

**AMQUA COUNCIL MEETING
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2008
PENN STATER
STATE COLLEGE, PA
DRAFT MINUTES**

Officers in Attendance: Eric Grimm (President), Rolfe Mandel (President Elect), Cary Mock (Treasurer), Bonnie Styles (Secretary)

Councilors in Attendance: R. Bruce McMillan (Councilor for Archaeology), Carrie Morrill (Councilor for Paleoclimatology), Thompson Davis (Councilor for Geohistory), Jeff Donnelly (Councilor for Marine Geoprocesses), and Steve Jackson (incoming President-Elect).

Others in Attendance: Kathy Whitlock (Representative for Workshop on Teaching Climate Change), Derek Booth (Editor, *Quaternary Research*), Nick Evans (AMQUA Webmaster), Ester Szein (Representative from National Academies who coordinates some of the U.S. National Committees, including the INQUA U.S. National Committee)

1. President=s Welcome and Report

a. Call to Order and Thanks

President Grimm called the meeting to order at 12.25 p.m. He thanked outgoing councilors and officers whose terms will be completed at the time of the business meeting: Eric Grimm (President), Rolfe Mandel (President Elect—becomes President at Business Meeting), Charles Schweger (Councilor for Archaeology), John Clague (Councilor for Geohistory), Timothy Jull (Councilor for Geochronology, Geophysics, and Geochemistry), Joseph Ortiz (Councilor for Marine Geoprocesses), Scott Anderson (Councilor for Paleobiology), Julia Cole (Councilor for Paleoclimatology), and Peter Doran (Councilor for Terrestrial Geoprocesses)

b. Online Newsletter

Grimm noted that the online newsletter had been launched by Jason Briner. It is distributed via the E-mail listserv and includes links to articles on the AMQUA Web Site and announcements. It will be produced quarterly.

d. AMQUA Web Site

Grimm introduced Nick Evans, the AMQUA Webmaster. The Web site address is www.amqua.org, and the server for the Web site resides at Penn State. Grimm asked councilors to send suggestions for the Web Site to Rolfe Mandel after the meeting. He recommended that councilors provide text and images on fieldwork. The ideal would be to provide a short description of field projects and submit about 10 images.

e. Online Elections

Grimm noted that Rolfe Mandel, in his role as President-Elect, established the slate for the elections, and Grimm and Nick Evans established the online election process. At Nick's suggestion, the election was launched using Survey Monkey for a cost of \$19/month for several months. Grimm thanked everyone who was willing to run for elections.

f. 2008 Biennial Meeting

Grimm noted that he would thank the local hosts, including Russ Graham and others at Penn State University at the Business meeting. He thanked Program Chairs Jeff Donnelly and Ben Horton for putting together an outstanding program.

g. Formal Approval of Minutes of October 29, 2007 Council Meeting

Grimm asked for the formal approval of the minutes of the October 29, 2007 Council meeting at the GSA meetings in Denver, and asked councilors to send any corrections to Styles. Rolfe Mandel moved to approve the minutes. Thompson Davis seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Secretary's Report

a. Election Results

Styles reported that 243 individuals voted online, but only 230 actually completed the survey. She noted that one E-mail ballot and three paper ballots were also received. For comparison, 232 ballots were cast in 2006, including three paper ballots; an additional paper ballot was received long after the election and was not counted. Grimm noted that there are only 30 members who have not provided E-mail addresses. Styles announced the election results. Officers elected for two year terms are Steve Jackson (President-Elect), Bonnie Styles (Secretary), and Cary Mock (Treasurer). Councilors elected for four year terms are: Councilor for Archaeology: Ken Cannon; Councilor for Geohistory: Brent Ward; Councilor for Geochronology, Geophysics, and Geochemistry: Luis Gonzalez; Councilor of Marine Geoprocesses: Thomas Marchitto; Councilor for Paleobiology: Mark Bush; Councilor for Paleoclimatology: Bette Otto-Bliesner; and Councilor for Terrestrial Geoprocesses: Bryan Shuman.

b. AMQUA Booth

Styles noted that the AMQUA Booth will be in the exhibition hall at the upcoming GSA meeting in Houston (Booth 553), and that the booth is more effective in attracting new members when it is staffed. She encouraged councilors to volunteer to staff the booth at the GSA meeting.

c. Bylaws Amendments

Styles note that the membership will vote at the business meeting to eliminate the requirement that dropped members have to pay past dues to be reinstated, change the text relating to the election process to accommodate online voting, add wording to allow information on meetings to be distributed by E-mail, and add text to accommodate publication of news on the Web site, listserv, and through an electronic newsletter rather than a printed newsletter. The proposed changes were circulated to the membership electronically and on the Web site.

d. Approval of Secretary's Report

Grimm asked for the approval of the Secretary's report. Thompson Davis made a motion to approve the report. Rolfe Mandel seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

3. Treasurers Report

a. Income and Expenses

Cary Mock reported that the A.G. Edwards had merged with Wachovia and that he had met with them to negotiate a higher interest rate. He noted that as of June 1, the A.G. Edwards Account has \$30,200; the Bank of America Account has \$11,568; and the Denise Gaudreau Account has \$14,170. He noted that his expenses since late 2007, included payments of \$3750 to the Webmaster, \$1652 for the bronze sculptures for the two distinguished career awards, \$501.49 for transporting the AMQUA booth to the GSA meetings, and \$60 for reserving a room for the GSA Council meeting. He noted that dues paid online through PayPal totaled \$3338.40 and that dues paid through checks totaled \$1820 for a total of \$5158.40. Dues were also paid via United Merchant Services—primarily from overseas members. There is a charge for this service, and \$405 has been processed through this avenue. Grimm noted that Europeans prefer to pay by direct deposit and that AMQUA should be able to set up direct deposit through the bank so individuals can deposit, but not withdraw. Mock indicated that he would speak with the bank about this option because it would save \$200-300 a year. Styles reminded Mock that he needs to complete and submit the new Form 990 to IRS, and indicated that the Illinois State Museum could assist in this endeavor.

b. Membership

Mock noted that we currently have 379 professional members, 64 retired members, and 53 student members for a total of 496 members. He noted that the percentage of students goes up in conjunction with the biennial meeting, and then tends to drop back down. He noted that we need to recruit more young professionals.

c. Term Length for Treasurer and Secretary

Mock suggested that the Council consider four-year terms for Treasurer and Secretary. He noted the steep learning curve and that a four year term for Treasurer would be advantageous for dealing with investments.

d. Meeting Expenses

Mock expressed concern about the expense of the current meeting, including the costs associated with student travel awards. The council approved support for 15 travel grants at \$350 each, and 17 travel grants were awarded. Donnelly noted that at least two travel grants and perhaps more can be paid from the NSF grant. Grimm noted that AMQUA had received a \$10,000 grant from Penn State to offset meeting costs, and he thanked Janet Patterson for that support. Whitlock noted that she didn't get \$10,000 from the university for the Bozeman biennial meeting, but that they subsidized it, and AMQUA made money on the Bozeman meeting. Rolfe Mandel noted that biennial meeting in Lawrence did okay as well. Grimm noted that the current biennial meeting will be in the red because Penn State proved to be a relatively expensive venue. Rolfe Mandel noted that students were concerned about the expense of attending this meeting. Councilors discussed the potential need to increase dues to increase revenues. Grimm noted that he would be hesitant to increase dues given the fact that membership benefits do not include the journal. It was noted that last year AMQUA members could have saved about \$100 on GSA registration by registered as a member of an affiliate organization.

e. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Grimm called for the approval of the Treasurer's report. Mandel made the motion; it was seconded by Davis, and passed with one abstention. Mock was asked to submit a written Treasurer's report.

4. Old Business

5. New Business

a. Awards to be presented at Biennial Business Meeting

Grimm referred councilors to the list of awards to be presented at the biennial meeting (provided in the meeting agenda).

2007 Distinguished Career Award—W. Raymond Wood

2008 Distinguished Career Award—William A. Watts

2008 Denise Gaudreau Award for Excellence in Quaternary Studies—Leila Gonzales (Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin, Madison); receives \$500 plus a travel grant.

2008 Student Travel Grants (17 students eligible for \$350 each; 15 supported by AMQUA; two supported from NSF grant):

Laura Murphy, University of Kansas and Kansas Geological Survey

Henry Loope, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Juan Gonzalez, Tulane University

Leila Gonzales, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Mathew Simpson, Durham University

Jeremy Shakan, Oregon State University

Shaun Marcott, Oregon State University

Andrew Kemp, University of Pennsylvania

Andrea Hawkes, University of Pennsylvania

Candace Grand Pre, University of Pennsylvania

Natasha Barlow, University of Durham

Simon Engelhart, University of Pennsylvania

William R. Doar, III, University of South Carolina, Columbia and South Carolina Geo. Survey

Jacquelyn Gill, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Matais Fernandez, Columbia University

Andrea Schilling, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

David Roberts, University of Alberta

b. AMQUA Statement on Global Warming

Grimm noted that he had asked Julie Brigham-Grette to prepare a statement, but she has not done so yet. Grimm noted the importance of AMQUA having a statement and recommended that AMQUA endorse and link to the INQUA statement in the interim. Grimm suggested that Rolfe Mandel see if John Clague would be willing to retool the INQUA statement for use as the AMQUA statement. Discussion ensued on potential impacts on the Easterbrook endowment, but

the consensus was that AMQUA should have a position on this issue.

c. Status of AMQUA President as an ex officio member of INQUA/USNC

Grimm introduced Esther Sztejn. She coordinates the U.S. National Committees for the National Academies. She noted that the AMQUA president could serve as an ex officio member of INQUA U. S. National Committee. Councilors endorsed this idea.

d. Workshop on Teaching Climate Change with Ice Core Data

Grimm asked Whitlock and Sztejn to report on the workshop. They handed out the agenda for the meeting and noted that they worked with On the Cutting Edge—Professional Development for Geoscience Faculty. The workshop, scheduled before the AMQUA biennial meeting, attracted 45-50 individuals (university professors, college professors, high school teachers, and graduate students). They commented that they would like to see more AMQUA representatives at the workshop. Grimm noted that most workshop participants did not stay for the biennial meeting because of the expense. He suggested perhaps AMQUA could secure a grant to support their attendance or offer them student rates. Whitlock reported that they are looking for topics for the next workshop, which will be held in conjunction with the next AMQUA biennial meeting. Davis supported the idea of letting workshop participants attend the AMQUA biennial meeting at the student rate. Grimm reiterated the idea of AMQUA securing a grant to support workshop participant attendance at the AMQUA biennial meeting.

e. Honorary Membership for Charles King

Grimm asked for a motion to approve honorary membership for long-time AMQUA member Charles King, who recently resigned because he is retired and has no access to the Internet. Rolfe Mandel made said motion; it was seconded by Thompson Davis and unanimously approved.

f. Proposals for AMQUA 2010 (21st) Biennial Meeting

Grimm distributed a proposal to host the 2010 meeting at the University of Wyoming. Steve Jackson elaborated on the proposal. The meeting would be held at the new University Conference Center. Local sponsors would include the College of Arts and Sciences; numerous University Departments (Anthropology; Botany; Geography; Geology and Geophysics); the George C. Frison Institute of Anthropology; and Archeology; Program in Ecology; Robert and Carol Berry Center for Natural History and Conservation; Wyoming State Climate Office; and Wyoming Water Resources Data System. The local Exploratory Planning Committee would include Steve Jackson (Department of Botany and Program in Ecology), Stephen Gray (Water Resources Data System and State Climatologist), Marcel Kornfeld (Department of Anthropology and Frison Institute), Jacqueline Shinker (Department of Geography), and Bryan Shuman (Department of Geology). They prefer a mid to late August date for the meeting, but could consider the last week in July. One-day field trips encompassing archaeological, ecological, geological, and paleontological features are possible including trips to the Laramie Basin, Laramie Range, Snowy Range, Cheyenne Basin and Hartville Uplift, and North Platte River Valley. Two-day field trips could go to the Bighorn Mountains and Basin, Black Hills, and Upper Green River Basin. Although air service is limited, arrangements could likely be made for shuttle service from larger airports. The University has successfully hosted the American

Ornithological Union and the Plains Anthropological Conference. Councilors were supportive of University of Wyoming as the Host for the 2010 Biennial meeting. Jackson noted that Bryan Shuman has a potential theme, but Grimm countered that the program committee working with the council targets the theme. Grimm noted that the discussion of the theme should be moved up to the fall Council meeting at the GSA meeting.

g. Call for Nominations for 2009 Distinguished Career Award

Grimm noted the need to solicit new nominations for the 2009 award. We are down to four active nominations.

h. Other New Business

1) Derek Booth reported on *Quaternary Research*. He indicated that his comments would be the same as noted in the October 29, 2007 Council Meeting minutes. He reported that the journal is holding steady with diverse submissions, and that the greatest challenge is to find reviewers for articles. He noted that the need for a paleoceanographer for the Associate Editor Panel and welcomed suggestions for someone to fill that role.

6. Adjourn

Grimm called for a motion to adjourn. Bruce McMillan made said motion; Rolfe Mandel seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.