



*From the Desk of the NCD President*

*Ramblings by Sandy*

*October 2015*

Greetings, NCD!

Time flies by when you have to write a blog post each month. Seems like I just wrote Septembers. We have had several big accomplishments since my last post. After a 30-day public comment period and 30-day online open vote the new strategic plan is finalized and posted to the website. Thanks to all that reviewed, edited and voted!

Melissa has begun revising our bylaws and has had several people volunteer to assist. Thank you to those who are helping on this and we hope to have the bylaws revised in the next couple months.

While looking over our website and updating information one thing I have noticed is that the Student Organization Section of the website is very outdated and many of the links are broken. We will be working to update this portion of the webpage. If you are a subunit president please check out the Student Orgs section and email your current website, president and advisor contacts. [Sclark-kolaks@dnr.in.gov](mailto:Sclark-kolaks@dnr.in.gov).

I would also encourage students to check out the AFS Student Subsection webpage. This page has some great resources about awards and scholarships, preparing for graduate school, how to conduct a research project and employment help.

<http://students.fisheries.org/about/meet-the-officers/>

You will notice in the picture above I am dissection a deer as opposed to a fish. I had the opportunity to help work at one of our white-tailed deer tuberculous and obtain some new skills. I strongly encourage students and professionals to take advantage of opportunities to work outside your normal job duties. It is a great learning experience of not only handling new species but good to see how other professionals run large projects and interact with constituents. These are really some of the best continuing education opportunities a professional can get.

Until next month,

*Sandy*