



From the Desk of the NCD President

Musings by Melissa

September 2015

Greetings, NCD!

This is the inaugural “President’s Blog.” The purpose of this blog is provide another avenue to increase communication between NCD leadership and **all** AFS members – Society-level and Chapter-level – within the NCD. Over the next year, I plan to post short monthly blurbs on any number of topics, including Society, Division, and Chapter issues, concerns, and causes for celebration. Your continuous feedback is always welcomed in order to create content and increase the value of this mode of communication.

This month’s blog was composed as I attended and traveled from the AFS Annual Meeting in Portland. As with all annual meetings I’ve attended previously, I find myself re-energized and recommitted to the Society as I hear of the amazing efforts of individual and groups working toward quality fisheries science and management. The Annual Meeting is also an opportunity for us to continue to develop students and professionals as we grow together in learning and dialog.

As I looked through the notes I had taken at the various business meetings or following one-on-one conversations or other interactions, I noticed that I wrote many “soundbites” and that many of those bites are providing inspiration for me as your NCD leader this year. The one that particularly resonated with me was from Stan Moberly, who was the winner of one of the Fisheries Management Section’s prestigious awards. He charged the audience with this task:

“If you want members, be on the cutting edge. Do something important.”

So, wise and worldly readers, what cutting edge or important work would you like to see the NCD work on? How can the NCD help individual Chapters with the cutting edge or important work being done at that level? These are some of the questions in my mind as I begin my year-long position as President. Please share your thoughts and ideas with me by phone, e-mail, or in person whenever you see me!

Looking forward to my time as your President! Let’s do great things together!

Melissa

Melissa.Wuellner@sdstate.edu