



# E-SLATE

## American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS)

### EDITORIAL NOTE –December 2017

Welcome to the December E-Slate. As the year draws to a close, we want to thank you for being an active part of your Academy! In this issue you will find many approaching deadlines including certification program renewals, symposium workshop and host proposals, internship host applications and much more. At the end of this issue, you will find a list of volunteers who have served on committees and assisted the Board of Directors and AAUS office throughout the year. We are sincerely thankful for your efforts; the Academy could not function without the dedicated members who generously contribute their time and energy to help keep us in business.

### NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Hollis Gear Award

Hollis Gear ([www.hollisgear.com](http://www.hollisgear.com)) has graciously funded a competitive scholarship program for AAUS student members. Awards are valued at \$1250 in Hollis diving equipment. The 2017 Hollis award winners are Hannah Aichelman and Emily Anderson, both from Old Dominion



Hannah Aichelman



Emily Anderson

University. We look forward to them using the equipment to advance their endeavors in underwater science. Thanks to the three anonymous panelists that reviewed the applications, and best wishes to all the applicants.

Find out more about these ladies and the other AAUS Foundation Scholars at [https://secure.aaus.org/current\\_year\\_scholar\\_bios](https://secure.aaus.org/current_year_scholar_bios)

#### 2018 AAUS Certification Program Renewals

It is time for your annual AAUS-ITI Instructor Renewal. Please note that this only applies to those programs who have chosen to participate in the voluntary certification card program. You should have already received a renewal package (paper and/or electronic) from ITI. You must renew as an Instructor with International Training (ITI) to maintain status as an AAUS Instructor and be able to register and certify AAUS divers.

#### STEP 1- AAUS Instructor Renewal

Paper renewal - Complete the [Instructor Renewal Form](#) linked here and submit the annual instructor renewal fee (\$190) via mail. You may have received a renewal package in the mail.

Online renewal - If you prefer to renew online at a reduced cost (\$160) you may complete this process on the ITI website ([www.tdisdi.com](http://www.tdisdi.com)). To do so, login to your Instructor Profile, and then choose 'Tools', 'Renew Membership' from the menu bar. Complete the necessary information and submit the annual instructor renewal fee online with a credit card. Online renewal fee increases after Dec. 15 (\$190).

#### STEP 2- AAUS Facility Renewal

AAUS Facilities- as an AAUS instructor you must submit a paper [Facility Renewal Form](#) if you are the primary instructor/facility administrator at your AAUS facility. A Facility Fee is not required for AAUS Facilities; you may indicate this in the payment field. Submit this form via mail, fax, or scan and send as a pdf to ([worldhq@tdisdi.com](mailto:worldhq@tdisdi.com)) with "AAUS Facility Renewal" in the subject line.

NOTE- the online Facility Renewal process is not available to AAUS Facilities; AAUS Facilities that renew online will be charged a Facility Renewal Fee. AAUS Facilities should instead complete the paper Facility Renewal Form as instructed above.

#### STEP 3- SDI/TDI Facility Renewal

If you are an AAUS instructor and your Facility is also an SDI/TDI Training facility, you must submit a separate Facility Renewal Form for that SDI/TDI training facility, and a Facility Fee for that SDI/TDI facility.

Specific questions regarding the annual renewal process or online interface should be directed to ITI. General questions about the AAUS Certification Program should be directed to the AAUS Certification program coordinator (Chris Rigaud, [crigaud@maine.edu](mailto:crigaud@maine.edu)) or the AAUS office (Heather Albright, [aaus@disl.org](mailto:aaus@disl.org)).

#### Spring 2018 AAUS DSO Orientation

The AAUS DSO Orientation will be held on Monday, February 26, 2018 in conjunction with the spring AAUS Board of Directors meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. This program is designed to provide an orientation for new Diving Safety Officers and for existing DSOs who would like more

information and an update on particulars of running a Diving Safety Program at their respective institutions or organizations. This program is required for DSOs at new AAUS Organizational Members and DSOs participating in the AAUS Certification Program. Also open to non AAUS organizations/DSOs who would like more information about AAUS. The cost for this one day workshop is \$100. Please register at [https://secure.aaus.org/new\\_dso\\_orientation](https://secure.aaus.org/new_dso_orientation).

### AAUS Statistics Due

Organizational Members of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences agree to submit summary statistics each year of dives, modes of diving and any incidents associated with their program. Annual stats may be submitted at <http://stats.diveaaus.org>. It is strongly recommended that you fill in the blank form by hand before attempting to submit your stats. Inputs are error checked and you may get a message that your totals do not agree. Please do not include any dives that do not meet AAUS standards, i.e. recreational dives accepted by the DCB as proficiency dives. AAUS statistics collection criteria and definitions are at [http://stats.diveaaus.org/Reporting/Stats\\_definitions.asp](http://stats.diveaaus.org/Reporting/Stats_definitions.asp). Statistical summaries will be accepted beginning January 01, 2018 and considered late on (and after) 01 April.

### AAUS Foundation 2017 Update

The BOD of the AAUS Foundation turned over this year with long-time officers Neal Pollock and Phil Lobel stepping down. AAUS BOD Finance Chair Vin Malkoski assumed the Presidency and new Foundation BOD member Anya Hanson became Secretary. AAUS Past President Bill Dent and former AAUS Director Mike Dardeau remain Vice President and Treasurer, respectively. New Foundation BOD members include AAUS Past President Ted Maney, former AAUS Director George Peterson and former OWUSS Vice President of Internships, George Wozencraft. Early decisions by the new BOD include development of a fund-raising strategy and approval of a new joint internship for undergraduates with OWUSS. The internship, known as the Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship, was made possible by a \$10,000 donation from AAUS Past President Chuck Mitchell and his wife, Kathy Mitchell.

The Foundation had a productive year, disbursing over \$13,000 in scholarship funds, including first place and runner-up awards for both doctoral and master's candidates, the Dr. Lee H. Somers AAUS Scientific Diving Intern award, a Best Student paper award, and two Kevin Flanagan Student Travel Awards in addition to the Hollis/Huish Gear Award.

We have also had some fundraising success. Our donation drive at the Thunder Bay symposium, combined with efforts earlier in the year, raised nearly \$15,000 for scholarships. The initial Kevin Flanagan Student Travel Award goal of \$60,000 required to make this a permanently endowed award was

reached and the fund invested in laddered CDs. Scholarship funding was enhanced by the many sponsors of the symposium and by sales of the Kathy Johnston English notecards. Notecards are still available at [www.aausfoundation.org](http://www.aausfoundation.org), so if you're looking for holiday gifts be sure to visit the site soon. Tax deductible donations are also accepted at the Foundation website, so donate now to get that deduction for 2017.



Notecards (\$20) and various size prints featuring Kathy English Art are available at [www.aausfoundation.org](http://www.aausfoundation.org)

**Shop Amazon Smile!** Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and list AAUS Foundation as your charity. You shop, Amazon gives to AAUS. It's that easy!



### 2018 AAUS Diving for Science Symposium

The 2018 AAUS Diving for Science Symposium will be hosted by University of California, Davis and University of California, Berkeley October 08-13, 2018 at Lake Tahoe. Watch the E-slate and website for more information as plans progress. If you would like to propose a workshop for the 2018 symposium, please send a brief course description to the AAUS office **no later than December 30, 2017**.

### AAUS 2019 Symposium Host

Please be reminded that all proposals to host the 2019 AAUS Diving for Science Symposium must be submitted to the AAUS office **no later than December 30, 2017**. Please contact the office for information on what should be included with the proposal. If you submitted a proposal in 2017 and would like to resubmit, please contact the AAUS office.

### AAUS Seeks Internship Hosts

AAUS is currently seeking OM hosts that can provide high quality experiences for our two internships. AAUS interns provide valuable exposure for your institution and scientific diving program. Prior to applying as a host, we ask that you read the internship descriptions and supporting documents on the AAUS Internship page. Applications for 2018 must be submitted no later than December 15th, 2017, however, host applications are welcomed well in advance, as we are in need of hosts for 2018 and beyond. Please visit the AAUS Internship page for full details: [https://secure.aaus.org/aausowuss\\_internship\\_host](https://secure.aaus.org/aausowuss_internship_host)

## **Diving Medical Responder Workshop**

Georgia Aquarium will hold a diving medical responder workshop February 7-9, 2018. This course will provide training in the skills necessary to respond to a diving emergency. It is designed specifically for public safety dive teams, commercial divers, scientific divers, and scuba instructors/dive charters. It is the Dive Medical Technician course without chamber operations. Medical and non-medical dive team members as well as non-divers interested in diving safety are encouraged to attend. For registration contact Jonathan Langham ([jangham@georgiaaquarium.org](mailto:jangham@georgiaaquarium.org)) [www.trilogyhse.com/events/dmrga2018](http://www.trilogyhse.com/events/dmrga2018)

## **NOAA Diving Manual 6<sup>th</sup> Edition**

This NOAA Diving Manual 6<sup>th</sup> edition, edited by AAUS members Greg McFall, John Heine, and Jeff Bozanic, is now available. The 6<sup>th</sup> edition is more robust than previous editions, combining new developments in equipment and cutting-edge methods and procedures to provide a reference text that is useful for not only scientists but all divers.

<https://www.bestpub.com/component/hikashop/product/noa-a-diving-manual-6th-edition.html?Itemid=2437>

## **AAUS Social Media**

In addition to our current Facebook page, AAUS now has an Instagram account: AAUS.Scientific.Diving. Follow us! The goal is to increase our social media presence and share the incredible work AAUS scientific divers are conducting around the world. Take pictures with your AAUS swag (hat, shirt, koozies, etc) and we will post it! The idea is to track AAUS and scientific divers in a 'Where's Waldo' fashion as a way to gain interest and promote science. If you need a hat or koozie for this adventure, check out the website or contact Heather. Any other images, videos, stories, or other things you would like shared, please send them to: [AAUSsocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:AAUSsocialmedia@gmail.com). Please include captions, hash tags, etc that you would like to be included. Finally, if you are interested in helping with this initiative, please contact Jessica Keller at the social media address above.

## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **2018 Dr. Lee H. Somers AAUS Scientific Diving Internship**

OWUSS will be taking applications for the 2018 Dr. Lee H. Somers AAUS Scientific Diving Internship starting in October. Intern applicants must be students from colleges and universities and must have an interest in science and diving. The program runs primarily from mid-May through August and will include training at one of several AAUS organizational member sites. This training will give the intern the necessary dive qualifications to allow participation on research projects requiring scientific diving and introduce the intern to careers that utilize scientific diving as a tool. Once

trained as an AAUS-recognized diver-in-training, interns will participate in underwater field work at one or more locations and research facilities associated with the AAUS. The internship will be supported by funding for travel to/from site, room, board, and other internship-related expenses. The application deadline is December 30, 2017. For more information and to apply visit:

<http://www.owuscholarship.org/internships>.

### **2018 Mitchell Scientific Diving Research Internship**

In 2018 AAUS and OWUSS are offering a new internship opportunity for undergraduate students. This internship is intended to be research-centric; therefore, training and certification as an AAUS Scientific Diver is a prerequisite and all applicants must be undergraduate students. The program runs primarily from mid-May through August and will be hosted at one of several AAUS organizational member sites. The internship will be supported by funding for travel to/from site, room, board, and other internship-related expenses. The application deadline is December 30, 2017. For more information and to apply visit:

<http://www.owuscholarship.org/internships>.

### **Marine Subtidal Ecology and AAUS Science Diver Course**

The University of Washington, Friday Harbor Laboratories is offering a Marine Subtidal Ecology course June 11- July 13, 2018. This course focuses on learning key ecological concepts, skills, and tools applied to the subtidal marine environment. Of primary importance, students will be trained as AAUS scientific divers. Students will conduct group and independent research projects addressing a tractable question in temperate subtidal ecology; the skills and principles of ecology will, however, be broadly applicable to underwater science. The training will include visits (and input!) from scientific diving instructors from around the NW, evening discussions of accident case studies, and extensive pool and in-water skills and rescue drills. More information is available at <https://fhl.uw.edu/courses/course-descriptions/course/marine-subtidal-ecology-2018> or email [pema@uw.edu](mailto:pema@uw.edu).

## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Full information and application instructions for the following jobs can be found at [www.aaus.org/job\\_board](http://www.aaus.org/job_board)

### **Occidental College**

*Research Assistant*

# Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to all who help to make this Academy and all its programs and events happen! In addition to the all-volunteer Board of Directors and Foundation Board, many volunteers have graciously donated their time and talents to assist the BOD and the AAUS office in 2017. The Board of Directors wish to thank you all for your service and invite anyone who would like to be an active part of the AAUS to contact the AAUS office or a board member today!

Special thanks to:

**AAUS Foundation BOD:** Special thanks to Neal Pollock and Phil Lobel, founding BOD members who stepped off the board this year.

**Election Committee:** Amy Moran, Steve Sellers, George Peterson, Rob Robbins, and Lora Pride.

**Awards Committee:** John Heine, Doug Kesling, George Peterson

**Scholarship Reviewers:** Dianna Stellar, Ross Whippo, Deron Burkepile, Michael Lesser, Matt Edwards, Scott Hamilton, Todd Anderson, Jennifer Smith, Christian McDonald

**Membership Committee:** Pema Kitaeff, Will Love, Ross Whippo

**Standards Committee:**

Manual reviewers: Robbie Christian, Astrid Verstappen-de Jag, Robert Reavis, Alan Verde, Dan Abbot, Katie Shoultz, Jessica Keller, Ross Whippo

Manual update: Steve Sellers (host), Robbie Christian, Katie Shoultz, Christian MacDonald, and Marc Slattery

**Diver Management Program:** Jason Felton, Hilaire Bojonell and Chris Peters who assisted with the review of proposals.

**Symposium Support:** Phil Hartmeyer  
Mick Grochowski— *Symposium print*

**Proceedings Editors:** Deborah Gochfeld, Christopher Wright

The mission of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences is to facilitate the development of safe and productive scientific divers through education, research, advocacy, and the advancement of standards for scientific diving practices, certifications, & operations.

American Academy of Underwater Sciences  
PO Box 9067, Mobile, AL 36691-9067  
Tel 251- 591- 3775  
[aaus@disl.org](mailto:aaus@disl.org) [www.aaus.org](http://www.aaus.org)

Editor: Heather Albright- [aaus@disl.org](mailto:aaus@disl.org)  
Editorial Board: Michael Dardeau,  
Amy Moran, Rick Riera-Gomez

## AAUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Riera-Gomez	President
Marc Slattery	President-Elect
Chris Ledford	Secretary
Christopher Rigaud	Treasurer
Jen Smith	Director-at-Large, Scholarship
Narineh Nazarian	Appointed Director (AD), Membership
Mike Anghera	Director-at-Large
Vin Malkoski	AD, Finance
Liz Kintzing	AD, Standards
Tim White	AD, Statistics
Jim Hayward	Director-at-Large