

## Informatics Committee

Committee Members: S. P. Maher (Chair), V. Apkenas, C. Calderon-Acevedo, P. K. Connors, D. Green, B. Kohli, S. Liphart, J. M. Martin, S. B. McLaren, D. K. Odell, E. Siracusa, B. P. Tanis, H. Taylor, D. Villalobos, L. Yohe

### Mission:

At the 2007 annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the Board of the American Society of Mammalogists charged the newly redefined Informatics Committee to explore a redesign and improve the Society's web site and to maintain the existing web site during this period.

### Information Items:

- (1) The ASM web site ([www.mammalsociety.org](http://www.mammalsociety.org) and [www.mammalogy.org](http://www.mammalogy.org)) went live on 17 March 2011 and this version has continued to function through the current year.
- (2) The ASM web site is hosted on a dedicated server with InMotion Hosting.
- (3) In 2021 and 2022, we paid design firm Acro Media to build a new version of our website that includes a partial redesign of the homepage. This was scheduled to be live by the 2022 Annual Meeting, but developer delays have continued to push this back.
- (4) We maintain the ASM presence on social media sites including:

#### **Facebook**

(<https://www.facebook.com/American.Society.of.Mammalogists>)

#### **Twitter**

(@Mammalogists)

#### **LinkedIn**

(<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/American-Society-Mammalogists-4575484>)

**Instagram** account (@amersocmammalogists)

**YouTube** page ([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA6tp7M-8d9YFLorYysHR\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA6tp7M-8d9YFLorYysHR_Q))

In 2022 and 2023, we established accounts on TikTok and Mastodon, but have not used them.

At the request of committee chairs and ASM leadership, we post items relating to the Society on our accounts and the website. Since 2018, we include Spanish translations to social media posts.

- (5) Routine maintenance and updates were performed on an as-needed basis, as requested by President Lessa, and committee chairs.

(6) We upload all standing committee reports to their respective webpages. We have begun to archive older reports and will maintain only 10 years of reports on the website starting with the new version. We will archive old reports on the server.

(7) Online submissions of fellowships administered by the Honoraria, Grants-in-Aid of Research, Cameron Award, Kaufmann Award, African Research Fellowship, Patton Award, and Latin American Fellowship Committees were conducted using the ASM web site. Additionally, we accepted nominations and applications for the J. Mary Taylor Award and the Black and Indigenous Scholars in Mammalogy Award.

(8) Requests for information, job postings, and announcements submitted to the web site were received by Dan Odell and routed accordingly. Odell answered directly and others were referred to the appropriate committee, business office, or OUP. Maher responded to inquiries through Facebook and Twitter. Committee chairs should always review their respective pages and the clarity of their contact information.

(9) ASM continues to operate a Members only area for blogging and a within community job board. Members must request access using their name and Membership ID. The Membership ID is available at the ASM Business Office (<https://asm.wildapricot.org/>). When you login to the Business Office you will see your ASM Customer Number. This number is used to verify your active ASM Membership. However, few members take advantage of this and it creates confusion with the Business Office login, which are independent.

(11) Beginning in 2015, we added a subscription service to Vimeo (\$199, Pro option) and uploaded selected Symposium talks from the 2015 and 2016 ASM meetings. We continue to make these available to members through the Business Office site. Additionally, in 2019, we uploaded videos to the YouTube page from speakers who gave appropriate permission. However, there has been limited use of this feature.

(12) Beginning in 2017, we worked with the Mammal Biodiversity committee to provide server access and support for the new Mammal Diversity Database. Since then, this committee has paid for the annual \$14.99 fee to maintain the domain, and the site has moved off the server.

(13) In 2019, we began partnering with the Program Committee to provide assistance on mammalmeetings.org. We now share a joint subcommittee to provide support and content updates.

#### Action Items:

(1) The sum of \$9,000 is requested from the 2022 budget. Hosting the ASM web site on a dedicated server is expected to cost ~\$2500 this year; this is an annual expense, but provides use of a server with sufficient resources to meet the demands of the website. For the new version of the site, we need to upgrade our server and the expected costs should be no more than \$2500. We have monthly fees of \$40 that relate to server software (\$15) and server support (\$25). Additional costs include: \$45 per year to maintain the domains (mammalogy.org, mammalsociety.org, and mammaldiversity.org) and an annual subscription to Vimeo to support

video delivery to members, at \$199 per year. We request an additional \$5776 as a placeholder for potential expenses related to the Society's web site upkeep and adding functionality.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sean P. Maher  
([asm.informatics@gmail.com](mailto:asm.informatics@gmail.com))