Leading Biology with Informed Decisionmaking and Catalyzed Action
About AIBS

The American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) scientific association dedicated to advancing biological research and education for the welfare of society. AIBS works to ensure that the public, legislators, funders, and the community of biologists have access to and use information that will guide them in making informed decisions about matters that require biological knowledge.

Founded in 1947 as a part of the National Academy of Sciences, AIBS became an independent, member governed organization in the 1950s. Today, AIBS has more than a hundred member organizations and is headquartered in Reston, VA, with a Public Policy Office in Washington, DC. Its approximately 24 staff members work to achieve its mission by publishing the peer-reviewed journal BioScience and the education Web site ActionBioscience.org, by providing scientific peer review and advisory services to government agencies and other clients; and by collaborating with scientific organizations to advance public policy, education, and the public understanding of science.

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Welcome
Joseph Travis, Ph.D., AIBS President

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Join Us in This Work
On behalf of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) Board of Directors and staff members, thank you for your interest in our organization and programs. I am pleased to share this 2014 AIBS Annual Report. This document provides important information about our organization, but only a snapshot of the major impact we have on behalf of biology every day.

As you will see from the following pages, AIBS is a national organization dedicated to providing leadership to the profession and to informing decisionmakers. We do this in partnership with the scientific community, which includes our clients and business partners, funding agencies, members, policymakers, scientists, educators, and others. Our programs include the highly regarded scientific publication, BioScience, a nationally recognized Scientific Peer Advisory and Review Services (SPARS) program, and a science policy program that routinely informs and influences our nation's scientific research and education policy.

In 2014, I am pleased to report that with support from the National Science Foundation, AIBS initiated a national effort that will help inform how biologists and biology journals can increase access to scientific data, we launched a national innovation competition—Beyond the Box Digitization Competition—to stimulate the development of new technology to unlock images and data contained in museum insect collections, and we partnered with other scientific organizations to launch an initiative to foster the development of a robust natural science collections community able to sustainably pursue digitization of biological specimens and data. We also entered into a new partnership with Oxford University Press that has already expanded the readership of BioScience and increased our international footprint. Staff members in our SPARS program published new research findings that are helping to shape best practices for conducting scientific merit reviews of research proposals.

Indeed, AIBS has a proud history of helping to shape our nation's scientific enterprise. We are also ambitious and see many new opportunities to work with our partners to make even greater contributions to science. Therefore, in 2014, we initiated a process of transforming our organization so that we are even better positioned in the years ahead to lead the community of biologists and to ensure that decisions are informed by the best possible science.

Before I conclude, I want to highlight the real strength of our organization—its staff members. These dedicated professionals continuously endeavor to provide efficient, innovative, and impactful services and programs that advance our mission and the interests of our partners.

I hope that you share our desire to advance scientific discovery and will join us to press forward the frontiers of knowledge.

Joseph Travis, Ph.D.
President
What We Do

We Inform Decisions by providing peer-reviewed or vetted information about the field and profession of biology.

We Catalyze Action by building the capacity and the leadership of the community to address matters of common concern.

Our Community

AIBS works with any stakeholder that advances the field and profession of biology. Organizations and individuals partner with us on initiatives, work with us to identify and communicate matters of common concern, and help connect us to their communities for idea and information exchange—particularly regarding public policy, education, public understanding of science, and matters of professional concern.

AIBS has individual members and member societies, and organizations that support our work financially.

AIBS has clients ranging from government agencies to biological societies and other nonprofits that use our expert services for a fee.

The Changes We Promote

Informed Decisionmaking
As a result of AIBS actions, the public, legislators, funders, and the community of biologists access and use information that will guide them in making informed decisions about matters that require biological knowledge.

Leadership
As a result of AIBS actions, the biology community will have information and leadership that is a guide for advancing the field and profession.

Sustainability
As a result of AIBS actions, AIBS is a financially and programmatically sustainable organization.
OUR STRATEGIES FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN

AIBS is catalyzing advances in science, strengthening the profession, and bringing information to decisionmakers

• to address emerging opportunities and challenges in data sharing;

• to foster improved understanding of peer review;

• to implement policy and advocacy campaigns;

• to build the capacity of scientific organizations;

• to explore new career pathways; and much more...
AIBS Information Technology Office

Today, information technology platforms are the primary medium through which AIBS’s audience experiences the Institute’s efforts and successes. From reading *BioScience* feature articles or new SPARS manuscripts online, to using our SCORES® software to evaluate proposed research, or signing up on the web to visit Congress with our Public Policy Office staff, technology plays critical delivery, connecting, and feedback roles.

In 2014 AIBS’s Information Technology Office was pleased to contribute to each of those endeavors and a great number more – always with an eye on using technology to facilitate the strategies that support a pillar of the AIBS strategic plan: informing scientific decisionmaking.

Some additional examples from 2014 include: releasing new responsive websites supporting our SPARS and Policy units; developing sites and applications for the AIBS/NSF Beyond the Box Digitization Competition; continued production of our SCORES® peer-review software suite; enabling AIBS clients and staff with new technologies as we became a primarily virtual company; further adopting money—and time—saving cloud-based products and approaches; and always executing with our own strategic plans firmly in mind.

With these exciting projects behind us, we look forward to providing technology tools and services that enable the greatest possible impact from AIBS’s important work for the scientific community.
Scientific Peer Advisory and Review Services

How we achieve this vision

As a valued partner in science, our work advances research through expert analysis and support that inform critical decisions.

AIBS SPARS was established in 1963 to perform peer review and related scientific support services. AIBS SPARS has over 50 years of experience partnering with a diverse group of funding organizations (private foundations, government entities, academic institutions, etc.) and supporting a wide range of missions. We facilitate all forms of independent, expert scientific peer-review, and our 501(c)(3) nonprofit structure provides clients with an external, objective entity to perform peer-review and support services.

AIBS SPARS facilitates peer review throughout a research program’s life cycle. Our most common review activities can be grouped into three general categories: proposed research review, ongoing research review, and retrospective review. AIBS SPARS offers support services for a wide range of program activities. Some common services we provide include, but are not limited to: award mechanism and review criteria development; receipt and tracking of review materials; subject matter expertise recruitment; review facilitation; reports and analysis preparation; and leadership/administrative support.

Key factors that drove our accomplishments in 2014:

- All of our staff members have over 5 years of experience with peer review and almost 50% of our staff members have 10 years or more of experience.
- We have a growing database of more than 16,000 subject matter experts available with expertise in a vast range of topics to support all manner of review, as well industry-leading confidentiality and conflict of interest policies and assessment procedures.
- We utilized the Scientific Comprehensive Online Research and Evaluation System (SCORES®) suite, a proprietary collection of modern Web-based applications, to support all steps of the peer-review process.
- We have continuous formal analysis of the peer-review process with regular publications that ensures optimization of our own services and advances the scientific community as a whole.
Looking Forward

AIBS SPARS is striving to position itself as a center of excellence in the field of scientific peer review. With additional publications and presence in the literature, as well as increased outreach with potential clients (organizations funding scientific research), we are raising our profile in the scientific community. Our ultimate goal is to provide the highest quality independent peer review and support services to funding organizations, becoming the go-to leader for all things relating to independent review and evaluation in the scientific community. In 2015, the impact of our peer review and support services will continue to drive the science field forward. We will continue to submit manuscripts for publication in scientific journals, participate in scientific conference meetings, and develop relationships with organizations that lead to partnerships in peer review and related scientific support work. AIBS SPARS - Valued Partner in Science™

Our Impact

AIBS SPARS provides skilled peer review and program support services that are essential to organizations making informed decisions. Partnering with us lends diligence, transparency, and credibility to research programs by ensuring independent, expert analysis of research, which raises confidence in the review process integrity for stakeholders, investigators, and the general public. In 2014, several hundred million dollars in scientific research was assessed; AIBS SPARS reviewed hundreds of proposed research applications and provided evaluation services to several ongoing research programs.

The AIBS SPARS peer-review process is critical at the programmatic level in helping guide informed funding decisions by identifying meritorious and strong research projects. Many of the projects we review make significant contributions to scientific knowledge and public health, through both translational research related to clinical diseases and basic exploratory biological research. Compiled publication rates for multiple programs that we have reviewed within the last 10 years reveal that thousands of publications in high-impact journals have resulted from applications that were awarded meritorious scores and selected for funding. Our impact is measured in many ways: publication, citation, infrastructure creation, career development, and commercialization. For example, AIBS SPARS facilitates the review of applications to foster institutional and consortia development and to develop shared facilities, resources, equipment, and instrumentation. Another important and high-impact review area that we coordinate is the much needed bridge funding to aid young scientists who have not yet acquired federal funding to support their own independent research and for established scientists to move from the academic laboratory setting to commercialization of their work.

AIBS SPARS takes great pride in being a leader in the peer review field. We believe that formally assessing the peer-review process and publishing our findings will not only improve our services but also advance the scientific community as a whole. Below are some links to AIBS SPARS publications in 2014 and early 2015:


How we achieve this vision

Peer review is widely used in science to ensure that publications and research are as accurate and useful to decisionmakers as possible. The AIBS Publications Division publishes peer-reviewed articles that are accessible to the broadest possible readership and that address matters of importance across the subjects broadly encompassed by the life sciences.

We inform a broad audience of biologists, students, and interested professionals, as well as lay readers, primarily by publishing in BioScience in print and online accessible, synthetic, overviews of cutting-edge research. These are accompanied by original studies relevant to the profession of biology and biology education as well as nontechnical reviews and commentary. We work with our community—its organizations and professionals—to identify issues and opportunities that will strengthen our science and society and bring them to the public forum without bias or agenda. In ActionBioscience.org we publish issue-based articles written and edited for a readership of students and educators.

Peer-reviewed and vetted information provided in AIBS publications, BioScience and ActionBioscience.org, helps biologists, funders, policymakers, educators, and the public make better decisions where the life sciences can benefit society.

Publications

1.08 million visitors accessed high-quality, information on biological issues in English and Spanish on ActionBioscience.org

709,000 Total number of BioScience article downloads in 2014.


183 Total number of articles BioScience published in 2014.
Cilia and flagella are fascinating subcellular structures that are increasingly recognized to play hugely important and varied roles in many animal cells and even some plant cells. For example, they are vital to the proper functioning of the kidneys, the lungs, the brain, and the eyes. BioScience Editor-in-Chief Tim Beardsley sought to bring together experts on these vital organelles to summarize recent insights into their structure, functioning, and involvement in disease. Beardsley collaborated with Edna Kaneshiro, a distinguished protozoologist at the University of Cincinnati and a BioScience editorial board member, to recruit noted authorities to write on key aspects of current research on cilia and flagella. These included the structural basis of the beating of motile cilia, the mechanics of how they develop, the role of electrical signaling in cilia, the variations in form and function of flagella, the role of cilia in cell migration during tissue repair and brain development, and the involvement of cilia in diseases. BioScience facilitated an anonymous peer-review process to ensure that independent scientists scrutinized the draft articles, ensuring merit and accuracy. A Special Section on Unraveling Eukaryotic Cilia and Flagella, consisting of six Overview articles, was published in the December 2014 issue of BioScience, which featured an electron micrograph of cilia on the cover. The Special Section was accompanied by a commentary by Kaneshiro and Robert A. Bloodgood, of the University of Virginia. The Special Section stands as an accessible testament to fundamental biological insights that have been gained through the use of modern instruments and techniques; it seems destined to be an important resource for researchers, students, and educators for years to come.

The Special Section was not the only one published in BioScience in 2014. In the September issue, seven teams of expert authors provided a collection of articles on Understanding the Biological Effects of the Macondo Blowout. These articles covered some of the effects on non-human life of the tragic 2010 sub-sea oil leak that followed the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico. The effects are being studied by researchers funded by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative, a research program funded by BP that sponsored the Special Section. BioScience provided independent and anonymous peer review of all the draft articles.

Looking Forward

During 2015, we will continue to broaden the range of subjects treated in BioScience articles and make them better known. We plan to publish in future years more articles that explore connections between ecosystem functioning and human health, and to ensure that our articles report on relevant research that employs modern genomics techniques. Several new editorial board members have been recruited to help accomplish this task. BioScience has been published by Oxford University Press (OUP) since January 2014. OUP has impressive international marketing experience and achieved a significant increase in circulation during its first year as publisher. We will, during 2015, start the monthly production of a series of podcasts, BioScience Talks, in which we will interview authors of notable articles published in BioScience. We intend that these, together with targeted social media mentions and other publicity efforts, should draw in a wider circle of readers. We will monitor the number of downloads and citations of BioScience articles to ensure that our efforts to develop our subject coverage enhance the value of the journal to AIBS members and library readers.

We further aim to involve our community as well as BioScience authors in growing and updating ActionBioscience.org and to integrate its content better with BioScience, so that more ActionBioscience.org readers can read about BioScience content. We look for a sustained increase in the number of people using both resources and, consequently, increased visibility of and usage of peer-reviewed information to inform decisions where our science and society meet.
Community Programs

How we achieve this vision

The Community Programs Division focuses its efforts through three offices: Public Policy, Public Programs, and Education.

These offices

- inform and advocate for a national science policy that promotes sustainable investments in research, education and scientific infrastructure;
- support efforts to modernize how biology is taught in the undergraduate curricula; and,
- promote the public appreciation of science.

The Community Programs Division is committed to Bringing Biology to Life by fostering communication and collaboration among individuals and organizations committed to advancing biology for the benefit of science and society.

We endeavor to provide the leadership necessary to support informed decisionmaking. We have established and maintain important relationships with national science policymakers. Through our programs and partnerships, we have established strong relationships with individuals and leaders of scientific societies and organizations; with heads of collegiate biology departments; and with other thought leaders helping to chart a path forward for biology.

Staff Leadership

Robert Gropp, Ph.D.
Director, Public Policy Office, and Community Programs Division
Catalyzing Action to Support Science Collections

In 2014, we helped strengthen the biocollections community and advance biodiversity research. With support from the National Science Foundation, AIBS is leading a 5-year effort to support the development of a new national community of practice that can sustain national efforts to digitize the nation’s biodiversity collections. AIBS is also promoting innovation.

With support from the National Science Foundation, AIBS developed and launched a national innovation competition, the Beyond the Box Digitization Competition. The winner of this competition will receive a $1,000,000 prize for developing a new solution that can accurately, quickly, and safely digitize a standard museum draw of insects. Given the significant backlog in describing insect species and the tremendous biological diversity of insects, this effort promises a significant contribution to our understanding of global biodiversity.

This initiative is one example of how AIBS integrates its services, experience working across disciplinary boundaries, and partnerships to catalyze advances in the life sciences.

Our Impact

- AIBS staff testified before Congress on the importance of sustained federal investments in scientific research.
- Facilitated more than 100 meetings for scientists with federal and state lawmakers.
- Worked to improve legislation that would cut future funding for some areas of research and damage the peer-review process at the National Science Foundation.
- Promoted progress toward newly created national education reform outcomes through supporting the development of the Partnership for Undergraduate Life Sciences Education (PULSE).
- Brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to examine ways for scientists to advance public appreciation of science.

Looking Forward

In 2015, the Public Policy Office will work with leaders from biodiversity collections organizations and scientific societies to continue to advance the recommendations included in the Implementation Plan for a Network Integrated Biocollections Alliance. AIBS, the Natural Science Collections Alliance, and the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections will continue to collaborate on a national initiative to build a new, networked national community capable of sustaining the nation’s commitment to digitizing natural science collections and associated data.

AIBS will also organize a workshop that identifies opportunities for the integration of complex data from genomics to phenomics to macrosystems biology. AIBS will also continue its efforts to identify and support communication and collaboration among our membership on a wide range of issues related to data policy.

The Public Programs Office will work with the COPUS community to define new initiatives that will help support individuals working to improve the public understanding of science.

AIBS will continue to work with our members to lead national discussions that gather and synthesize information that will inform decisions by policymakers, program managers, scientific organization leaders, educators, and the public. Together, we are Bringing Biology to Life.
AIBS HAS BEEN at the forefront of the biological sciences since its formation in 1947. The list of current and past board and committee members includes a wide variety of eminent biologists who lead the field through their research, education reform efforts, and advocacy for the life sciences. These leaders significantly bolster the work of the organization through their commitment to serve, strengthen, and connect the organization’s work with the community.
2014 Board Roster

OFFICERS

Joseph Travis
President
Department of Biological Science, Florida State Univ. (2013–2014)

Joseph Travis is a Professor of Biology and past Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at Florida State University. His research studies the ecology of natural selection using experimental techniques. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and in 2005 he served as President of the American Society of Naturalists. In 2011 he won the E. O. Wilson Naturalist Award from the American Society of Naturalists. Along with colleague Michael Ruse he is co-editor of Evolution: The First Four Billion Years (Harvard University Press 2009). He holds a Ph.D. from Duke University.

Karen Schmaling
Vice President

Karen Schmaling is Professor of Psychology and former Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at Washington State University Vancouver, having previously served as Dean of the College of Health and Human Services at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She also holds an appointment as Affiliate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Her research has focused on the psychology of chronic illnesses. Her administrative leadership accomplishments have included strategic planning, assessment and support initiatives for faculty activities and recruitment, and programs for student engagement and retention. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Washington.

John Tobin
Treasurer
Sustainability Affairs
Credit Suisse (2013–2015)

John Tobin is Head of Public Policy - Sustainability Affairs at Credit Suisse, where he has responsibility for managing the bank’s engagement in a variety of environmental and social matters. In addition to his legal and business background, his experience includes doctoral work with E.O. Wilson on the diversity and ecology of arboreal ants. He currently serves or has recently served on the boards of directors of the Amazon Conservation Association and the Organization for Tropical Studies, and he was a member of the Committee on International Environmental Law of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He holds a Ph.D. and J.D. from Harvard University.

Judy Skog
Secretary
Department of Environmental Science and Policy, George Mason Univ. VA (2014–2016)

Judy Skog is professor emerita of environmental biology and policy at George Mason University, in Fairfax, VA, and a consultant for the Office of the Assistant Director of Biological Sciences, NSF. Past appointments have included Division Director for Biological Infrastructure at the NSF. Her research focuses on the evolution of ferns. Her service to scientific societies includes having been president of the Botanical Society of America and having been a member of the Committee for Vision and Change in Biology Undergraduate Education, at the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She holds a PhD from Cornell University.

Past AIBS Presidents

Throughout its history, AIBS has benefited from the leadership of many distinguished individuals on its Board. The list of presidents is presented below, and also online: www.aibs.org/about-aibs/past_aibs_presidents.html. The online version includes links to the January BioScience Editorials (and when available, December Editorials) in which the president shares his or her vision for the year.

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2012 Susan Stafford
2011 James P. Collins
2010 Joseph Travis
2009 May R. Berenbaum
2008 Rita R. Colwell
2007 Douglas J. Futuyma
2006 Kent E. Holsinger
2005 Marvalee H. Wake
2004 Joel Cracraft
2003 Gary S. Hartshorn

2002 Gene E. Likens
2001 Judith S. Weis
2000 Alan P. Covitch
1999 Gregory J. Anderson
1998 Gary W. Barrett
1997 Frances C. James
1996 John E. Burris
1995 W. Hardy Eshbaugh
1994 Harold A. Mooney
1993 Diana W. Freckman (Diana H. Wall)

1992 Thomas Lovejoy
1991 Paul G. Risser
1990 Paul R. Ehrlich
1989 John P. Jordan
1988 Boyd Strain
1987 H. Edward Kennedy
1986 W. Donald Duckworth
1985 C. Herb Ward
1984 Peter H. Raven
1983 Kendric C. Smith
1982 Forest Stearns

1981 Winslow R. Briggs
1980 Beatrice M. Sweeney
1979 Paul B. Siegel
1978 Paul G. Pearson
1977 George Cries
1976 Robert Gordon
1975 David M. Gates
1974 George Sprugel, Jr.
1973 Robert W. Krauss
1972 W. Frank Blair
1971 David E. Davis
1970 George L. McNew
1969 LaMont C. Cole
1968 William D. McNew
1967 J. Roger Porter
1966 Clement Markert
1965 Kenneth V. Thimm
1964 Paul J. Kramer
1963 James D. Ebert
1962 Frits Went
1961 Tracy Sonneborn
1959–1960 James G. Dickson
1957–1958 Wallace O. Fenn
1954–1956 H. Bentley Glass
1952–1953 Ted C. Byerly (Chairman)
1951 Frank P. Cullinan (Chairman)
1949–1950 Elmer G. Butler (Chairman)
1948 Ralph E. Cleland (Chairman)

See www.aibs.org/about-aibs/board.html for contact information

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John Burris is President of the Burroughs Welcome Fund. His previous positions include President of Beloit College, Director and CEO of the Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory, and Executive Director of the Commission on Life Sciences at the National Research Council/National Academies. He holds a Ph.D. from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.

Michael Cato is Chief Information Officer at Vassar College, leading its IT strategy and operations including academic computing, infrastructure, support, and administrative systems. Previous positions include Interim Vice Chancellor for IT and CIO at UNC Charlotte. Affiliations include the Educause Management Institute and the IT Senior Management Forum. He holds a B.S. in Zoology from Andrews University and an M.B.A. from Wake Forest University.

James Collins is the former Assistant Director for Biological Sciences with the National Science Foundation and serves on various committees for the U.S. National Science and Technology Council. His research at ASU studies the origin, maintenance, and reorganization of morphological variation within species, focusing on host-pathogen biology and its relationship to the global decline of amphibians. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Muriel Poston is Dean of Faculty and Vice President of academic affairs at Pitzer College. Her previous positions include that of Dean of Faculty at Skidmore College and that of Deputy Division Director at the National Science Foundation. Her research interests are in plant systematics and in environmental law and policy. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a J.D. from the University of Maryland.

Susan Stafford is Professor of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management and Dean Emerita in the Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota. Stafford has served on numerous National Science Foundation panels and committees, including the Advisory Committee for the Biological Sciences, and the Long Term Ecological Research Network. She holds a Ph.D. from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry, State University of New York.

Charles Fenster is the former Assistant Director for Biological Sciences with the National Science Foundation. Her research interests are in plant biodiversity and its relationship to the global decline of natural plant hybrid populations. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

David (Chip) Leslie is Leader of the U.S. Geological Survey’s Oklahoma Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Adjunct Professor of Natural Resource Ecology and Management at Oklahoma State University. He has served in numerous leadership positions with the American Society of Mammalogists and AIBS. His research focuses on mammalian ecology, particularly large herbivores and their conservation. He holds a Ph.D. from Oregon State University.

Eric Nagy is a Professor of Biology at the University of Virginia, and Associate Director of the Mountain Lake Biological Station, a part of the Organization of Biological Field Stations. His research is focused on the ecological, reproductive, and selective dynamics driving the evolution of natural plant hybrid populations. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis.

Alan Savitzky is Professor and the Head of the Department of Biology at Utah State University. Previously, he was on the faculty of Old Dominion University, Virginia, and has served as a program director in the Division of Biological Infrastructure at the National Science Foundation. He research studies the integrative biology of amphibians and reptiles. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas.

Teri Balser is Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Professor of Soil and Water Science at the University of Florida. Her research focuses on microbial communities and ecosystem response to anthropogenic disturbances such as climate change, invasion, or restoration. She teaches regularly and delivers faculty/professional development workshops. She holds an A.B. degree from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley.

Steward Pickett is a plant ecologist with the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies whose work is focused on the role of spatial heterogeneity in community and landscape structure and dynamics. Pickett is also project director of the Baltimore Ecosystem Study, which works to improve understanding of how a large urban region functions as an ecosystem. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.
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Botanical Society of America
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Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
Mark Wolf-Armstrong, Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation

Long Term Ecological Research Network
Robert (Bob) B. Waide, Long Term Ecological Research - Network Office, University of New Mexico

Organization of Biological Field Stations
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Jake Socha, Virginia Tech

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Society of Wetland Scientists
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University of California, Museum of Paleontology

Staff Liaison:
Sheri Potter
American Institute of Biological Sciences

Ex Officio:
Richard O’Grady
American Institute of Biological Sciences

(2014 Committee Roster continued)
Our Members

AIBS’s more than 100 member organizations partner actively in order to collaboratively advance initiatives around shared opportunities and concerns. Together they lead the dialogue and action that address challenges and opportunities that are arising in the 21st century. In 2014, our members joined us in promoting advocacy and policy initiatives, to share ideas and resources designed to strengthen undergraduate education, to publish information on broad topics in *BioScience*, and to connect science to the public via COPUS.

The AIBS Council, a leadership body of the Institute that includes a representative from each of our member organizations, informs and advises the Institute as to the emerging needs of the community. Each year, member organization representatives come together face to face at the annual meeting of AIBS Council representatives in Washington, DC. This meeting fills an important role in bringing representatives from across many communities together to discuss challenges we share. In 2014, these representatives focused on topics challenging biological organizations today, discussing key issues emerging in journal publication; scholarly society membership; and building collaborations—globally and locally—to strengthen policy, education, and public appreciation efforts (www.aibs.org/events/2014_council_meeting.html).
AIBS Member Societies and Organizations

Through AIBS membership, biological societies and related organizations are connected to matters that are of collective concern, particularly those that are at the interface of research and the practice of science.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
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</table>
AIBS revenue in 2014 surpassed 6 million. The organization also made progress toward its long-term sustainability goal by diversifying its funding streams and entering into a new long-term business relationship with Oxford University Press.
## Financial Summary

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,783,615</td>
<td>$2,625,559</td>
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<td>Accounts receivable, net</td>
<td>$769,860</td>
<td>$1,378,944</td>
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<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$121,985</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>$2,704,258</td>
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<td><strong>Investments</strong></td>
<td>$990,815</td>
<td>$478,413</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Property and Equipment, net</strong></td>
<td>$52,219</td>
<td>$64,297</td>
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<td><strong>Other Assets</strong></td>
<td>$20,913</td>
<td>$53,200</td>
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<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$3,768,199</td>
<td>$4,745,764</td>
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### Liabilities and Net Assets

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued expenses</td>
<td>$475,788</td>
<td>$499,254</td>
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<td>Deferred revenue, dues</td>
<td>$850,678</td>
<td>$1,404,770</td>
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<td>Deferred rent</td>
<td>$32,150</td>
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<td><strong>Total current liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$1,358,616</td>
<td>$1,979,388</td>
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<td><strong>Commitments and Contingencies</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Unrestricted</td>
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<td><strong>Total net assets</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Beginning</strong></td>
<td>$2,766,376</td>
<td>$2,457,424</td>
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<td><strong>Ending</strong></td>
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### Revenue

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<td>Education, policy and other programs</td>
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<td>Investment income (loss)</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>$(215)</td>
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<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
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### Expenses

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<td>Education, policy, and other programs</td>
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<td>Indirect</td>
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<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Change in net assets</strong></td>
<td>$(356,793)</td>
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**OUR CAPABILITIES FOR DOING OUR WORK / FINANCIAL SUMMARY**
Thank you to our donors!

The Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges the individuals and organizations whose financial contributions to AIBS supported our activities to advance biology research and education in 2014.

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John Tobin

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Anthony Flores
Karen D Holl
Robin Ikeda
David Irwin
Thomas Jones
Michael M Keller
Hin Lai
Ruth Morton
Chris Simon
John Stover
John Young

**Up to $99**
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Greayer Mansfield-Jones
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Michaeal Melampy
Vicky J Meretsky
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John D Mitchell
John Mull
Barbara Muse
Knute Nadelhoffer
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Alfred F Pogge
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Merrick Rafal
James Raich
Divya Ramjee
Tom Ranker
Ricardo Rebollar
Carla Restrepo
Mary Rice
G Philip Robertson
Volker Rudolf
Michael G Ryan
Alan H Savitzky
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Vivian Vi Tran
There is work to be done; join us

The world in which we operate is rapidly changing. Technological, social, and financial forces are affecting the core activities of science. We must embrace this change and move forward together for the betterment of society, our disciplines, and our professions while ensuring that we build on the lessons learned from the past.

AIBS is currently focused on collecting and analyzing data to build the community’s knowledge and understanding of our field and how it is changing at the interface of research and practice. This will enable us to address challenges confidently.

AIBS is a community of organizations and individuals that promote the use of reliable scientific information to inform decisions in public policy, research funding, and the public forum. Together, we can navigate these changes confidently and seize the opportunities provided by this change.

Join us in these efforts

**Individuals.** Support AIBS by becoming an AIBS member or by making a donation that helps to support the work of our many programs. Individual members are integral to the success of our programs and can make a difference in biology policy, promoting science to the public, and in your classroom. Stay in touch by signing up for our monthly newsletter at www.aibs.org.

**Organizations.** Support AIBS through organizational membership and through partnership with our Public Policy Office to advance our shared interests. Organizations may also partner with AIBS or purchase science policy media relations services that help to advance your institutional priorities. As an organizational member, your institution is eligible to have representatives serve on the AIBS Council of Representatives, on various committees, and on the AIBS Board of Directors. Learn more at www.aibs.org.

Stay in Touch

Sign up for our newsletter at www.aibs.org

We look forward to working with you in 2015