The Department of the Executive Vice President is composed of seven committees listed below. The contact information for each committee can be found below or www.caves.org.

Department of the Executive Vice President

American Cave Accident Committee
Exploration Committee International
Exploration Committee U.S.
Journal of Cave and Karst Studies Committee
NSS News Committee
Research Advisory Committee
Special Publications Committee

Report from the Executive Vice President
Scott Engel, NSS 32520 RL, FE

The following highlights initiatives and activities that have been undertaken by the EVP department and subcommittees during this reporting period.

Scott Engel
Executive Vice President
Prepared June 24, 2024
EVP Committee Activities Summary

AMERICAN CAVING ACCIDENTS COMMITTEE
Adia Sovie, Editor
adia.sovie@gmail.com

Committee Members: Andy Armstrong, George Dasher, Richard Breisch, Mark Minton, Rene Ohms, Christian Stenner, Yvonne Droms, Sarah Richards, Stephen Mosberg, Brian Dickey

Progress
Published as the May 2024 News.

Plans
Continue to collect and collate accident reports.

Problems
None reported.
INTERNATIONAL EXPLORATION GRANTS COMMITTEE
Cyndie Walck, co-chair
karstgirl@yahoo.com
Pat Kambesis Co-chair
pat.kambesis@wku.edu

Committee Members: Carol Veseley, Mike Ficco, Ben Hutchins

Progress

The following awards were given in June 2024:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expedition</th>
<th>Submitter</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Recommended Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cook Islands Project</td>
<td>Ben Hutchens</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hutchins.b10@gmail.com">hutchins.b10@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamasopo Project</td>
<td>Abigail Mack</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abigailmack79@gmail.com">abigailmack79@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>1100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenland Project</td>
<td>Adam Weaver</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adam@caves.org">adam@caves.org</a></td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines Project</td>
<td>Glenn Malliet</td>
<td><a href="mailto:glencaves@yahoo.com">glencaves@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plans
The next grant submittal deadline is November 30, 2024.

Problems
We are seeking an additional committee member.
US EXPLORATION COMMITTEE

Jason Ballensky, Chair
email: Jason@ballensky.com

Committee Members: Stan Allison, Dave Black, Hans Bodenhamer, Nikki Fox, Jon Lillestolen

Progress
We have awarded five grants:
1) Anastasiya Razumovska for Whigpistle Cave System
2) Gilly Ellor for Main Drain
3) Ian Florn for Mammoth Cave
4) Alex Fischer for Prince of Wales Island
5) Aidan Campbell for Bee Cliff Hollow

Plans
Waiting on new proposals to be submitted.

Problems
I am now the only contact for grant recipients when funds are being distributed. I have no visibility into when a grant has been approved for distribution, when the check was sent or where it was sent to. I need access to this information so that I can share that information with the grant recipients.
RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Donald A. McFarlane, Chairman, 23523RE
Professor of Biology, W. M. Keck Science Center, the Claremont Colleges
925 North Mills Avenue,
Claremont, CA 91711-5916
909-607 2564
dmcfarlane@jsd.claremont.edu
http://www.caves.org/committee/rac/

Committee Members: Joyce Lundberg, (Assoc. Prof, Carleton University), John Mylroie (Mississippi State Univ; emeritus), Keith Christenson

Progress

Ralph Stone Graduate awards in the amount of $2500 each to:

Gretchen HILT (NSS 73041) gretchen.hilt@selu.edu, for her proposal Utilizing environmental DNA as a conservation tool to monitor rare Georgia Blind Cave Salamander (Eurycea wallacei) in understudied subterranean cave environments.

and

Nicholas Puente (NSS: 72786) Nicholas.Puente@colorado.edu, for his proposal More than Stone: Mapping Ancient Speleothem Movement Across the Yucatan, Peninsula

Plans
No significant activity.

Problems
None
JOURNAL OF CAVE AND KARST STUDIES COMMITTEE

Malcolm Field, Editor-in-Chief, 26915FE
17120 Hughes Road
Poolesville, MD 20837
Mobile: (301) 928-1637
Home: (301) 349-5712
field.malcolm1@gmail.com

Scott Engel (Production Editor)
Knoxville, Tennessee
Mobile: (225) 281-3914
saecaver@gmail.com

Associate Editors:
- Paul Burger (Exploration)
- Sarah Keenan (Microbiology)
- Julian Lewis (Life Sciences/Conservation)
- Salisa Lewis (Life Sciences/Conservation)
- Greg McDonald (Paleontology)
- Arthur N. Palmer & Margaret V. Palmer (Book Reviews)
- George M. Crothers (Anthropology & Social Sciences)
- Benjamin Schwartz (Earth Sciences)
- Mario Parise (Earth Sciences)
- Carol Wicks (Earth Sciences)
- Yongli Gao (Earth Sciences)
- Bert Ashbrook (Copyeditor)
- Jim Mead (Paleontology, Temporary)

Progress:  We are still behind in manuscript copyediting and continue to look for solutions.

Permissions: None this period.

Plans

Problems
Art and Peggy Palmer have requested to retire from their position of book review editors. We are currently searching for appropriate replacements.
Malcolm Field has indicated he is interested in retiring from the Editor in Chief position. We will need to begin looking for appropriate candidates and make a transition plan.
NSS NEWS COMMITTEE

Editors:
Joel Despain
Adam Weaver

Committee Members:
Ian Reuter-Newsletter Review
Philip Rykwader-Caver Chronicles
Val Hildreth-Werker-Conservation Editor

Progress
Nothing new to report

Plans
Nothing new to report

Problems
Nothing new to report.
SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Dave Bunnell, Chair
davebunnell@comcast.net
Elizabeth Rousseau-layout and design

Progress
No new report from Dave this period.

Caves of the South Cumberland Plateau
The next Larry Matthews book in his TN series, is complete, printed, and will be available at Convention 2024.

McFail’s Cave Progress:
Revisions to the McFail’s Cave book are being finalized with a goal of having available by the 2025 NY convention, if not before.

On Rope Revision Progress:
Co-editors: Hazel Barton and Derek Bristol

Some content from contributors has been slow or not done. Hazel and Derek are moving forward with the completed content and working to fill in the missing pieces. Completion is expected within the next 12 months.

Problems
Need to identify qualified individuals to replace the Special Publications Chair.
Still need to work on a way to facilitate and promote electronic publications.

--- End of EVP Report ---