

Newsletter of the
**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

16 April 2014

UPDATE ON STATUS OF THE ICZN

This report is an up-dated version of that given at the annual meeting of the AAZN, which occurred on 7 January 2014. That meeting had been postponed from the usual November date so that news from a November meeting of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) could be included, and was further postponed from 10 December due to the closure of the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC, owing to inclement weather. Two news items of particular interest to AAZN members are the meeting of the ICZN in Singapore in November and the meeting of the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature (ITZN) in London in January. Many details of both meetings are still unavailable, so stay tuned for further developments.

The meeting of the ICZN in Singapore was held 17–20 November 2013; the Council of the ICZN met on 16 November. The Commission meeting was the largest gathering of Commissioners in more than a decade – perhaps in several decades – with 21 in attendance; the six absentees were Nina Bogustskaya, Bruce Halliday, Jun-ichi Kojima, Sven Kullander, Alessandro Minelli (whose term ended on 31 December), and Pavel Štys. Through the good offices of Commissioner Peter Ng, the meeting was

held at the National University of Singapore (NUS), which also generously financed the travel and accommodation of about two-thirds of the attendees – the rest paid their own expenses.

All Commissioners were involved in chairing sessions or acting as rapporteurs for them. During the meeting, the ICZN resolved that its core business is *The International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, deciding on cases, the “Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature” (*BZN*), and ZooBank (the official registry of zoological nomenclature). Obviously, all this business stems from the Code. At the end of the meeting, Commissioners voted on 15 more detailed resolutions, which will be made public after Commissioners who did not attend the meeting have an opportunity to vote on them. However, some are discussed briefly in a news item on the ICZN website (<http://iczn.org/node/40407>), and the vote for the ICZN to separate itself from the ITZN, which had virtually exhausted its funds by early 2014 (according to the minutes of the meeting discussed below, at the end of 2013, it had £242), has been widely discussed

The functions of the Secretariat, the employees of which have been paid by the ITZN, are essential to all aspects of the core business, although currently least to ZooBank. Peter Ng negotiated with NUS to provide sufficient support for three years to pay one person (and purchase some supplies, computer access, etc. so the work

done) to carry out many of the functions that have been performed by the Executive Secretary in London. The three years of funding will begin when the selected person starts work; meanwhile, NUS will continue to support ICZN operations on a part-time basis via the Acting Secretariat office in NUS (which so ably organized and conducted the meeting of Commissioners). During at least the next two years, the Natural History Museum, London, will continue to support *BZN*, paying for its production and distribution, and its editor, Svetlana Nikolaeva, who attended the meeting in Singapore; part of the support will be from subscription fees, which the Natural History Museum will continue to collect. Thus the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature now has a distributed Secretariat and is truly international. Adding to this “internationality,” the larger natural history museums of Europe and the USA are discussing support of the global biodiversity informatics infrastructure, of which ICZN (including ZooBank) is a part. During the three years that NUS will fully support the Secretariat, a campaign will be initiated to build an endowment fund (at NUS, under the scheme that NUS matches dollar for dollar all contributions to the fund) that will pay sufficient dividends to employ at least one member of the Secretariat. The job description for the person to be hired on NUS funds is being finalized. Peter Ng and NUS have agreed on the terms of reference for this fund; details of its management, use, and growth will be presented to ICZN senior management in the weeks ahead for approval. Once details have been agreed upon, legal documents will be signed and a

formal account established. Pledges from several donors have already been secured to start this account and thereby the fundraising exercise.

The ITZN held an extraordinary meeting on 29 January; nine members attended and six sent apologies (including two who had attended parts of the ICZN meeting in Singapore). The main business of the meeting was a vote to dissolve the ITZN, which was created in 1947 to support the activities of the ICZN. The dissolution is expected to be completed in March 2014.

The minutes of the ITZN meeting note the extraordinary efforts of some members that allowed the ITZN, and therefore the ICZN, to continue to function longer than would otherwise have been the case. This should also be noted by members of the AAZN – the recent generous contributions were critical in keeping the ICZN functional until an alternative *modus operandi* could be affected.

The ICZN website still includes discussion of the ITZN – that should change when legal dissolution has occurred. Under “What’s New?” on the website is the brief summary of the Singapore meeting (above), as well as links to news articles about that meeting.

Daphne Fautin, Member AAZN
Commissioner ICZN

2013 AAZN ELECTION

Despite some resistance, an election for officers in the AAZN was conducted via e-mail in early April 2013. Forty-one ballots were received and the following were

elected: President – Steven Gaimari (California Department of Food and Agriculture); Councilor – Floyd Shockley (Department of Entomology, U.S. National Museum); Councilor – Roy McDiarmid (USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, U.S. National Museum); Councilor – Michael Engel (Paleoentomology and Anthophila Lab, Kansas University, Lawrence, KS). The new officers assumed office as of 1 June 2013, each for two years. Congratulations to the new officers who will be facing new challenges for the AAZN and ICZN.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2013 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AAZN

The 2013 annual meeting of the AAZN was called to order at 1:00 PM, 7 January 2014, in the Entomology Conference Room at the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC. The meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, 10 December 2013 but had to be rescheduled due to inclement weather and the resulting closure of the federal government. Ten members were in attendance, two by telephone.

Acting Treasurer Al Gardner reported that AAZN still has the bulk of its funds in two accounts: 1) a Legg-Mason account (\$34,293.94) as of 30 September; and 2) Wells Fargo (\$11,205.05) as of 19 December. In addition, he maintains \$244.57 in petty cash. Gardner reported that AAZN has 148 members of which 130 are

individuals and 18 are organizations or institutions. In FY2013, AAZN received \$2,565.00 in dues, \$1,191.87 in donations, and \$90 from book sales for a total income of \$3,756.87. AAZN sent a check for \$2,605 to the ITZN in January 2013. Gardner suggested a donation to the Trust of \$3090 for 2013. President Gaimari recommended tabling the discussion of a donation to the Trust until new business, after Daphne Fautin provided a report from the Singapore meeting of the Commissioners as it would likely influence how much, if any, we decided to give this year.

Gardner discussed the current practice of providing gratis copies of the Code to individuals teaching courses in nomenclature, provided they pay postage. We still have hundreds of copies in the museum so it might be good to circulate a notice regarding availability of these copies. Right now, they are only \$15/copy (\$19 with postage for inside the U.S. and Canada).

Gino Nearn reported on the status of the AAZN website. He mentioned that last July the website moved to GoDaddy.com. He indicated that he is happy with their technical support and stability.

Daphne Fautin provided a review of the ICZN Commissioners meeting in Singapore in November 2013. Details are included in the report that precedes this article.

The topic of how much to endow the ICZN was discussed at length. One suggestion was that we make a substantial donation (up to \$30,000) to take advantage of the NUS match and then not make any additional donations for a while to re-build AAZN's reserves. Daphne recommended that we take no action until additional information is made available regarding the

fate of monies directed to the Trust and establishment of the endowment were both complete. In particular, she wanted to get a more clear answer about whether or not AAZN could contribute to the endowment fund rather than our donation being earmarked exclusively for operating costs. She's still trying to get a straight answer about that and will follow up when she knows for certain.

Floyd mentioned that we still do not have a President-Elect. We need to form a nominating committee to help recruit for open positions (President-Elect and a couple of councilors). Stephen said that he will organize a nominating committee to do this.

President Gaimari adjourned the meeting at 3:15 PM.

CONTINUING BOOK SALE

1. ICZN. 1999. *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*. 4th ed. London: The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, xxix + 306 pp. [Original price \$48.00 for individuals, \$39.00 for members of AAZN.] **Sale price** \$15.00 plus postage; \$19.00 postpaid in the U.S. (book rate).

2. ICZN. 1987. *Official lists and indexes of names and works in zoology*. London: The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, 4 (unnumbered) + 365 pp. [Original price \$85.00, \$70.00 for members of AAZN.] **Sale price** \$25.00 plus postage; \$29.00 postpaid in the U.S. (book rate).

3. ICZN. 2001. *Official lists and indexes of names and works in zoology. Supplement*

1986–2000. London: The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, 4 (unnumbered) + 136 pp. [Original price \$85.00, \$70.00 for members of AAZN.] **Sale price** \$25.00 plus postage; \$29.00 postpaid in the U.S. (book rate).

Items 2 and 3 (Official lists) are offered as a unit: [Original price \$140.00, \$120.00 for members of AAZN.] **Sale price** \$40.00 plus postage; \$45.00 postpaid in the U.S. (book rate).

Terms: Please send cash or a check made out to the **American Association for Zoological Nomenclature** to:

Dr. Alfred Gardner
USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
Smithsonian Institution, MRC 111
National Museum of Natural History
P.O. Box 37012
Washington DC, 20013-7012
e-mail: gardnera@si.edu
telephone: (202) 633-1276

CURRENT OFFICERS OF AAZN

President: Stephen Giamari, 2013-2015
(CA Department of Food and Agriculture)

President-Elect: vacant

Secretary: vacant

Treasurer: Alfred Gardner (National Museum of Natural History)

Councilor: Floyd Shockley, 2013-2015
(National Museum of Natural History)

Councilor: Roy McDiarmid, 2013-2015
(National Museum of Natural History)

Councilor: Michael Engel, 2013-2015
(Kansas University)

**AAZN - NOTICE OF DUES 2014
FOR INDIVIDUALS**

Name: _____ Regular (\$20.00) _____

Address (corrections only) _____
Sustaining (\$25.00) _____

_____ Gift _____

e-mail: _____
(please provide your most recent e-mail address)

I would like to purchase to following books:

International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, 4th Edition _____
(\$19.00 for AAZN members postpaid in U.S.)

Official Lists and Indexes of Names in Zoology, 1987 _____
(\$25.00 for AAZN members) [\$29.00 postpaid in U.S.]

Official Lists and Indexes of Names in Zoology, Supplement, 2001 _____
(\$25.00 for AAZN members) [\$29.00 postpaid in U.S.]

TOTAL enclosed _____

Make checks payable to AAZN and mail to:

Dr. Alfred Gardner
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P.O. Box 37012
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MRC-111
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**AAZN - NOTICE OF DUES 2014
FOR PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Name of Society: _____ Regular (\$100.00) _____

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