



E-SLATE

American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS)

EDITORIAL NOTE –August 2014

Welcome to the August E-Slate. In this issue we announce a gift to the AAUS Foundation, BOD election results and have final registration information for the 2014 AAUS symposium. We welcome news, announcements, job postings, and images of underwater work at aaus@disl.org. Current and past issues of the E-Slate are available at www.aaus.org.

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

AAUS Foundation Receives \$70,000 Gift

AAUS received a message from a Florida law firm last year, wanting to know about AAUS in reference to a possible gift to the organization. The timing was important. The IRS had just approved the AAUS Foundation as a 501c3 Not for Profit charitable organization.

William T. Craig, Jr. had the means to do many things and he chose to explore his options throughout life. When he found something of interest, he would dive into it with research, job training and experiential learning.



Born in Roanoke, VA in 1958, Craig moved to Sarasota, FL in 2003 to help his aging mother. He received a BA degree in Criminology from the University of South Florida in 2010.

Unfortunately, he became ill and passed away January 30, 2013.

Preparing his affairs in 2004-2005, Craig looked for underwater research organizations to support and discovered the AAUS web site. Since the bequest specified only charitable organizations, the trustees determined that the Foundation was appropriate to be included in the trust. Apparently it was a natural fit. Other beneficiaries include Sarasota County Arts Council, Inc., The Selby Library in Sarasota, FL, the Humane Society of Sarasota County, the Humane Society of the United States, Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, UT, the Sierra Club Foundation, NASA, and the National Audubon Society, Inc.

Most of the estate issues have now been resolved and checks disbursed to each group. AAUS Foundation will apply the \$70,000 toward its primary goals of funding

student scholarships and additional AAUS activities. Dr. Neal Pollock, AAUS Foundation president stated, "We are ecstatic over the generosity of Mr. Craig. It will certainly help us meet our goal of helping students gain experience with scientific diving and the science of diving."

Ms. Jan Miller, Executive Vice President & Trust Officer for Caldwell Trust Company, noted "Bill Craig was a very dear client of mine for many years. He loved science, particularly as it related to animals, birds, the environment, underwater science and astronomy. His beneficiaries were selected as a result of those interests...knowing his funds would be used for scholarships would make him very happy."

On behalf of AAUS and its Foundation: Thank you, Mr. Craig, for your very meaningful gift to the AAUS Foundation Scholarship Program, to help the next generation of explorers.

Note from AAUS BOD- Strategic Planning

By now you have received a link to a survey about AAUS member services. This survey is one component of our data-gathering process for the development of a new 5-year strategic plan that identifies key goals and directions for the Board of Directors to review and implement. To give you some background, the first strategic plan was developed in 2008 and ran through 2011; this plan was very effective and by renewing the process we will focus the efforts of the Board on key objectives and keep the Academy moving forward. Your participation in this process is very important to us!

We will be gathering feedback from members and stakeholders in several ways. First, we will distribute a series of surveys from the AAUS Board of Directors. The first survey was recently sent to all current AAUS members and focuses on AAUS services and benefits. A second survey will be sent to membership in the near future that will help us evaluate the overall goals and purposes of the Academy as defined in the 2008-2011 strategic plan. A third survey will be directed to members of the AAUS community that have been the most involved over the years, including board members, past presidents, and AAUS Foundation members. Other surveys may also be sent out as the process moves forward.

At the Symposium in Sitka there will be a presentation explaining the strategic planning process; we will also discuss information collected to date and ask for informal feedback and discussion.

After survey data and stakeholder input have been collected and collated, the current and incoming members of the Board of Directors, along with invited AAUS Foundation members, will meet to develop a new 5-year strategic plan. As part of this process we will identify stakeholders, define the strengths and weaknesses of the Academy, and identify present and future opportunities and challenges. Before finalization and implementation, the plan will be posted on the AAUS website and we will have an open period when all members can review and comment.

If you have any questions or concerns about the strategic planning process, please contact the AAUS office or any member of the Board of Directors. We want this to be an open and transparent process and member participation is essential, so thank you in advance for your time and input.

The AAUS Board of Directors

BOD Election Results

The 2014 AAUS Board of Directors (BOD) election results are tallied and the Board congratulates the newly elected Director at Large, Dr. Jennifer Smith. She will begin her term on January 01, 2015. On behalf of the Academy, we thank Jennifer Smith and Vincent Malkoski for participating in the election. The AAUS Board of Directors will have 3 open positions next year, President Elect, Secretary and Director at Large. We encourage membership to consider nominations for these positions and to vote in the elections.

National Diving Safety Officers Meeting 2014

Please submit any agenda items for the 2014 Diving Safety Officers' meeting to Jim Hayward (ucbdiver@berkeley.edu) by August 30, 2013.

AAUS Symposium 2014

Don't miss out! Final registration is taking place for the 2014 AAUS Symposium, hosted by the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and held September 09-13, 2014 in Sitka, Alaska. There is still some space available in our



workshops as well as diving opportunities. The hotel room block has closed. However, if you are in need of lodging, please contact the AAUS office. Alaska Airlines is offering a group discount. More information available at

www.aaus.org/annual_symposium.

We are once again having our **Organizational Member Poster night**. We encourage ALL Organizations to submit a poster to highlight your scientific dive program. If you are not attending the meeting, contact the AAUS office and we can display your poster for you. If you presented a poster in the past few years, we encourage you to do so again. This is

a great opportunity to showcase your program and learn more about other AAUS Organizations! AAUS has provided a sample poster template at http://www.aaus.org/annual_symposium for your perusal and ease of production. All participants should submit an electronic version of your poster by **September 01** to aaus@disl.org.

Post Symposium Field Trip - Kasitsna Bay Lab

This field trip will provide participants with cold water diving experience in Kachemak Bay, Alaska, including kelp forests, urchin barrens, pinnacles and much more! Package includes two full days of diving (tanks and weights provided), three nights' accommodations (bunk-style) and all meals while at the lab. Please see the details on the registration page for more information.



Underwater Technology

The journal Underwater Technology is now completely Open Access and is, at present, free to publish in. As well as all new issues, back issues to 1995 have been made fully available for free download. The journal's website is <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/sut/unwt>

The journal frequently publishes papers that are relevant to scientific diving. Recent examples are:

- [Environmental properties of the water-filled Ojamo limestone quarry, southern Finland](#)
- [Ferry wake risk in shallow-water dive operations](#)
- [Estimation of depth and temperature in 47 models of diving decompression computer](#)
- [Scientific diving techniques in restricted overhead environments](#)
- [Decompression calculations for trimix dives with PC software: variations in the time-to-surface:](#)

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

International Mesophotic Workshop in Eilat

Tel-Aviv University & the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences in Eilat will be conducting a one week intensive workshop from October 26-31, 2014. This workshop is designed for scientists and students who interested in mesophotic and deep environments. Please

note the last day for abstract submissions. More information at www.mceisrael.com.

2014 AAUS/OWUS Internship

Follow the blog of the 2014 AAUS/OWUS Intern, Katy Newcomer, as she gets her feet wet at the University of Maine's Darling Marine Center.

<http://www.owuscholarship.org/blog/?cat=2>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Migrations Field Camp

The Fall Migrations Field Camp is being offered by Bamfield Marine Science Center September 02-06, 2014. This camp is for anyone interested in the migrating wildlife of



Barkley Sound. Participants will explore marine wildlife through guided nature walks, interactive labs and boat trips. A full itinerary

and details available at

<http://www.bmsc.ca/pubed/adult/migration.html>

or call the BMSC Public Education Department at 250-728-3301 ext. 226

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Full information and application instructions for the following jobs can be found at www.aaus.org/job_board

Texas A&M Galveston

Diving Safety Officer

The mission of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences is to facilitate the development of safe and productive scientific divers through education, research, advocacy, and the advancement of standards for scientific diving practices, certifications, & operations.

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