

TCS Membership Meeting

Newport, Rhode Island at TCS19

May 25, 2004

Board Members Attending – John Duff, Gib Chase, Robert Goodwin, Mo Lynch, Walter Clark, Valerie Chan, Paul Ticco, Tom Bigford

Other TCS Members in Attendance – About 25

TCS19 Conference Update – Kristen Fletcher estimated that registration is about 300, with several dozen daily registrants expected for the Ocean Commission sessions on May 26.

Evaluation sheets will capture the mood, suggestions, etc. of attendees.

Membership – Tom Bigford distributed a one page proposal for the Committee, including members, plans for the coming year, and interim checks with the Board of Directors to confirm directions. Bob Goodwin reminded all of his member analysis (~2003) that revealed the number of members by state and region. His report will emphasize opportunities for new members. Bob and others reminded us to include retention in our plan, especially to contact anyone whose membership lapses. Other ideas were to use off-year meetings (when TCS does not convene a biennial meeting) with other societies to gain members. Academic or regional chapters could also arrange local meetings.

Treasury – Mo Lynch summarized his report by saying that the Society is solvent now but needs additional funds for 2005. He recommended that we seek partners to help with conferences, to defray costs, and to improve our fiscal position. We have a good base for such partnerships with the high number of co-sponsors for TCS19.

Bulletin – John Duff asked whether the Society should continue to print hard copies or if we could shift to electronic distribution with printed materials only for libraries, overseas members, and other select categories. There was little discussion, but a shift toward electronic appears possible with the stated exceptions.

Future Elections – Candidates were solicited.

Interns – Tom Bigford summarized the new TCS-NOAA internship program and challenged other institutions to establish similar opportunities. Megan Bailiff suggested that we pursue foundation support for such programs based on the value of mentoring, training, and professional development.

Prepared by Tom Bigford, June 1, 2004