

**Organization of
Biological Field Stations**

**Newsletter
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December 2001**



OBFS NEWS

The Newsletter of the Organization of Biological Field Stations 1, Volume 2001, No. 2.

Issued December 2001, Editor: *David S. White, Hancock Biological Station*

Executive Board

(Term of office, E-mail address))	
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<i>Education</i>	Steve Tonsor
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OBFS Home Page Address
<http://www.OBFS.org/>

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2001 OBFS MEETING, THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BIOLOGICAL STATION

Following the events of September 11, the Executive Board made the decision to proceed with the annual meeting as planned and to conduct as much of agenda as possible. This turned out to be a very good decision as people found ways of getting there and the attendance was excellent (see page 13 for a list of attendees). The staff of the Oklahoma Biological Station is to be commended for putting on an excellent meeting in the face of adversity. Many of the results from the meeting can be found on the OBFS web site at <http://www.OBFS.org>.

RESULTS FROM BYLAWS CHANGES BALLOT

At the annual meeting of OBFS at the University Oklahoma Biological Station, changes were proposed for the Constitution and Bylaws (see minutes of the meeting). Subsequently a ballot on the changes was sent to every station member and all changes were approved by a majority vote. The Constitution and Bylaws are printed below in their entirety below, and the changes are indicated.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. The name of this organization shall be the Organization of Biological Field Stations (OBFS).

A Biological Field Station is defined as a facility engaged in field research and/or instructional programs of biological or related phenomena.

ARTICLE 2. The purpose of this Organization shall be: the advancement of biological science through (1) the development of research and teaching programs at field stations, (2) the implementation of cooperation among these Stations, and (3) the dissemination of information about these Stations.

ARTICLE 3. There shall be two classes of membership: (a) Institutional and (b) Individual. Institutional membership shall be open to biological field stations that will designate a single representative, normally the station Director, who will cast the vote of the station and be eligible to hold office in OBFS. Individual membership shall be open to persons, regardless of institutional

affiliation, who subscribe to the purposes of the Organization. Individual members will have all the privileges of membership, except that they will neither vote nor be eligible to hold office in the Organization except as Members-at-Large on the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 4. The management of this Organization shall be vested in an Executive Board consisting of the officers of the Organization (President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Editor, and Network Coordinator) and two Members-at-Large who may be Institutional Members or Individual Members. ***The Past President shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Board.*** The members of the Executive Board shall be elected according to the Bylaws for this Organization.

ARTICLE 5. The Organization shall have no capital stock. No member shall be entitled to receive as dividends, profits, or otherwise, any property or money derived from the operation of said Organization, but all property earnings and income of the Organization, after the payment of necessary charges and expenses of operations, shall be used exclusively to carry out the scientific

and educational purposes of the Organization as expressed in Article 2 of the Constitution.

BYLAWS

1. Election of the Officers and other members of the Executive Board shall be by a simple majority of a mail vote on ballots submitted to the voting membership at least **three**

~~one-months~~ prior to the expiration of terms of the officers and Members-at-Large.

2. The President and Vice President shall serve a term of two years and shall assume office **on April 1st in January** of even-numbered years. Individuals elected to these offices shall not be eligible for reelection to the next succeeding term of the same office. **The President shall serve a further two years as Past President, beginning at the end of term as President.** The Secretary-Treasurer, ~~shall be elected for a term of two years and will assume office in January of even-numbered years.~~ The ~~the~~ Editor and the Network Coordinator shall be elected for terms of two years and will assume office **on April 1st in January** of odd-numbered years. The Secretary-Treasurer, Network Coordinator, and Editor may be reelected for any number of terms. The two Members-at-Large shall be elected for two-year terms, one to assume office **on April 1st in January** of even-numbered years, the other **on April 1st in January** of odd-numbered years. **For the transition years 2001-2003 all current members of the Executive Board will serve an additional three-month term from the end of their current two-year terms until the subsequent March 31st.** **For the transition years 2002-2005 the Secretary-Treasurer will be elected for a term of three years.**² If, for any reason, the President shall be unable to carry out the duties of that office, he/she shall be succeeded by the Vice President for the remainder of the term. If, for any reason, the Vice President is not able to assume the duties of President, a special election shall be held to select a President. Vacancies in the other offices may be filled until the next election by appointment of a member in good standing by the Executive

Board to serve the remainder of the term. The duties of the officers shall be those usually devolving upon such offices except as may be otherwise provided by the Executive Board.

3. The Executive Board shall appoint a nominating committee of three members at least two months in advance of the election date and notify the members of the Organization of the membership of this committee. The committee shall accept nominations from any three members for presentation on the ballot.

4. The President, in conjunction with the Executive Board, may appoint other committees to carry out the purposes of the Organization as such become desirable or necessary.

5. An Annual Meeting of the Organization shall be held at a place and time to be determined at a preceding Annual Meeting. The Executive Board may call additional meetings as may be desirable or necessary.

6. Annual Dues for Institutional Members and Individual Members shall be established by the voting membership at the Annual Meeting. The membership year shall be the calendar year. The Secretary-Treasurer shall accept dues to be placed in an account for disbursement to carry out the purposes of the Organization subject to annual audit by the Executive Board or its appointed representatives. The fiscal year shall be September 1 to August 31.

7. The Constitution and Bylaws may be revised by a 2/3 majority of the membership voting by mail ballot.

8. Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution or Bylaws that might be susceptible to a contrary construction:

1) The Organization shall be organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;

2) The Organization shall be operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;

c) No part of the net earnings of the organization shall or may under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual;

d) No substantial part of the activities of the Organization shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;

e) The Organization shall not be organized or operated for profit;

f) The Organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office;

g) The Organization shall not:

1. Lend any part of its income or corpus, without the receipt of adequate security and reasonable rate of interest to:

2. Pay any compensation, in excess of a reasonable allowance for salaries or other compensation for personal services actually rendered to:

3. Make any part of its services available on a preferential basis to:

4. Make any purchases of securities or other property, for more than adequate consideration in money or money's worth from:

5. Sell any securities or other property for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth to: or

6. Engage in any other transactions that result in substantial diversions of its income or corpus to:

any officer, member of the Executive Board or substantial contributor to the organization.

The prohibitions contained in the Section (g) do not mean to imply that the Organization may make such loans,

payments, sales or purchases to anyone else, unless such authority be given or implied by other provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws.

9. Upon dissolution of the Organization of Biological Field Stations, the Executive Board shall distribute the assets and accrued income to those organizations as determined by the Board, but which organization or organizations shall meet the limitations prescribed in Sections (a) to (g) inclusive of Article 8 immediately preceding.

10. The Treasurer shall establish an OBFS Restricted Fund with the objective of long-term accumulation of capital to provide funding for OBFS projects. The Executive Board may direct the proceeds from fund-raising events, donations, or a portion of annual dues income to the Restricted Fund. The fund will be invested under the direction of an Investment Committee appointed by the Executive Board. Expenditures from the Restricted Fund are limited annually to 5% of fair market value, based on a three-year running average ~~to 50% of annual investment earnings~~, authorized by the Executive Board, except that expenditures for special projects may exceed ~~earnings~~ this limit if approved by a 2/3 majority of eligible members responding in a written ballot or a 2/3 majority of eligible members present at an annual meeting.

Revision approved November 1, 2001

Previous revision

approved February 8, 2000

(Footnotes)

¹ This sentence shall be deleted from the bylaws on April 1
~~at~~

2003.

² This sentence shall be deleted from the bylaws on April 1
~~at~~

2005.

MINUTES OF 2001 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ORGANIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BIOLOGICAL STATION, SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2001

Part I. Thursday, September 20, 7:40-9:20 PM

1. President Hilary Swain called the meeting to order with the Tom Callahan Memorial Big-Assed Gavel, dedicated to the former Director of the NSF Program for Facilities and Equipment at Field Stations and Marine Labs. After opening remarks by Swain and by meeting host Larry Weider, all members present during the session introduced themselves. Other members of the Executive Board present were: Vice-president Eric Nagy, Secretary-Treasurer Peter Connors, and Members-at-large Sedra Shapiro and Philippe Cohen.

2. OBFS Station Mapping Project: Hilary Swain presented the map of OBFS field stations, requesting that members check it for accuracy and send latitude-longitude coordinates to Roberta Pickert <rpickert@archbold-station.org> if stations are misplaced or absent. Coordinates should be given in decimal degrees (preferred) or in degrees, minutes (seconds if appropriate).

3. 2002 Meeting Site: Mike Klug, next year's meeting host and Director of the W. K. Kellogg Biological Station of Michigan State University, showed slides of the station and discussed logistics and field trip options. Meeting dates will be September 19-22, 2002. Detailed information on the meeting will be published in the May 2002 Newsletter.

4. Future Meeting Sites: Eric Nagy distributed a handout listing considerations for potential meeting hosts, and encouraged members to consider hosting a meeting. Potential hosts should contact any member of the Executive Board to convey an interest.

5. Slide presentations: Members from 5 stations presented slides and discussed programs and facilities at their sites: Raystown Field Station,

Juniata College (Bob Fisher); Disney Wilderness Preserve (Monica Folk); Pinelands Field Research Station, Rutgers University (John Dighton); Minnesota State University Moorhead Regional Science Center (George Davis); Bahamas Environmental Research Center, George Mason University (Julia Nord).

6. President Swain introduced the chairs of all standing committees that would be meeting at 8:00 AM Friday morning, encouraging all members, and especially those representing small stations, to join committees to make certain their needs are included in discussions.

7. The Executive Board met from 9:50-11:40 PM, following the general meeting, to discuss matters to be brought forward in the general sessions. Principal topics centered on an opportunity for an NSF-sponsored workshop on education at field stations; several proposed changes to the bylaws; and restructuring or defining the roles of standing committees.

Part II. Friday, September 21, 8:10 - 11:50 AM

8. Concurrent Committee Meetings. Administration and Facilities, Education, International, Public Relations, Research, NSF Relations, Program, Data Management/Networking, Investment, Nominations, Small Stations.

9. Principles for Sustainability of Field Station Facilities. Philippe Cohen led a discussion of Green building principles, and the advantages to adopting such principles at field stations. A discussion paper and a proposed resolution are on the OBFS website:

http://www.obfs.org/Jobs_Meet_Archv/OBFS_SustainPrinciplesV3.htm

10. Changes to Constitution and Bylaws. Peter Connors presented a set of proposed changes

from the Executive Board intended to provide these improvements to the Organization:

¥ We would formalize the status of the Past President as an ex officio member of the Executive Board, to enhance continuity and memory regarding continuing initiatives.

¥ By changing the beginning date for Executive Board terms from January to April, we would provide a period of overlap and transition between the election (usually concluded in January) and the beginning of terms.

¥ By changing the beginning year from even-numbered to odd-numbered for the Secretary-Treasurer, we would avoid having the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer all leave office in the same year. (We would include two transition statements to effect the changes in 2 and 3).

¥ By changing the limit on Restricted Fund expenditures to 5% of fair market value from the current 50% of annual earnings we would adopt a more traditional approach that provides an availability of funds that would be less erratic from year to year, enabling us to consider multi-year projects. The proposed change is intended to provide benefits at some unnamed time in the future when the Restricted Fund is larger than at present.

After discussion, a motion to conduct a special election to adopt or reject these changes carried. Ballots would be mailed to all station members soon after the meeting, so results would be in before the annual election of officers. (See page 2 of Newsletter for results.)

Part III. Friday, September 21, 3:36 - 5:24 PM

11. OBFS/LTER Networking and Data Management: Bill Michener and Troy Maddux described several projects in database development and training that address the needs of OBFS stations.

The LTER Network Office now hosts the OBFS web site. This move was in response to problems

with the prior Internet service provider. A comprehensive survey of OBFS information technology capabilities and needs has been completed. The survey results will be used in developing and prioritizing informatics training activities and promoting ecoinformatics.

Troy Maddux discussed the OBFS personnel database that is currently housed at the LTER Network office. The contact information kept in this database and made available at the OBFS website will allow people from around the world to contact you at your OBFS site.

To get to the OBFS Personnel database:

- a) Go to the OBFS page: <http://www.obfs.org/>
- b) Click on People at OBFS Stations and
- c) Follow the instructions on that page.

Troy also introduced the new OBFS field course database and web page. Members may now enter information about courses taught at their field stations, allowing a prospective student to search by field station or key word or to simply peruse the list of field courses offered at all OBFS sites. Special thanks go to Marshall White, webmaster at the LTER Network Office, for doing much of the design work on the web page.

To get to the OBFS Field Course database:

- a) Go to the OBFS page: <http://www.obfs.org/>
- b) Click on College Courses at OBFS Stations and
- c) Click on class database
- d) Click View all Classes to see what s there or
- e) Go to the administrative page to add a course.

Bill Michener presented a demonstration of the OBFS Data Registry, a mechanism for registering data sets collected at field stations and marine laboratories with a minimum of metadata. This database has undergone extensive beta testing through the University of California Natural Reserve System and will be fully implemented and online in January 2002. The Data Registry represents a critical resource for informing scientists, students, educators, funding agencies, and decision-makers about the valuable data

resources that are collected and assembled at biological field stations.

Several training efforts that were supported or planned during the past year were also discussed. First, the Ecological Society of America supported a daylong workshop (organized by William Michener and Art McKee from the Andrews LTER) on the Sunday prior to the annual ESA meeting that focused on expanding information technology capabilities at field stations, marine laboratories, LTER sites, and related institutions. Ten speakers from a variety of institutions covered a diverse array of topics ranging from wireless communication to metadata to taxonomic databases. Each topic represented an area of active development in the field station community.

Second, Alison Withey (SDSC/UCSD) and William Michener organized an NSF-funded workshop on Scalable Information Networks for the Environment (SINE). [The SINE workshop was hosted by the Partnership for Biodiversity Informatics (PBI) from October 29-31, 2001 at the San Diego Supercomputer Center. The workshop was attended by a diverse group of research scientists, directors of field stations and marine laboratories, and experts in computational and information sciences who met to discuss the technical requirements for building local, regional, and national-level environmental information networks. Workshop presentations and working group sessions focused on three topics: (1) building distributed sensor networks: design and implementation issues; (2) enabling technologies and user requirements for data and information management and delivery; and (3) scaling components of environmental information networks: data, computers, and people. Information about the SINE workshop can be found at www.sdsc.edu/pbi. A complete workshop report will be available later this year, but a subset of preliminary findings and recommendations for infrastructure development, education, and policy has been submitted to NSF.]

As part of the NSF workshop on Scalable Information Networks for the Environment, NET assessed the current state-of-the-art in sensor and sensor array technologies. The Ecological *in situ* Sensor Website is located at <http://www.lternet.edu/>

[technology/sensors/index.html](http://www.lternet.edu/technology/sensors/index.html). Three reports (sensors, sensor arrays, manufacturers) are currently available and others will be added in January. Development of these reports was coordinated by the San Diego Supercomputer Center (Alison Withey co-leader) and L TER Network Office (William Michener co-leader). Greg Bonito assembled a wealth of information about *in situ* sensor technologies that is available in the reports.

Third, an NSF Research Coordination Network grant was awarded to the LTER network office to develop the informatics framework that can facilitate storage, discovery, and access to the strategic environmental information resources that are collectively held at North American biological field stations. This project will support expansion of ongoing collaborations between LTER and OBFS. Project objectives will be accomplished through two integrated networking activities: (1) a research focus that encompasses five inter-related resource discovery components and (2) an intensive training component that provides field station personnel with a solid foundation in the computational and informatics skills that are critical for developing, archiving, managing, and communicating data and information resources. Research activities include the development or enhancement of five databases that will support discovery of biological data and information resources at field stations. In particular, the research team will: (1) establish a North American Field Station Data Registry and Repository; (2) initiate a Thesaurus for Field Biology; (3) develop a Site Characteristics Database for North American Field Stations; (4) create a Bibliography of North American Field Station Publications; and (5) develop a WWW-accessible Database of Field Station QA/QC and Standard Methods. The team of investigators will coordinate development of the databases in conjunction with representatives of the Organization of Biological Field Stations, who comprise the project steering committee. In addition, the investigative team will coordinate the development of educational activities for field station personnel. These field station personnel will also contribute to database development activities. Education will principally focus on annual intensive (2-week) training workshops in ecological informatics that are developed around

a series of course modules. Where appropriate, training modules will be made available on a website to broaden the potential audience throughout the community of potential users.

12. Field Station Operations Manual. Susan Lohr reported on the completion of the NSF-sponsored manual derived from a workshop conducted in Gunnison, Colorado from November 30 — December 3, 2000. The Operations manual is published on the OBFS website.

13. OBFS Poster. Nina Consolatti reported that the poster is under revision, but available for use for field station or scientific society events. Contact Nina at <Nina.Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu>.

14. OBFS Film Project. Philippe Cohen provided an update on the project initiated last year to produce a one-hour documentary film on field stations. Cinematographer Tamsin Orion will concentrate on 4 to 5 lead topics such as global warming, biodiversity, land management, historical discoveries, etc., and is approaching PBS, Discovery Channel, National Geographic, NSF, foundations, and corporate sponsors for funding.

Part IV. Saturday, September 22, 8:12 AM - 12:17 PM

15. Education Committee. Steve Tonsor presented the Committee report as part of a program topic on education at field stations. The committee encourages all stations to enter their field course information in the new database of field courses hosted by the LTER Office and accessible on the OBFS website (see item 11, above). The Committee encouraged OBFS sites to provide leadership in educating the public about sustainability (see item 9, above), in explaining the value of our monitoring and research programs, and in training teachers to teach science (see item 16, below).

Steve Tonsor then led a discussion of a new OBFS proposal to NSF to support a workshop that would address the role of field stations in education. Judith Skog from NSF presented the need for the workshop. Topics to be addressed would include how to increase minority participation in science at field stations, how to enhance undergraduate

education and strengthen links with community colleges, what role field stations and marine labs might have to offset dwindling campus courses in biology and in training taxonomists, and related topics. The workshop should involve a wide range of scientists and educators from field stations and marine labs, and would be held at NSF, with a summary session involving NSF personnel. A final report would include a synthesis of available information, success stories, and a series of recommendations. The first step will be designation of a steering committee and list of potential participants.

16. FIRST Faculty Institutes for Reforming Science Teaching Through Field Stations. Hilary Swain summarized the success of this program that has involved 92 faculty who teach 322 courses. Several of the faculty who have participated in the program have submitted curriculum grants to NSF. A FIRST II project is now being planned. See the OBFS website for details.

AIBS Hilary Swain reported on the AIBS Public Policy Initiative and the expansion of a Public Policy Office. OBFS has pledged \$1000 per year for at least 3 years to help fund this office.

IBOY International Biodiversity Observation Year, 2001-2002. Hilary Swain reported that there was only a modest response to her reminder in April 2001 that all field stations should issue press releases during that month to emphasize to the public the importance of preserving biodiversity and the important role of field stations in that effort.

17. OBFS-NAML Cooperation. The very successful congressional staff briefing on invasive species problems presented by the National Association of Marine Laboratories and OBFS in Washington, DC in February 2001 was discussed in the May 2001 Newsletter. Art McKee and Eric Nagy will attend the NAML meeting in October 2001 and continue discussions for the next joint briefing. Topics for the briefing suggested by the membership include global change, genetically modified organisms, and ecosystem services.

18. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer:

A motion carried to accept the Minutes from the 2000 meeting as published in the 2000 Newsletter.

i. Membership:

A list of meeting attendees is on page 13 of the Newsletter. Membership at September 1, 2001 stands at 199 active (dues paid for 2001) members (168 station and 31 individual), up from 195 active members on the same date in 2000 (164 station and 31 individual). Including all members paying dues in 2000 or 2001 raises the total membership to 223 (184 station and 39 individual). During the year (to Sept 1, 2001), OBFS acquired 18 new members (12 station and 6 individual). Current membership lists, with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses, are included as Appendix II. Members discovering any mistakes in these data are requested to send corrections to the Secretary (obfs@ucdavis.edu). The membership list was also circulated at the meeting with a request for corrections.

ii. Finances: Operating Funds: The Financial Report (August 31, 2001) follows these minutes. Balance in operating funds as of August 31, 2001 was \$24,308.75, down from \$25,845.30 on August 31, 2000, after the 2001 transfer of \$5,000.00 from operating funds to the OBFS Restricted Fund.

iii. OBFS Restricted Fund: This fund, to be treated as an endowment fund, was formally adopted by the change in Bylaws passed during 1998. It has been managed by the Investment Committee (Connors, Rick Wyman, Sedra Shapiro), and is currently divided among two green funds (Citizens Index and Citizens Emerging Growth Funds) and Bank Certificates of Deposit. Balance in the Restricted Fund as of August 31, 2001 was \$28,785.44, up from \$27,418.41 on August 31, 2000, after earnings and capital gains/losses, contributions from operating funds, 2000 auction proceeds and member donations. The Financial Report (August 31, 2001) follows these minutes.

The Restricted Fund continues to grow. The 2001 OBFS auction added \$5559.00 to the Fund, thanks to generous contributions of auction items and spirited bidding by members. An additional transfer from operating funds to the Restricted

Fund is listed in the Proposed Budget, which follows these minutes. Donations from members to the Restricted Fund may be made at any time with a check payable to OBFS.

iv. Investment Committee Report: Connors reiterated the investment approach of the Committee: investment of most assets in green equity funds, with no attempt to do market timing, following a dollar-cost averaging approach with a 10 to 20-year horizon. The investment committee will begin tracking investment results in comparison to appropriate mutual fund benchmarks. The Committee will write its own job description, specifying its charge on behalf of OBFS. The Committee discussed setting a monetary goal for the Restricted Fund, to provide a framework for fund-raising efforts. At present there are no major fund-raising efforts underway, but a goal could be set in the future.

A new Investment Committee has been appointed by the Executive Board, beginning in the next Election year (Jan 1, 2002 or April 2, 2002): Philippe Cohen (Chair), Hilary Swain, Peter Connors, plus the Secretary-Treasurer as ex-officio member.

19. Audit Report. Vice-President Eric Nagy reported that he checked all records of income and disbursements from Jan 1, 2000 through August 31, 2001, and found that all transactions were clearly recorded, that all disbursements were appropriate and justified, that all financial records checked against bank statements and against the balance figures reported by the Treasurer.

The Proposed Budget was presented and discussed.

20. The Financial Report, Audit Report, and Proposed Budget were approved by the membership.

Part IV. Saturday, September 22, 1:35 PM - 3:00 PM

21. Data Management/Networking committee. Bill Michener reported that the

OBFS website had 24,000 visitors during the year, with average visit length above 13 minutes. The website has been moved to hosting by the LTER Network Office. The membership gave a round of applause for the time-consuming work that Mark Stromberg has performed on behalf of OBFS during the past few years.

22. Field Studies Poster. Ian Billick asked the membership whether we should continue the printed poster. There was sentiment for a generic advertisement to direct users to the website. This would have a fiscal impact, since it would have to be supported from the OBFS budget rather than from the extra \$60 fee paid by the stations that wish to be represented on the poster. After discussion, Ian agreed to have his staff do the poster one more year, and he will draft a generic advertisement for consideration at next year's meeting.

23. International Committee. Rick Wyman estimates that there are 1500 field stations worldwide; about 100 of these are listed in the IOBFS directory. Rick reminded us of the IOBFS website address: www.iobfs.org, and mentioned another website of interest: www.rds.org/fieldcentres. OBFS has been supporting IOBFS with a \$500 contribution toward mailing costs and office expenses during most years, but was not asked for the contribution during 2001. In the Proposed Budget for 2002, a contribution of \$1500 is listed for these purposes.

24. Committee Charges. President Swain asked each committee to write a charge of what the committee does or should do. She will ask Editor David White to review past minutes to see whether this has ever been done before.

25. Research Committee. Hal Klieforth reported that the Committee wants to fill in geographic gaps in monitoring sites by recruiting new members in areas where there are none at present. He asked for climate and habitat summaries from all stations.

26. Administration and Facilities. Philippe Cohen revisited the earlier discussion of Sustainability Principles at Field Stations. After discussion, a motion was passed to proceed with drafting a revised form of the principles. The revised version

will be sent to the membership by email for another round of comments, then presented to the Executive board for final approval.

27. Small Stations Committee. Beth Cline reported on the first meeting of this new committee. The problems of small field stations are not so different, but the solutions often are. Small stations are distinguished by their smaller resource bases in staff, budgets, and user bases. The Committee is forming an email listserve to continue discussions. They have been encouraged to suggest topics to the program committee for future discussions.

28. NSF Relations. Art McKee reported on four major thrusts of the committee: insuring that an NSF representative attends annual OBFS meetings; providing advocacy for programs like NEON that could involve and benefit field stations; assisting and improving the review of FSML proposals; and assisting in the flow of information about field stations and the FSML program at NSF.

29. Historian's Report. Bob Fisher brought albums of photos from past OBFS meetings. He is now in the US year-round, and will continue working on a history of the Organization.

30. Nominations committee. The Committee (Sedra Shapiro, Susan Lohr, Steve Havera) presented the list of candidates:
President: Mike Klug, Eric Nagy
Vice-President: Philippe Cohen, Brian Kloeppel, Larry Weider
Secretary-Treasurer: Claudia Luke
Member-at-large: Beth Cline, Nina Consolatti, Steve Tonsor

Part VI. Sunday, September 23, 9:07 AM - 10:32 AM

31. Future Meeting Sites. President Swain reported that we have not received any proposal for hosting the meetings past the 2002 meeting. Kino Bay Center for Cultural and Ecological Studies, Highlands Biological Station, and Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory are considering hosting, but have not submitted a proposal. Other member stations are encouraged to consider hosting a meeting.

32. Editing OBFS display. Remaining members separated into 3 groups and reviewed the draft revision of the text prepared at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory. President Swain will transmit the groups suggestions to Arnold van der Valk.

33. President Swain closed the 2001 meeting at 10:32 AM.

Submitted by
Peter G. Connors
Secretary-Treasurer

OBFS FINANCIAL REPORT, August 31, 2001

I. Operating Funds

Balance August 31, 2000 **\$25,845.30**
(\$21,320.38 in CD s; \$4,524.92 in checking account)

Income:

Dues	\$13,422.54
Field Study Poster station fees	180.00
Donations (405.00, Tom Frost Fund)	413.40
Interest (includes only interest paid to date)	<u>1,568.02</u>

Total income: \$15,583.96

Expenses:

AIBS dues and Public Policy Initiative	\$1,100.00
Missouri corporation registration fees	15.00
OBFS Committee travel	3,807.85
OBFS-NAML legislative reception expense	1,153.00
Contribution to TNC-Tom Frost Fund	905.00
OBFS Poster shipping	1,076.52
Office and website expense:	
Supplies, postage, letterhead, etc.	167.95
Secretarial and database support	1,433.00
Website editing charges	500.00
Website hosting fees	310.00
Newsletter expenses	<u>1,652.19</u>

Total expenses: \$12,120.51

Transfer to OBFS Restricted Fund \$5,000.00

Balance August 31, 2001 **\$24,308.75**
(\$21,114.32 in CD s; \$3,194.43 in checking account)

CD Schedule:

\$3,699.10 @ 5.15% (5.25% yield), 12 mos, due 28 January 2002 (No. 211242)
\$5,538.68 @ 5.15% (5.25% yield), 12 mos, due 02 February 2002 (No. 211243)
\$5,554.94 @ 6.82% (7.00% yield), 12 mos, due 15 September 2001 (No. 212240)
\$6,321.60 @ 6.82% (7.00% yield), 12 mos, due 01 November 2001 (No. 211125)

II. OBFS Restricted Fund

Balance August 31, 2000 **\$27,418.41**

Contributions:

Transfer from Operating Funds	\$5,000.00
2000 Auction proceeds	5,847.00
Donations	0.00
Mutual fund gain/(loss)	(9,843.22)
Interest	<u>363.25</u>

Total 2000-2001 additions: **\$1,367.03**

Balance August 31, 2001 **\$28,785.44**

Holdings:

Mutual funds:	
Citizens Core Growth Fund	\$18,871.91
Citizens Emerging Growth Fund	8,419.64
OBFS Checking Account	1,493.89

OBFS PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2002

Income:

Dues	\$13,200.00
Interest	<u>1,400.00</u>

Total: **\$14,600.00**

Expenses:

Office and website expense	\$2,500.00
AIBS dues and Public Policy Initiative	1,100.00
Newsletter	1,800.00
IOBFS mailing costs	1,500.00
Travel on OBFS business	5,500.00
Special OBFS projects	4,000.00
OBFS Poster shipping	1,200.00
Contribution to OBFS Restricted Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>

Total: **\$19,600.00**

Withdrawal from August 31, 2001 Operating Funds Balance **5,000.00**

ATTENDEES AT THE 2001 OBFS MEETING THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA BIOLOGICAL STATION

Alward, Richard	Cedar Point Biological Station
Bayliss, Susan	University of Oklahoma
Benedict, Laura	San Diego State University
Billick, Ian	Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Boisson, Fabienne	University of Oklahoma
Boucher, Virginia	UC Davis Campus Reserves
Boyer, Edward H. College	Kino Bay Center for Cultural & Ecological Studies, Prescott
Brown, Kelli D.	University of Oklahoma
Bryant, Pablo	San Diego State University - Field Station Programs
Claire, William	Selman Living Laboratory
Cobb, Donna R.	University of Oklahoma
Cohen, Philippe S.	Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Stanford University
Compton, Andrea	San Diego State University - Field Station Programs
Congdon, Bruce	Blakely Island Field Station
Connors, Peter	UC Bodega Marine Lab
Consolatti, Nina L.	Kellogg Biological Station
Cothran, Rickey	University of Oklahoma
Crandell, Thomas	Univ. of Michigan Biological Station and Douglas Lake
Crnkovic, Amanda	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Davis, George R.	Regional Science Center, Minnesota State Univ. Moorhead
Dighton, John	Rutgers Pinelands
Ebaugh, Janet Elaine	Macalester College: Katharine Ordway Natural History Area
Eggleton, Mike	University of Oklahoma
Emily, Sherbrooke	Southwestern Research Station
Fisher, Robert L.	Raystown Field Station
Folk, Monica	The Nature Conservancy's Disney Wilderness Preserve
Gamble, Kevin	
Glenn, Karen	University of Oklahoma
Hambright, K. David	University of Oklahoma
Handelman, Violet N.	UC Natural Reserve System
Hardy, Laurence M.	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Hargraves, Chad	University of Oklahoma
Havera, Steve	Forbes Biological Station
Holland, Marjorie	University of Mississippi Field Station
Hughes, David	Old Colorado City Communications
Jenkins, Sean E.	Kibbe Life Science Station
Johnson, Jerry D.	Indio Mountains Research Station - UTEP
Johnston, Gail F.	Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology
Johnston, Mary	University of Oklahoma
Jones, Andrew	Hopkins Memorial Forest
Keithley, Rachael	Sierra Ancha Station
Kent, Maureen M.	University of Mississippi Field Station
Klieforth, Harold E.	Desert Research Institute
Kloeppe, Brian D.	Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory
Klug, Michael J.	W.K. Kellogg Biological Station
Larson, David A.	Tyson Research Center

Laughrin, Lyndal	Santa Cruz Island Reserve
Lohr, Susan	Lohr Associates
Luke, Claudia	Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve
Maddux, Troy	Long Term Ecological Research Network Office
Marshall, Samuel D.	J.H. Barrow Field Station
Matthews, William J.	University of Oklahoma
McKee, Arthur	Andrews Forest
McNight Speairs, Betty	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Michener, William K.	LTER network office
Muth, Allan	UC Deep Canyon Desert Research Center
Nagy, Eric	Mountain Lake Biological Station
Nord, Julia	Bahamas Environmental Research Center
Page, Richard K.	University of Oklahoma
Proctor, Jason	SDSU Field Station Programs
Ramirez, Raul	University of Oklahoma
Romspert, Alan P.	Desert Studies Center
Sauter, Shannon	Forfar Field Station, Andros Island Bahamas
Savino, Jeff	Lake Erie Center
Shapiro, Sedra	San Diego State University - Field Station Programs
Simpson, Michele	Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Skog, Judith E.	National Science Foundation
Sliger, Wilburn (Andy)	Reelfoot Lake Teaching and Research Station
Smedley, Scott R.	Trinity College Field Station at Church Farm
Speairs, Richard K., Jr.	Ouachita Mountains Biological Station
Stander, Ryan	Ecology Research Center
Swain, Hilary M.	Archbold Biological Station
Tiszai, Heather	Forfar Field Station, Andros Island Bahamas
Tonsor, Steve	Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology
Trydahl, Dave	
Van Slyke, Tom	Konza Prairie Biological Station
Wade, Sherbrooke. C.	Southwestern Research Station
Wallace, Alison	Regional Science Center, Minnesota State Univ. Moorehead
Weider, Lawrence J.	University of Oklahoma
Wellborn, Gary	University of Oklahoma
Whippo Cline, Elizabeth	Woodlake Environmental Field Station
Williams, Tom	NSF Wireless Field Tests
Wyatt, Robert	Highlands Biological Station
Wyman, Richard	Huyck Preserve

Ye Olde Official OBFS Ballotte , 2001

This year s ballot is for election of
 President: ***Mike Klug, Eric Nagy***
 Vice President: ***Brian Kloeppel, Larry Weider, Philippe Cohen***
 Secretary-Treasurer: ***Claudia Luke***
 Member At Large: ***Cline Beth, Nina Consolatti, Steve Tonsor***

Ballottes have been sent to all station members via a separate mailing. The biographies given below are designed to assist voters in making wise choices — separating the trees from the forest so to speak (NOTE: pictures are a lot nicer on the OBFS web site!). Ballots should be received by **January 21, 2002**.

The Candidates

PRESIDENT:



Before Becoming
A Station Director



After Becoming
A Station Director

Mike Klug

Having originally been trained as a chemist and then in microbial physiology, field biology and field stations were something that was foreign to me until the early 1970s. At that time I had the good fortune to become a resident faculty member of the Kellogg Biological Station. My immersion into the field station culture was immediate; I taught my first class in summer session two months after being hired. I learned what it took to establish a program at a field station, and became a regular at federal surplus depots.

Although I have only been director at the station for five years, I have been involved over the past 30 years in the development of all facets at the station, from land acquisition, nearly 20 million dollars of construction and

renovation to establishing an LTER program. I have also been involved in various changes in the administrative linkage (some quite painful) between the station and our two administrating colleges on the main campus. As director, I have provided oversight and direction to the diverse activities at the station. The 4,000-acre landscape of the station contains a working dairy, bird sanctuary, biological laboratories, farm system center and natural successional areas. I also serve as chair of academic governance for the eight resident faculty members at the station.

In recent years I have built a strong outreach and development effort to accompany our formal education and research program. In my spare time I maintain a research program in microbial ecology. My research explores the structure and function of microbial communities in various agricultural management practices on our LTER. Although I have not been active in the leadership of OBFS, I have a wealth of experience in the building of an in the operation of biological stations. My goal would to continue to build OBFS partnerships with LTERs, the ESA and NAML to increase visibility of the organizations and the role of field stations in the infrastructure of field based research and education. I can think of no better place to highlight the merging of these two areas. I am most interested in building and enhancing educational opportunities at field stations for undergraduates and K-12 students and their teachers.

Eric Nagy



Eric Nagy is the Associate Director of Mountain Lake Biological Station (Department of Biology, University of Virginia), located at 1,160 meters in the mountains of southwestern Virginia. Mountain Lake is a teaching and research facility committed to offering advanced undergraduate training in field biology, and to hosting and supporting independent research programs from institutions across the country. Much research at the station is at the population level, with emphasis on ecology, behavior, and microevolutionary processes. Eric coordinates all labs and research

activities, administers and teaches the NSF REU program, provides scientific and computer support, serves as data manager, collections manager, and network administrator; he oversees facilities projects and long-range planning, and coordinates use and maintenance of scientific equipment and other laboratory and field facilities. Eric's research interests are in plant ecological genetics. Specifically, he works on the evolution of hybrids and is most interested in the interactions between natural selection and genetic, reproductive, and developmental constraints in natural hybrid populations. Eric is just finishing a term as Vice President of OBFS. He hosted the 1999 Annual Meeting, and as V.P. was intimately involved in the planning of the 2001 Annual Meeting. He feels that right now OBFS needs to continue to build cooperative and contributing relationships on Capitol Hill, with NSF, AIBS, NAML and elsewhere. And while reaching outward is important, he believes the highest priority for the organization should be to foster communication, interaction, and support among all member stations. Our collective experience, data, and information base is enormous. We must continue to build bridges and pipelines to carry this knowledge.



VICE PRESIDENT:

Brian Kloeppe

My roles as an Assistant Research Scientist in the Institute of Ecology at the University of Georgia and as the Site Director for the Long-term Ecological Research (LTER) Program at Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory, located in Otto, NC (near the Great Smoky Mountains National Park), have strengthened my appreciation of biological field stations. The graduate and undergraduate student training, the research productivity, and the education and outreach to scientific and public audiences complement each other well at biological stations and foster

an enjoyable and highly productive work environment at Coweeta. Multi-institutional collaboration has been an important ingredient of success at many biological stations and has been fostered with researchers and educators at more than 25 other institutions - including the University of Georgia, the primary collaborator since 1955. This collaboration benefits most involved and educates all at our semi-annual science meetings held at Coweeta or at the University of Georgia. In addition, the range of education and research topics that can be

Brian Kloeppe



covered by the collaborative group is widened. One of my responsibilities as the Coweeta LTER Site Director for the last seven years has been the improvement and expansion of facilities at Coweeta. We have approached fund raising as a collaborative effort and have received facilities funding from the University of Georgia, USDA Forest Service, and the Field Station and Marine Laboratory Competition at NSF. These funds have been used to expand and renovate our Analytical Laboratory (expected completion in December 2001), to expand and renovate visiting investigator

housing (expected completion in March 2002), and to construct a new conference and office facility (expected ground breaking in Fall 2002). These improved and expanded facilities will also provide a much more comfortable setting for future meetings that may include an OBFS Annual Meeting.

Coweeta has been a member of OBFS since 1997. Since that time we have participated in or contributed to a number of OBFS activities including annual meetings, summer field studies opportunities poster, traveling OBFS poster, amphibian data summary, and are also considering hosting a future OBFS annual meeting. I have thoroughly enjoyed all OBFS activities and especially enjoy working with the positive, enjoyable, and energetic OBFS members.

As Vice President, the primary responsibilities are to support the Annual Meeting hosts, to lead the development of the Annual Meeting program, and to provide a review of the Secretary-Treasurer records (though Peter has always had a perfect record!). If elected, I would happily fulfill these responsibilities. I look forward to future OBFS activities!

Larry Weider

I joined the University of Oklahoma faculty as an Associate Professor and Director of Research at The University of Oklahoma Biological Station (UOBS) in January 1999. In January 2000, I was appointed as full/sole Director of UOBS. For the previous 8+ years, I was a senior research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Limnology in Plön, Germany. In this research position, I was able to conduct a number of field-based studies at arctic field stations ranging from Spitzbergen to Iceland, Greenland, and across arctic Canada. These experiences gave me a very keen appreciation of the importance that field/biological/marine stations play in supporting research projects, and serving as educational venues for a variety of disciplines. Before



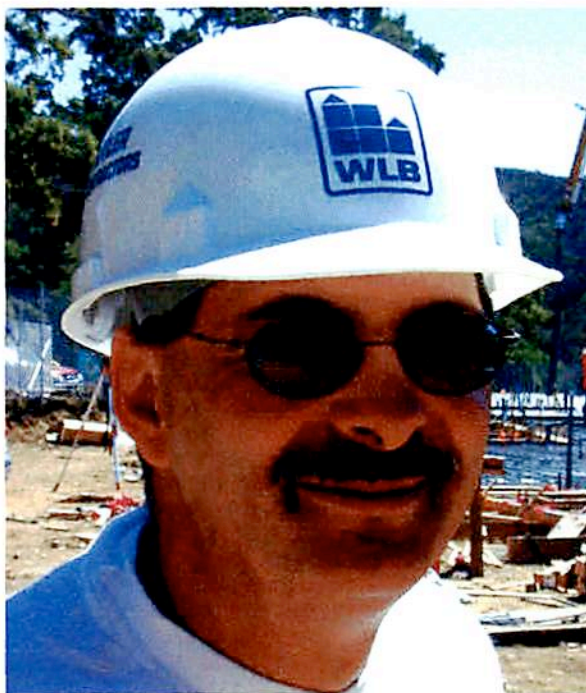
Larry Weider

attending my first OBFS meeting at Mt. Lake in September 1999, I wasn't sure of the exact mission of OBFS, but I quickly learned at Mt. Lake, Andrews, and at UOBS (Sept 2001 meeting), that this organization plays a vital role as a support group, to help each of us do our jobs more effectively. Not only is it enjoyable to participate in the annual meetings (for obvious reasons — good drink, good food, good fun), but also the ideas generated and exchanged among

OBFSers really are incredibly valuable as each of us strives to continue to improve our respective stations. I am also a member of the Society for the Study of Evolution, Ecological Society of America, and European Society for Evolutionary Biology. I have been a participant of the university's Speaker Service (outreach forum) since my arrival in 1999, and have given a variety of public lectures on my arctic research, as well as the importance and mission of field stations. I also serve as the faculty advisor for the OU Ultimate (Frisbee) Club.

Philippe Cohen

I have managed and directed a biological field station since 1986. Initially, I directed a remote desert field station, at the time, the newly created University of California Granite Mountains Reserve (today known as Sweeney Granite Mtns. Desert Research Center). Starting in 1993, I became director of Stanford University's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, a field station just 15 minutes from the main campus. Differences in size, funding, management challenges, access to services, all of these have helped me appreciate how context can shape a field station, but also how these differences belie an underlying set of goals, opportunities, and challenges. My experience managing a new as well as an established field station, one in a public institution, the other in a private institution, has given me a broad perspective that has proved valuable in understanding how best to support field-based research and educational activities as well as informing my involvement in OBFS initiatives.



In both these field stations I have had to plan, develop, and implement major facilities upgrades - one that relied heavily on volunteer labor, the other under the close scrutiny of the parent institution and awash in subcontractors.

In addition to these direct experiences with field stations, I have participated in several NSF-OBFS workshops, spanning such topics as networking and database management and strategic planning efforts such as the one that produced the New Horizons publication. For several years I have been chair of the Administration and Facilities Committee and for the last 2 years have been a Member-at-Large representative serving on the OBFS Executive Committee. Since joining OBFS in 1988 I have been very active, working to promote the significant contributions of field stations and an active member of OBFS. My most recent efforts have been directed at drafting sustainability

Philippe Cohen

principles (the last draft of which will be out shortly).

For those of you slightly poorer because you've attended the annual OBFS auctions, you know that I am one of the founding members of music group Luke Warm and In Cold Blood. I have also single-handedly united OBFS in efforts to

keep me from getting one of Wade Sherbrooke's t-shirts. I finally succeeded this year, but to the tune of \$127.00. If this isn't a measure of my commitment to OBFS, then please keep in mind that I will continue to attend OBFS meetings even if I'm not elected VP - but instead of attending late night Executive Committee meetings, you will have to suffer through my presence at even more social soirees.

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Claudia has over 12 years of experience in species and habitat conservation, ecological research, and has spent 7 years as a reserve



manager. She has developed research monitoring protocols and supported over 80 research projects at field stations for the University of

California and California State University. Her research interests include monitoring impacts of human development on natural systems, conservation of endangered and threatened amphibians and reptiles, and physiological ecology of desert lizards. Her experience in budget management includes managing consulting contracts and developing and tracking operating budgets at two field stations. She spent four years as a senior herpetological consultant with BioSystems Analysis, Inc. conducting surveys and preparing over 25 environmental impact reports, biological assessments, and other agency documents for special status amphibians and reptiles throughout California. She is Adjunct Professor in Biology at San Diego State University and Reserve Director at the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve. She is currently developing long-term monitoring programs for vertebrates as part of a remote sensing project and is engaged in a highly collaborative venture to focus regional conservation on habitat linkage protection. She is a member of the Advisory Commission to the Mojave National Preserve and has reviewed scientific papers for *Journal of Herpetology*, *Evolution*, and *American Midland Naturalist*.



MEMBER AT LARGE:

Beth Cline

I've been the (part-time) field station manager for the Woodlake Environmental Field Station, a partnership of Cleveland State University (CSU), John Carroll University and the National Park Service's Cuyahoga Valley National Park, since the station's creation in 1998 (my primary responsibility, i.e., that for which I am paid, is as the Interim Director of the Environmental Institute at CSU). Hence, our field station is a relatively new member of the Organization of Biological Field Stations (OBFS). Even in the relatively short time I've been participating in OBFS, I have been extremely impressed with the depth of knowledge about field station research, education, management and operation, and with the willingness of members to share this expertise with other members of the organization. This was certainly evident during our field station's NSF planning grant when many members provided us with assistance. OBFS is an organization with which I would like to become more involved (and hey, what other organization raises money by paying someone to eat a worm?).

I am particularly interested in increasing the involvement and participation of the smaller field stations in the organization. As a result of discussions held at the last OBFS meeting in Oklahoma, we formed a discussion group of over 40 people from the smaller stations, which reflects a belief that we can benefit from sharing common solutions to our challenges. I would perhaps offer a fresh perspective to OBFS as well probably asking more questions than providing answers.

I would be honored to serve as an OBFS member-at-large.



Nina Consolatti

I have worked at the Michigan State University Kellogg Biological Station (KBS) for sixteen years, first as a research technician in various labs looking at aquatic and terrestrial systems, and since 1992 as the KBS Facilities Coordinator. My first OBFS meeting was in 1995 at Treehaven in Wisconsin, and I have attended all but one meeting since then. In a feverish moment at the 1996 meeting I volunteered to look after the (then new) traveling OBFS display, and I continue to be the contact person for its use.

As an organization the OBFS faces the same challenge as do most field stations: to remain viable it needs to balance serving the particular needs of its individual



users/members (e.g. building resource networks for finding expertise, funding, data) with serving the more general need of all of its members (e.g. translating what takes place at field stations into terms that have daily-life and even big-picture significance for non-members). The thing that initially attracted me to my current position at KBS (OK, aside from the hard money support) and continues to make it interesting to me is the opportunity it affords me to think about (and sometimes even impact) the larger picture. The OBFS holds the same attraction for me, (plus there is the misery-loves-company appeal as well).

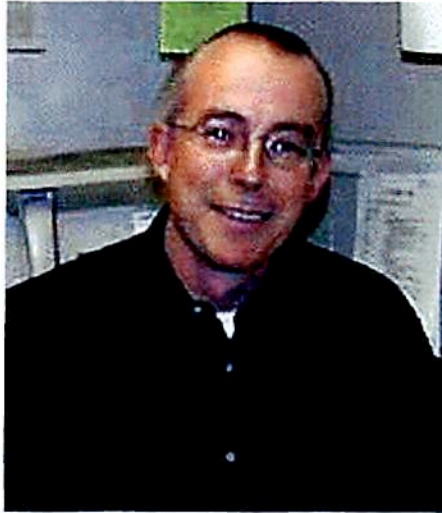
Steve Tonsor

Steve Tonsor received his B.S. in Zoology in 1977 and M.S. in Biology in 1978 from the University of Michigan. He completed his PhD in 1983 at the University of Chicago, focusing on the evolution of dispersal distance in variable environments. He was an assistant professor at West Virginia University 1983-1985, assistant and then associate professor at Michigan State University's Kellogg Biological Station from 1985-1995. At KBS, he was the first manager of the 1200-acre Lux Arbor Reserve, and played a role in its donation to the University. From 1995-2001 he was Director of the University of Pittsburgh's Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology, one of the OBFS founding field stations. Steve is currently an individual member of OBFS, and has served as Member-at-large and Chair of the Education Committee for OBFS. He has also participated in six external reviews of field stations. Steve has had a life-long interest in field science. He taught adult education

courses and led field trips for the Field Museum of Natural History. He taught Field Plant Systematics for 8 years at the Kellogg Biological Station, and participated in numerous additional field courses. While at KBS, he also developed and taught modules for KBS's high school summer institute, Habitats and Organisms., He developed and Ecological Management at the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology. On campuses, he has taught Evolution, Graduate Evolution, Population Biology, Introductory Biology, Plant Ecology, Quantitative Genetics, Writing Seminar for Ecology and Evolution Majors, Senior E&E Seminar, and numerous graduate seminar and special topics courses. Steve's research centers on mechanisms of adaptation to changing environments, and includes work on the evolution of gene flow and population genetic structure, Wright's shifting balance process, and the role of epistatic and genotype-environment interactions in evolution.

Steve Tonsor

Current work focuses on the evolution of reaction norms in novel environments, using responses of *Arabidopsis thaliana* to varied atmospheric CO₂ and a variety of stressors as a model system. He has published floristic inventory work for a preserve he stewarded in Michigan. In addition to his academic efforts, Steve has been involved in a variety of environmental and botanical public service activities. These include stints on the Science Advisory Boards of the Nature Conservancy, Michigan Chapter, The French Creek Project, the USGS NAWQA for Allegheny/Monongehela District, The Technical Advisory Committee for



U.S. Representative Tom Murtha, The Phipps Conservatory and Botanic Gardens Board of Directors, its Executive Committee and its Education, Research and Collections Committee (Chair), the University of Pittsburgh liaison to the Three Rivers University Consortium for the Environment. Steve plays blues harmonica, fishes, rides his bike to work, does a little print-making and gardening, and co-raises two children.

Annual Meeting, 2002 W. K. Kellogg Field Station

The 2002 OBFS annual meeting will be held at the Kellogg Biological Field Station (<http://www.kbs.msu.edu/>) Thursday, September 19, 2002, through Sunday, September 22, 2002. The Kellogg Biological Station is located in southwestern Michigan within a mixed rural/urban landscape. The biological laboratories and meeting location are located on the shores of Gull Lake, one of the largest inland lakes in Michigan. It is within 18 miles of Kalamazoo or Battle Creek, Michigan, and 62 miles from East Lansing.

The Biological Station is the largest off-campus education/research unit of Michigan State University. One or two pre-meeting field trips will be planned for Thursday, September 19, 2002. Trips to the Lake Michigan Dunes as well as

local bogs, wetlands, and savannas are being considered. Pre-meeting field trips will begin early on Thursday, September 16 and will return in time for the meeting reception and dinner. Please plan to arrive Wednesday, September 18, to participate in the pre-meeting field trips. Early arrival on Thursday will also allow for an in-depth tour of units of the Station, which include the Bird Sanctuary, Farm, Forest, Kellogg Manor House and Biological Laboratories.



The 2002 OBFS Annual Business Meetings will begin on Friday, September 20, at 8:00 a.m. A theme for the meeting is still under consideration. Follow-up on current efforts in education, networking and NSF opportunities will also be part of the agenda. Opportunities for short hikes, swimming, and visits to laboratories and select research field sites will be available.

Social events may include a barbeque, sampling of local wine and brewery products; and a presentation on the 50-year history of the Biological Station (The Biological Station celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2002!), and of course the OBFS auction.

The meeting will conclude at lunchtime on Sunday, September 22, 2002.

The Station can comfortably house 110 people in double occupancy rooms. Bunkhouse accommodations are also available. Guests with families can be accommodated in one of our apartment units. Camping is available in a state campground approximately 15 miles from the Station. Traditional motel accommodations are within 30 minutes of the Station. Internet access will be available in the Academic Building.

All accommodations have bathrooms with showers. Visitors will need to bring their own

bedding and towels. Plan for days in the mid-60s and nights in the 50s. Average rain fall in mid-September is 2.5. Fall colors will just be starting and there will be a hint of fall in the air.

The closest airport is in Kalamazoo, which is 18 miles from the Station. Limo service is available and we also plan to have shuttle vans during peak travel times. Five airlines serve the airport. Amtrak also comes through Kalamazoo and Battle Creek. Our web site has driving directions and other general information.

Meeting details will be posted on the Station's web page (<http://www.kbs.msu.edu/>) as they develop, and registration will be available on-line starting in June of 2002. Please address questions to me at Klug@kbs.msu.edu or 616/671-2341. The main meeting notice and more details will go out in the May OBFS Newsletter. We look forward to seeing you in September!

NSF IMPROVEMENTS IN FACILITIES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND EQUIPMENT AT BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATIONS AND MARINE LABORATORIES (FSML) PROGRAM

Program Director Judith E. Skog (703) 292-8470
jskog@nsf.gov

Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories (FSMLs) are off-campus facilities for research and education conducted in the natural habitats of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems. FSMLs support biological research and education by preserving access to study areas and organisms, by providing facilities and equipment in close proximity to those study areas, and by fostering an atmosphere of mutual scientific interest and collaboration in research and education. To fulfill these roles, FSMLs must offer modern laboratories and educational spaces, up-to-date equipment, appropriate personal accommodations for visiting scientists and students, and modern communications and data management systems for a broad array of users.

In recognition of the importance of FSMLs in modern biology, NSF invites proposals that address these general goals of FSML improvement.

Deadline: 22 March 2002

Program Guidelines: NSF 01-59

<http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf0159>

A copy of the revised Program Solicitation (NSF-02-040) is available on the OBFS web site at <http://www.OBFS.org/>

Susan Lohr and Jan Hodder, among others, have served on the FSML panel and offered the following timeless words of wisdom to those of us who are submitting proposals (printed first in the 1997 Winter Newsletter):

1. Follow the directions in the program announcement and **DO NOT DEVIATE.**

2. Write as well as you can. Eliminate redundancy. Spell correctly. Eliminate computer-generated mistakes, such as incomplete deletions, etc.
3. Talk with Judith Skog ahead of time, if you have any questions at all about the appropriateness of your request or your offered match.
4. Do not assume any prior knowledge of your field station on the part of the reviewers.
5. Make your arguments cohesive and compelling.
6. Be honest.

OBFS DISPLAY & BROCHURES DATA MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP REPORTS

In 1996 funding from NSF allowed OBFS to create a brochure and build a portable, free-standing display booth with text and graphics to explain the importance of biological field stations and marine laboratories to the public. The display is available for OBFS members to borrow for use at professional meetings, open houses, field days, fundraisers, etc. It is about 7'9" tall, 2 feet deep and 8 feet long with its own internal lighting.

Shipping costs may be reimbursable by OBFS. The text of the display is also available in brochure form. Anyone interested in obtaining brochures or borrowing the display should contact Nina Consolatti, Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 East Gull Lake Drive, Hickory Corners, MI 49060. Phone: 616/671-2228
E-mail: Consolatti@kbs.msu.edu.

Also available for the asking from Nina Consolatti are hard copies of the NSF-sponsored workshop reports on data management at field stations: Data Management at Biological Field Stations. Report of a Workshop May 17-20, 1982. W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University (the green book), and Data Management at Biological Field Stations and Coastal Marine Laboratories. January 1992, Report of an Invitational Workshop, April 22-26, 1990, W. K. Kellogg Biological Station, Michigan State University (the blue book). Note that the 1992 report contains the 1982 report as an appendix, and that both are available electronically (courtesy of John Porter) at www.LTERnet.edu/ecoinformatics.

STATION NEWS

University of Michigan Biological Station at Douglas Lake Position Open

Director of the Biological Station The College of Literature, Science, and the Arts at the University of Michigan solicits applications and nominations for the position of Director of the Biological Station. Although the Director resides in Ann Arbor during the academic year, she/he will normally occupy the Director's residence at the Biological Station during the summer. The University of Michigan Biological Station, located near Pellston Michigan, encompasses a protected site of 10,000 acres of land largely undisturbed for about 100 years.

It is an NSF Experimental Ecological Reserve and a U.N. International Biosphere Reserve. It supports a rich variety of ecosystems, and includes significant frontage on Douglas Lake. The Biological Station has staff, facilities, and budget to support its mission of teaching and research in terrestrial and aquatic ecology and environmental studies, especially those relating to air pollution and atmospheric warming. It is the site of several well-established longitudinal studies.

We seek an individual with a distinguished research record who will have credentials suitable for a tenured academic appointment in one of our Departments such as Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Geological Sciences, or the School of Natural Resources and the Environment. The Director will play a central role in promoting interactions nationally and with other Michigan units having related missions at the University, such as the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Sciences. The successful candidate will have a record of intellectual and administrative leadership, and experience in obtaining grant support from public and private agencies.

The new Director will be charged with linking and rationalizing the Biological Station's curriculum relevant to departmental curricula and with increasing the use of the Station's resources in the teaching mission of the University. She/he will also be charged with expanding the range of

research at the Biological Station, with the development of major research initiatives, and with increasing research funding.

Please send a letter of application, a current vita, and the names (with phone numbers and email addresses) of three references who can be contacted to: Paul G. Rasmussen, Search Committee Chair, c/o Kay Beattie, 2522 LS&A Building, 500 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1382. Consideration of applicants will begin on November 1, 2001, and will continue until the position is filled.

The University of Michigan is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women and members of minority groups are especially encouraged to apply. Additional information about the Biological Station can be found at its web site, <http://www.umich.edu/~umbs/>

(fax); or at www.sg.ohio-state.edu.
