



Conference Call

World Seabird Conference 2

26 - 30 October, 2015, Cape Town, South Africa

Atlantic Call – Mar 5, 2015 - 1700 GMT

Pacific Call – Mar 5, 2015 – 2400 GMT

WSU Member Organizations & Representatives				
Member Organization	Representative	Role ^a	Atlantic	Pacific
African Seabird Group	Ross Wanless	P	A	
American Bird Conservancy	Hannah Rose Nevins	P	A	
American Bird Conservancy	George Wallace	A		
Argentine Seabird Group	^b Pablo Yorio, South America	P	A	
Argentine Seabird Group	Esteban Frere	A		
Australasian Seabird Group	Peter Dann	P		A
Australasian Seabird Group	^b Nicholas Carlile, Australasia, Secretary	A		A
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	Ben Sullivan/ Ben Lascelles	P		
BirdLife International, Global Seabird Programme	John Croxall	A		
Circumpolar Seabird Group (CBird)	^b Dave Irons, Chair	P	A	A
Dutch Seabird Group	^b Kees Camphuysen, Europe	P		
Dutch Seabird Group	JA (Jan) van Franeker	A		
European Seabirds at Sea Group	Stefan Garthe	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	^b Matthieu Le Corre, Africa/Indian Ocean	P		
Indian Ocean Seabird Group	Nic Dunlop	A		
Japan Seabird Group	^b Yutaka Watanuki, Asia	P		
Medmaravis	Carles Carboneras	P		
NW Atlantic Marine Bird Cooperative	Melanie Steinkamp	P		
Ornithological Society of New Zealand	Graeme Taylor	P		A
Pacific Seabird Group	^b Pat Jodice, North America	P	A	
Pacific Seabird Group	Michelle Kappes	A		
Peruvian Assn for the Conservation of Nature	Liliana Ayala	P		
Peruvian Assn for the Conservation of Nature	Raul Sanchez-Scaglioni	A		
Royal Naval Birdwatching Society	Steve Copsey	P		
Royal Naval Birdwatching Society	Mark Cutts	A		
Soc for the Conservation & Study of Caribbean Birds	Will Mackin	P		
The Seabird Group	Russell Wynn	P		
The Seabird Group	Ellie Owen	A		
The Waterbird Society	^b Betty Anne Schreiber, Treasurer	P		
Waterbird Conservation for the Americas	Jennifer Wheeler	P		A
^a Role: P=Primary Representative, A=Alternate Representative ^b Board member				
WSC2 Committee Members				
Early Career Scientists	Fiona McDuie			
Awards	Ken Morgan			
Awards	Anton Wolfaardt		A	
Fundraising	Kim Nelson		A	
Scientific Program	Peter Ryan			
WSU Development Team				
Seabirds.net	Grant Humphries			
WSU Secretariat	Marischal De Armond, Michelle Smith		A	A
Global Seabird Colony Register	Robb Kaler		A	
MortalityIndex	Julia Parrish			
At-Sea Seabird Database	Kathy Kuletz			
Attendance: A = Attended				

Minutes

1. Call to Order

5 Mar (ATL) – D Irons called the meeting to order at 1704 GMT

5 Mar (PAC) – D Irons called the meeting to order at 2404 GMT

2. Update on timing of next payment to conference venue in South Africa

5 Mar (ATL) – D Irons noted there are no pending payment dates

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

3. Update on Scientific Program Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – R Wanless confirmed that the program has now been set. The program will flow with 4 parallel sessions. Also the ½ day for excursions has now been eliminated to allow for the increased demand for presentations (currently we have 326 orals, 181 symposium & 203 papers). Oral presentation lengths will be a mix from 6 mins to 15 mins with Symposia conveners being able to determine their talk times according to number of presentations that will comprise their session. Symposia sessions are a defined fixed length. D Irons indicated that there have been some concerns about the ease of booking accommodations and the price of the Westin.

5 Mar (PAC) – P Dann confirmed that the program committee was leaning towards maximizing participation. The cost comes at ease of moving between talks in different sessions.

ACTION: M De Armond to see if it is possible to add the Breakwater Hotel to the list of conference hotels.

ACTION: M Smith to review the accommodation booking instructions and process to resolve any issues

4. Update on Fund Raising Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – K Nelson indicated that \$340K confirmed on a goal of \$350K. Expecting to exceed the funding goal as many opportunities still in the works. Hoping to augment the \$125K Travel award budget and will advise soon as to potential to do so.

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

5. Update on Local Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – R Wanless reported that the merchandise items have been confirmed and will be promoted on the website and as part of the registration process. They are also considering getting a commemorative item (ie mug) that will be available for purchase (may also pursue possibility of having it funded so that everyone gets one as part of their registration package). Orders for all merchandise items will be placed closer to the event when we have a sense of the demand for product.

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

6. Update on Legacy Initiatives Committee and “Legacy Initiatives”

5 Mar (ATL) – D Irons indicated that the legacy sessions remain on track

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

7. Update on Travel Awards Committee



5 Mar (ATL) – A Wolfaardt reported that 248 requests are being evaluated for a total of \$375K. Some request were received from countries (i.e. Spain, Japan, UK), who may be experiencing economic difficulties at the moment but were not on the official list of “need” countries. Reviews are expected to be completed by the end of March. Notices will be sent to accepted funding requests by Apr 24th.

Abstracts have been allocated to 3 teams of 3 people each, thus ensuring that all requests will be reviewed/scored by three people. Anton and Ken will take a mean score and rank the abstracts. Prior to confirming awards, they will need to know which submissions are turned down as they would no longer be in a position to fund these requests. They made the decision not to consider these requests. All requests will be ranked and funds will be allocated as requested until the amount of funds available has been exhausted. Once the ranking has been completed they will review vis-a-vis implications of such a result on numbers of people who would be able to attend and adjust if necessary to maximize attendance. Once the Travel Awards Committee has allocated the funding, they will advise the Executive for any feedback.

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

8. Update on Student Paper Awards Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – No updates

5 Mar (PAC) – No updates

9. Update on Communications Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – D Irons noted that Grant provided an update at the PSG meeting (see minutes from this meeting for further details). He also confirmed that Jane Goodall has confirmed to deliver the opening address via a pre-recorded session. D Irons indicated the need to determine the plan for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies. R Wanless noted that M Smith has connected UK based reporter from The Independent with P Ryan, J Croxall and himself for media opportunities.

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

ACTION: D Irons will organize a small team to consider the plans for the opening and closing ceremonies

ACTION: Finalize Jane Goodall’s scheduling for recording her opening ceremony talk

10. Update on Early Career Scientist Committee

5 Mar (ATL) – M Smith reported that the first ECS online mini session takes place online (You-Tube) in mid March. Also the ECS conference sessions (Wed workshop, Speedy Social) have now been finalized and added to registration

5 Mar (PAC) – No additional updates

11. Other business

5 Mar (ATL)

Non-Profit Matters

D Irons referenced non-profits can register with the Amazon Foundation (Amazon Smile) then when purchasers on Amazon.com indicate they support the non-profit, a percentage of their purchase is donated to the non-profit. He also referenced Guidestar as a non-profit clearing agency. H Nevins also noted that Charity Navigator was a similar clearing agency.



ACTION: H Nevins to look into Guidestar and Charity Navigator to decide if and/or how WSC should be registered. She is also to look into registering with Amazon Foundation as an affiliated non-profit.

WSU Board

D Irons outlined WSU bylaws regarding board composition which does not preclude a single person serving in multiple roles (i.e. regional reps vs board officers). Actual current practice has one person serving in two roles. General consensus was that in general we would strive to have board members serve only one role. Additional comments generally supported the idea of expanding the board to include 2 reps for each region, extending the term to 10 years and ensuring that the reps from each region are staggered. This achieves the goals of expanding the reach and influence of WSU around the world, while ensuring organizational history is retained and passed along.

D Irons also suggested De Armond Management serve as the election coordinator and manage the nominations and voting process for the Board election. Support was confirmed for this activity.

ACTION: D Irons to confirm a date and time for the WSU board meeting during WSC2

ACTION: M Smith to coordinate the upcoming board election

ACTION: D Irons & N Carlile to review the bylaws and to make recommendations regarding areas of uncertainty including who gets to vote, board transition, length of terms, what limits if any to a single individual representing two positions on the board (i.e. regional representative vs officer)

12. Next Conference Call

Atlantic Call - 1700 GMT 3 April, 2015

Pacific Call - 2400 GMT 3 April, 2015

13. Adjournment

5 Mar (ATL) – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 1820 GMT

5 Mar (PAC) – D Irons called the meeting to a close at 2406 GMT