your race car decorating is well underway! We will have the District 8 membership meeting on Monday, October 31st from 5:15-6:15 pm. Please plan to attend as I look forward to seeing you there.

Wishing you well,

Amber Carte

District 8 Trustee

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