

from the society

A new membership manager for the IBS

As some of you may have already noted due to some recent email activity, I am the new Manager of Membership Services for the International Biogeography Society. My background is in biology, including as a fish and wildlife consultant and an evolution research technician in a University setting; and have always felt that there's never enough cross-over contact between people working in different fields that are essentially trying to understand and conserve the worlds' biota. So I am very excited to be working for IBS.

In my new role with IBS, I am looking forward to making membership services more personable, more accessible, and easier to follow. To that end, I will be working on changing some things in the coming months including making membership renewal clearer, and streamlining access to journal benefits. I appreciate your patience, as many of these things will be works in progress for a while.

If you are not yet a member but are interested in becoming one, either to have access to member benefits such as free online access to Blackwell's biogeography journals (see <http://www.biogeography.org/> for full benefits) or to

become more involved with the world of biogeography, please feel free to contact me with questions or check out the IBS website.

If you believe you are a member but have not heard from me already via email, please check that we have your current email address on file by either logging onto the system yourself through the "Member" tab on www.biogeography.org, or by contacting me at faller@wisc.edu.

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns about your membership or services provided by IBS, I would love to hear from you. I'm also happy to try and answer any general questions you may have, or direct you to appropriate people within the IBS board.

Keep an eye out for future emails about changes to the system, and about the upcoming meeting in Iraklion, Crete in January 2011. I'm looking forward to working with you!

Karen Faller

Manager of Membership Services

from the society

Nomination of IBS officers

The Nomination Committee is now receiving suggestions for Officers and Members-at-Large for the 2010 election. IBS has four positions to fill: President, VP for Conferences, and two Directors-at-Large.

Please submit your suggestions no later than 15 January 2010 to both José Alexandre Felizola Diniz Filho (jafdinizfilho@gmail.com, diniz@icb.ufg.br) and Ella Vazquez (evazquez@ecologia.unam.mx). For each nomination please supply the name, address, email, and a brief description on why you think this person would be a good candidate for the position.

The Constitution states that the Past President (Vicki Funk) and the two Directors-at-Large (Vazquez & Diniz-Filho) are members of the committee. In addition, the President has added Larry Heaney (President elect) as a member.

All of our offices are critical to the functioning of our society so we ask that you spend some time thinking about who would be good at the various jobs and willing to spend the time.

Many thanks,

Vicki Funk

Past President

Did you know that by submission of a petition signed by at least twenty-five voting members of the Society, members may request that an item proposed by a member of the Society during the Governing Board of Directors meeting will be voted on as an initiative by the full Society membership by electronic mail ballot? The results of any such ballots shall be reported to the membership.