

## Report from the 2017 Board of Trustees Summer Session

July 18, 2017 Memphis, TN

Ann Turner presented an overview of attendance in Charlotte, NC, attributing the reduction in attendance to travel restrictions and a potential market correction. The upcoming meeting in Austin, TX presents some challenges since the site was booked several years ago. The Austin City Limits Music Festival abuts the meeting start on Sunday and an Indy style Formula One race follows at the end of the meeting. Additional rooms have been secured farther from the center and a shuttle will be provided.

The meeting garnered twice as many submissions than slots for presentations, so selection was difficult, but the program is exceptional. There will be free WIFI at the meeting. Transnetyx will not be hosting the cyber café this year; thus, the AALAS Bookstore and Learning Library would be located to this space with charging stations, couches, self-running videos about the National Meeting, and more.

AALAS has begun some Cuba outreach, but there are limitations on how we can help their program. U. S. Government restrictions do not allow for exchange of money.

There was extended discussion about the historical management and disbursement of The Ben Cohen Branch Education Funds. The EC presented a concept to use the funds instead to provide Branch Leadership training that would be complementary to the Leadership Academy and would enhance networking among Branch and National Leaders. Since this change requires a vote by the BOT, the fund and BCBEF applications will be suspended until revised by an Action Resolution (AR).

Use of AALAS Listservs to raise money for external organizations was discussed and a disclaimer procedure, would be added to the Policies & Procedures Manual (PPM), to clarify that, except for the AALAS Foundation, it would not be permissible to use the AALAS listservs to raise money.

CMAR is looking for alternatives to the generic management component from IPCM. Due to the cost of the modules, if you have not started the program, AALAS recommends waiting for 6 months to see what develops. The alternatives are already in process, as AALAS owns the CMAR and the contract with IPCM has lapsed and will not be renewed.

Some changes are in the works for the National Meeting Site Selection Committee. In most organizations, site selection is a staff function, and the AALAS staff do much of the initial work. The EAC provides an advisory function, and the BOT chooses the final site. As a reminder, sites alternate between East and West of the Mississippi. The site selected by the BOT for 2023 will be Salt Lake City and the dates are October 22-26. All three cities under consideration were returning cities. In other site selection news, Denver (2019) has requested a date change to October 13 -17. In exchange for our cooperation, they offered fee reductions and free WIFI.

The following affiliate organizations were approved:

- Association for Gnotobiotics
- Laboratory Animals LTD