**Florida Entomological Society**

**Business Meeting, 101st Annual FES Conference**

**St. Augustine, FL**

**Call to Order** – President Rui-De Xue called the meeting to order at 12:50 PM, July 25, 2018

**Attendance**: Rui-De Xue, Heather McAuslane, Teresa Duchene, Jawwad Qureshi, Blair Siegfried, William Kern, Christopher Bibbs, and members in audience.

i) Business Manager report by Mrs. Duchene. As of the 101st FEST annual conference, attendance is down compared to prior years. There were estimated to be ~117 attendees, with the biggest decline observed in attendance by full members. Recruitment should be a priority in the coming year. The 2017 joint Caribbean meeting in Puerto Rico was expensive at $9,658.63 (7% of assets).

Online registration and pay systems are in development for the upcoming year. They are expected to launch by the end of 2018 in anticipation of the 102nd annual meeting.

ii) Executive Board update by Dr. Xue. There is one vacancy for a member-at-large and one vacancy for a student representative on the executive board.

Currently, Scott Croxton has been nominated for the member-at-large. Nicholas Johnston has been nominated for student representation.

Lauren Diepenbrock was nominated on-site for the member-at-large. Iris Stryzewski-Smith was nominated on-site for the student representative position.

Votes will be held electronically after the conclusion of the conference.

iii) Site selection committee report by Dr. McAuslane. The upcoming 2019 FES meeting sites have been nominated as Jupiter or Sanibel Harbor. The decision will be finalized within the next two months, based on contract rate negotiations.

**Officer Transition:**

Current president Dr. Xue passed the gavel to incoming president, Dr. McAuslane in an official transfer of duties.

Current officer positions are Rui-de Xue as Past-president, Heather McAuslane as President, Jawwad Qureshi as President-elect, and Greg Nuessly as Vice President.

Presidential Address by Dr. McAuslane. The primary goal for FES in the coming year will be to reinvigorate attendance at meeting and restore membership numbers to levels observed in previous years. Florida is an entomological capital in the U. S., and membership has the potential to be much larger.

In an effort to encourage investment in the society, the planning committee will solicit the broader membership for ideas to be enacted in the coming year. Ideas suggested during this year’s meeting include professional development and statistical workshops, poster competitions, and increased variety in symposia, to include topics in behavioral ecology, -omics disciplines, and conservation. The

**Close of Business** – Meeting adjourned, thus concluded the 101st annual FES conference.

Adjourn 1:17 PM