

EDITORIALS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NON-PEER REVIEW SECTION

HERPETOLOGICAL CONSERVATION AND BIOLOGY INCORPORATED

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For the past nine years, *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* has operated as a ghost of modern, profit-driven, publishers and societies. Simply put, we did not exist. In 2006, we identified a need for a journal that would consider peer-reviewed manuscripts focused on applied ecology, biology, conservation, and even natural history (Bury et al. 2006). We then created an online journal and set about publishing.

As with most successful endeavors, *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* has attracted quite a bit of attention, being at the forefront of a paradigm shift in academic publishing (e.g., Howard 2011; Fredette 2012). We have been approached several times to consider mergers with other journals, and even a long-established herpetological society. As a result, the Governing Board has discussed the future of our journal on several occasions. In the end, our only true vulnerability was our lack of legal standing; *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* simply did not exist, legally speaking.

Thus, the Governing Board is pleased to announce that on 18 September 2014 *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* received its corporate charter as a nonprofit from the State of Nevada (Entity #: E0484052014-9). Our Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 26-0289799. The Governing Board was transitioned to a seven-member legal Board of Directors comprised of:

David Bradford, Bruce Bury, David Germano, Malcolm McCallum, Ann Paterson, Raymond Saumure, and Stanley Trauth

In addition, two additional officer positions needed to be created to meet legal requirements. Raymond Saumure agreed to serve as the first President and Andrew Walde as both the first Secretary and Treasurer.

In addition to the aforementioned legal positions, all of these Directors and Officers serve *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* in other capacities, as recorded below:

David Bradford – Amphibian Section Co-editor

Bruce Bury – Editor-in-Chief

David Germano – Reptile Section Editor

Malcolm McCallum – Managing Editor, Operations

Ann Paterson – General Section Editor

Raymond Saumure – Managing Editor, IT

Stanley Trauth – Special Publications Editor

Andrew Walde – Lead Copy Editor

Thus, *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* will begin its 10th year of publication as a corporation. What does this mean for our future? Other than the addition of legal paperwork and reporting, we believe our independence will help us to continue on as we have been doing for nearly a decade. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* will continue to be free for authors and readers alike, ensuring the widest possible dissemination of herpetological research. We are grateful for your continued support!

LITERATURE CITED

- Bury, R.B., M.L. McCallum, S.E. Trauth, and R.A. Saumure. 2006. Dawning of Herpetological Conservation and Biology: A special introduction to your new journal. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* 1:i–iii.
- Fredette, M. 2012. Rewriting the Journal. *Campus Technology*. 8/28/2012.
- Howard, J. 2011. Scholars create influential journal for about \$100 a year. *The Chronicles of Higher Education*. 1/30/2011