

## ISWE Annual Report 2016

ISWE completed filing requirements and obtained official status as a 501c3 non-profit corporation based in the United States.

Two new positions were elected to serve a three year term beginning January 2017:

- A new vice-chair of Ethics and Strategic Initiatives was elected: Rachel Santymire, of Lincoln Park Zoo.
- A new Treasurer was elected, Jocelyn Bryant, however due to unforeseen circumstances, Ms. Bryant needed to defer starting this position. The board voted to approve David Kersey as an interim treasurer for a period of one year.

ISWE held its first strategic planning meeting since its inception of a society in 2009 in conjunction with the annual board meeting. Current and incoming board members, emeritus board members, advisors, students and academic partners joined in for the meeting held at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute on September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. This group used the results of a survey filled out by current ISWE members about current needs to best support the membership to guide a facilitated strategic planning session. Dr. Karen Goodrowe, one of our emeritus board members who is formally trained in facilitation, led the group discussion and planning. The resulting product was a 5 year strategic action plan with smart goals that tier to each of the board positions. The board identified a need for several committees which will be in place by mid-2017 and for which the membership is encouraged to apply and participate. (see **attached strategic action table**).

In 2016, planning and preparation continued for the conference to be held on 14-16 August, 2017 hosted by Disney's Animal Kingdom. A call for abstracts was sent out in December 2016.

A Facebook webpage and website were maintained and updated regularly throughout the year.

### ISWE Finances (see attached Finance Report):

Starting balance (January 1, 2016): \$14,715.64

- Income \$ 8,714.73

- Expenses \$ 5,564.85

Ending Balance (December 31, 2016): \$17,865.52

### ISWE 2016 Board

Elizabeth Freeman, Communications Chair, George Mason University

David Kersey, Treasurer, Western University

Gabriella Mastro Monaco, Vice Chair Membership and Fundraising, Toronto Zoo, Canada

Ned Place, Secretary, Cornell University

Marina Ponzio, Conference Chair, National University of Cordoba, Argentina

Mandi Schook, Chair, Cleveland Metroparks Zoo/Disney's Animal Kingdom

Catharine Wheaton, Vice Chair Ethics, Disney's Animal Kingdom

ISWE Membership 2016: **146 members**