

NSIS COUNCIL REPORTS
Reports from the Annual General Meeting
May 3, 2021 - 6 pm

AGENDA

160TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
(This meeting will be virtual, via Zoom)

1. Minutes of the 159th AGM, 14 September 2020
2. Vote to accept Minutes of the 159th AGM
3. President's Annual Report (Tamara Franz-Odendaal)
4. Treasurer's Annual Report (Angelica Silva)
5. Editor's Annual Report (Peter Wells)
6. Librarian's Annual Report (Michelle Paon)
7. Membership Annual Report (Shea McInnis)
8. Webmaster's Annual Report (Patrick Upson)
9. Publicity Annual Report (Nicole LeBlanc)
10. Student Science Writing Competition Annual Report
(Evans Monyoncho)
11. Excursions Annual Report (Hank Bird)
12. Lecture Programme for 2021-2022 Report (Anne Dalziel)
13. Vote to accept the 10 Reports
14. Nomination of 2021-2022 Council (Tana Worcester)
15. Vote to approve the new Council
16. Any Other Business
17. Adjournment

Note: Following the AGM, at 7:30pm, there will be a Public Lecture via a separate Zoom Call. The Zoom link will be posted on the NSIS Website (www.nsis1862.ca) prior to the Lecture.

Dr. Sarah Wells, Associate Professor, School of Biomedical Engineering, Dalhousie University will present "What We Can Learn From the Strength of a Mother's Heart".

Dr. Tamara Franz-Odendaal
NSIS President

**MINUTES OF THE 159TH
NSIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

September 14, 2020

Meeting held virtually, via Zoom.com

Council Members present: Tana Worcester (President), Tamara Franz-Odendaal (Vice-President), Sherry Niven (Past President), Angelica Silva (Treasurer), Michelle Paon (Librarian), Peter Wells (Editor), Dylan Miller (Membership Officer), Hank Bird (Excursions and Student Science Writing Competition Coordinator), Shea McInnis (Student Representative), Jillian Phillips (Observer, Discovery Centre), Sally Marchand (Observer, Schools)

Members present: Patrick Ryall, Yashar Monfared, Evans Monyoncho

Regrets (Council Members): Lorraine Hamilton (Secretary), Nicole LeBlanc (Publicity Officer), Patrick Upson (Webmaster), Alan Ruffman (Councillor), Richard Singer (Councillor), Darlene Smith (Councillor), Tim Fedak (Observer, Nova Scotia Museum), Sarah Kuehm (Schools), David Richardson (Associate Editor)

The President welcomed members and called the 159th Annual General Meeting (AGM) to order. The President noted that presentations would be kept short and informal and that the reports, excluding the minutes from last year's AGM, would be passed as a unit at the end of the presentations.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 158th Annual General Meeting of 6 May, 2019:

There were a few minor revisions to these Minutes.

2. Motion to accept the revised minutes of the 158th AGM:

Moved: Tana Worcester

Seconded: Tamara Franz-Odendaal

All in favour: Carried

3. President's Annual Report (Tana Worcester):

The president thanked the 2019-2020 Council for its work and accomplishments during the past year, and the Nova Scotia Museum for hosting the NSIS lectures. And she gave special thanks to those Councilors who are leaving at the end of the term:

Lorraine Hamilton (secretary), Dylan Miller (membership officer), Darlene Smith (councilor), Alan Ruffman (councilor), Richard Singer (councilor), Alexa Kirste (student rep), Sarah Kuehm (observer).

The President also thanked the Editors, Gail LeBlanc, the Editorial Board, and Carol Richardson for their work on producing and distributing the *Proceedings of the NSIS*.

It was a successful year, even though Covid-19 compelled us to cancel the April public lecture. And although the Council had to work virtually from April onwards, it was able to get some productive work done. We have many achievements to celebrate this year, including the addition of a PayPal option to the NSIS website; the development of a beautiful publicity pop-up banner; several great excursions, including a behind-the-scenes tour of the Discovery Centre; and the production of the *Proceedings of the NSIS* Volume 50, Part 2.

The President thanked Darlene Smith and Nicole LeBlanc for organizing the very successful Public Lecture Series this year. She also thanked all the lecturers for sharing their knowledge, experience, and time on such diverse and wide-ranging topics. This year Nicole LeBlanc made some of these available to a virtual audience through live streaming.

In August 2020, Council had a strategic planning session which was quite productive. A number of measures have been started, and efforts are underway to update the strategic planning document that was presented at the AGM last year, with updated priorities for action. All Members are welcome to provide input and help set the direction of the NSIS for the years to come!

The President called on members of Council to present their reports.

4. Treasurer's Annual Report (Angelica Silva):

As of 31 March 2020, the net worth of the NSIS was \$37,826.29 with \$16,973.08 at BMO account plus current Investments of \$20,853.21. There was a revenue from all sources of \$2,282.08 (mostly memberships) and expenditures of \$7,052.12 (mostly for *Proc. NSIS*, Science Fairs and the Writing Competition).

The Treasurer noted that her reporting period was 1 April 2019-31 March 2020 and reported that the NSIS has 76 members:

2 honorary, 16 life, 40 regular, 4 student and 14 institutional members

Angelica thanked Patrick Upson for setting up the PayPal link on the website, which allows members to more easily pay their dues.

5. Editor's Annual Report (Peter Wells):

The Editor reported that Vol. 50 No. 2 of the *Proceedings* has been published in hard copy in February and will be digitally available (6 months following publication). Volume 51, No. 1 of the *Proceedings* is in progress.

The Editor thanked the Editorial Board and especially David Richardson (Associate Editor), Gail LeBlanc (Production and Layout Editor), and Carol Richardson (Cataloguing and Distribution) for their work.

The Editor encouraged current members of the NSIS and Council to write articles, including Commentaries. He also encouraged Council members to help seek articles for the PNSIS, including articles from past and present speakers, and from winners of the Student Science Writing Competition. He also requested suggestions for Editorials.

6. Librarian's Annual Report (Michelle Paon):

The Librarian reported that in 2019-2020, sales of the *Proceedings*, from the Reference and Research Services office of the Killam Library, yielded \$30.00.

Other results of note during the year:

- 210 complimentary copies of the Proceedings (from the overstock inventory) were distributed. In the past 2 years or so, a total of 1280 copies have been thus distributed.
- the required forms to Access Copyright for the repertoire payment to publishers were submitted and NSIS received a payment of \$473.59.
- 11 institutional partners renewed their subscriptions, currently there are 15 institutional members and 84 NSIS exchange partners.
- 76 journal issues and society publications were delivered to Dalhousie's Killam Library (before the Covid-19 shutdown) from the Institute's exchange partners.

- At the next opportunity to access the Killam Library, the latest copies of *Proc.NSIS* will be sent out.

7. Lecture Program for 2020-2021 – Report of the organizing committee (Tamara Franz-Odendaal):

Sept. 14, 2020 (AGM) – Anne Dalziel (Dalhousie, Dept. of Biology), Diversity in a Minnow Trap

Oct. 5, 2020 – Erin Bertrand (Dalhousie, Dept. of Biology), Operating Phytoplankton Need Their Vitamins Too: How the foundation of ocean food webs depends on micronutrients

Nov. 2, 2020 – Glenys Gibson (Acadia, Dept. of Biology), Life & Times of Minas Basin Marine Invertebrates: A tale of polychaetes, plasticity, and microplastics

Dec. 7, 2020 – Amy Tizzard (NS Geological Survey, Energy Dept.), Evolution of the Oxford Sinkhole

Jan. 4, 2021 – Michael Parsons (Geological Survey of Canada), Metal Mining in Nova Scotia: Learning From the Past to Improve Future Environmental Performance

Feb. 1, 2021 – Derek Fisher (MSVU, Dept. of Psychology), Seeing Through the Smoke: Cannabis and the Brain

Mar. 1, 2021 – Gordon McOuat (U. King's/Dalhousie, History of Science & Technology), Brewing Civilization: The Science and Culture of Beer

Apr. 12, 2021 – Russell Wyeth (St.F.X., Dept. of Biology), Wayfinding Under the Waves

May 3, 2021 (AGM) – Sarah Wells (Dalhousie, School of Biomedical Engineering), The Strength of a Mother's Heart: What we can learn

8. Excursions in 2019-2021 (Hank Bird):

Hank Bird reported that successful excursions took place in 2019:

- 2 crows Brewing Company April 2019 (Halifax)
- Geological Museum + Ottawa House + Tidal Power Exhibit in July 2019 (Parrsboro)

- Discovery Centre (incl. behind the scenes) in December 2019 (Halifax)

The following excursions were being planned for 2020-2021 but were postponed due to Covid-19:

- Petroglyphs and Guided Nature Hike (Kejimikujik N.P.)
- Waterfalls of Nova Scotia (various sites)

The likelihood is that they will not take place until 2021.

The following excursions are also being considered for 2021:

- Cape Split Nature Hike (Scots Bay)
- NS Museum of Industry (New Glasgow)

Hank mentioned that suggestions for other excursions would be most welcome.

9. Student Science Writing Competition Annual Report (Hank Bird):

Hank Bird reported that there was improved participation this year with 23 students (13 undergrad and 10 postgrad) registered for the competition, and 11 students (7 undergrad and 4 postgrad) actually sending in manuscripts. He thanked his fellow judges (Tim Fedak, Sally Marchand, Pat Ryall, Antony Simpson) for their diligence, insights, and assessments.

The overall quality of the papers was quite high. The winner in the undergraduate category was Danielle Knott (Dalhousie). It was not possible to draw a clear distinction between the two best papers in the post-graduate category, so for the first time we had two winners – Michael Smith and Jennifer Kolwich (both SMU). There were no honourable mentions this year. As the NSIS Public Lecture on April 1st was cancelled due to Covid-19, the awards were mailed to the winners.

Hank Bird is retiring from the position of Coordinator for this competition. Two post-doctorate fellows from Dalhousie – Yashar Monfared and Evans Monyoncho – have volunteered to be co-coordinators. The hand-over is in progress.

10. Publicity Report (Nicole LeBlanc):

Ms. LeBlanc was unable to attend, so when it is received a summary of her report will be added here.

11. Webmaster's Report (Patrick Upson):

Mr. Upson was unable to attend, but a summary of his submitted report is as follows.

In addition to routine maintenance, numerous updates were made to the content on the website. One of the Webmaster's big achievements was to sign up for and activate an NSIS account on the PayPal electronic payment system, which now allows members to pay their dues online. In addition, he bought and set up the domain name nsis1862.ca which links directly to our homepage. The Executive Page was updated, and all 2019-2020 Lectures were added to the website.

In progress: the NS Hall of Fame index is being re-organized to use person's last name then first name.

12. Membership Report (Dylan Miller):

By the end of the 2019-2020 year, we had 101 total members (up 11 from last year), which includes:

- 2 Honorary members (no change from last year)
- 13 lifetime members (up 2 from last year)
- 72 other paid members including regular and students (up 9 from last year)
- 14 free members from presenters of Lectures and students from the writing competition (up 1 from last year)

In addition, there are 14 institutional members.

We continued our policy of offering free 1-term memberships to both speakers and the students who submit for the writing competition.

Dylan also thanked Patrick Upson for setting up the PayPal link on the website.

13. Motion to accept the Annual Reports:

Moved: Tana Worcester

Seconded: Michelle Paon

All in favour: Carried

14. Report of the Nominating Committee for the 2020-2021 Council (Sherry Niven):

Sherry Niven thanked the outgoing Council, and remarked that the Nominating Committee made efforts to increase the Council's diversity for institutions represented, disciplines, age, gender, and geographic location.

The President asked the AGM to elect the following to NSIS Council for 1920-21:

President	Tamara Franz-Odendaal
Vice-President	(Vacant)
Past-President	Tana Worcester
Secretary	Hank Bird
Treasurer	Angelica Silva
Publicity Officer	Nicole LeBlanc
Membership Officer	Shea McInnis
Librarian	Michelle Paon
Editor	Peter Wells
Webmaster	Patrick Upson
Councillor	Sherry Niven
Councillor	Tamara Franklin
Councillor	Stephanie McQuarrie
Councillor	Anne Dalziel
Student Representative	Romman Muntzar
Observer (Discov. Ctr.)	Jillian Phillips
Observer (NS Museum)	Tim Fedak
Observer (Schools)	Sally Marchand
Observer (SSWC)	Yashar Monfared
Observer (SSWC)	Evans Monyoncho
Assoc. Editor	David Richardson

There was a call for additional nominations from the floor, including the vacant position for Vice President. None were forthcoming.

15. Motion to approve the Nominations:

Moved: Sherry Niven

Seconded: Peter Wells

All in favour: Carried

16. Any Other Business:

Tamara Franz-Odendaal thanked Tana Worcester for her service as President, and said she is looking forward to the coming 2020-2021 year.

17. Adjournment:

Motion by Tana Worcester to adjourn the 159th Annual General Meeting of the NSIS.

Respectfully submitted

Hank Bird

Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2020-2021

What a year we have had? With the global pandemic reaching Canada in mid-March of 2020, we had to make some major shifts in how we do things in the NSIS. For the 2020-2021 year, we pivoted all our council meetings and all our public lectures to an online format. While some were skeptical about this move, we had no choice. Now nine months later, we have decided to continue with council meetings virtually in the future, so as to be more inclusive to our members who want to serve on council who are outside of HRM. Virtual council meetings also avoids a lot of unnecessary travel in rush hour traffic. For the upcoming year, we have also decided to hold our lecture series virtually. We are discussing a hybrid format (half virtual and half in-person) for two years' time, when hopefully the pandemic is well and truly behind us.

I have to give a special thanks to the Student Writing Competition leads, Evans Monyoncho and Yashar Monfared, who did a tremendous job in advertising the competition, rallying up judges and communicating with our student writers. Both Evans and Yashar are leaving Council this year and we wish them well on their continued studies. I would like to extend a huge thank you to our Proceedings Editor, Peter Wells and Associate Editor David Richardson and the entire PNSIS editorial board including Gail Leblanc for their behind the scenes work on reviewing manuscripts and publishing the scientific journal of the society. A special thanks to Patrick Upson who has made many tweaks to our website throughout the year. The website is our public face and it is our goal to revamp it even further. However to do this, we need to raise more funds and increase our membership. While we have made some very good strides in increasing our membership this year, we need to continue our membership drive. Thank you to Shea McInnis for keeping track of our membership database. To our publicity officer Nicole Le Blanc who has unfortunately not been able to attend many council meetings due to her "real job" commitments, we all thank you for the tremendous work you have done over the last few years launching many new initiatives for the NSIS. Anne Dalziel, Stephanie McQuarrie and Tamara Franklin who joined council for the first time, thank you for your participation. Our regular council members, Angelica Silva, who keeps track

of our finances, and Michelle Paon, our librarian thank you for all your many years of service. To Sherry Niven and Tana Worcester, Past Presidents of the NSIS, thank you to you for your continued support. To our observers who keep us connected to on-the-ground science activities in the province – Tim Fedak (NS Museum), Jillian Phillips (Discovery Centre), Sally Marchand (Schools) – thank you – it is so important for us to have these community linkages. To our student councilor Romman Muntzar, we have valued your input on our discussions. Finally, I would like to especially thank Hank Bird, who stepped into the NSIS secretary role this year and who has been a steady hand ensuring we are documenting our progress.

Public Lectures

While we pivoted our public lectures to on line this year for the very first time, these lectures have been very well attended, often with audience members from across the province and in one case, internationally. We thank all our speakers of the series this year.

Sept, 14, 2020: Dr Anne Dalziel (Saint Mary's University)

– Diversity of the Minnow Trap

Oct, 5, 2020: Dr Erin Bertrand (Dalhousie University)

– Phytoplankton need their vitamins too: how the foundation of ocean food webs depends on micronutrients

Nov, 2, 2020: Dr Glenys Gibson (Acadia University)

– The life and times of marine invertebrates of the Minas Basin – a tale of polychaetes, plasticity, and microplastics

Dec, 7, 2020: Amy Tizzard (Nova Scotia Geological Society)

– Evolution of the Oxford Sinkhole

Jan 4, 2021: Dr Michael Parsons (Geological Survey of Canada)

– Metal Mining in Nova Scotia: Learning From the Past to Improve Future Environmental Performance

Feb, 1, 2021: Dr Derek Fisher (Mount Saint Vincent University)

– Seeing through the smoke: Cannabis and the brain

March 1, 2021: Dr Gordon McQuat (King's College, Dalhousie University)

– Brewing Civilization: The Science and Culture of Beer

April 12, 2021: Dr Russel Wyeth (St. Francis Xavier University)
– Wayfinding under the waves

May 3, 2021: Dr Sarah Wells (Dalhousie University)
– What we can learn from the strength of a mother's heart

New this year, we video recorded all the lecture series talks and posted them on our new You Tube Channel. Another thank you to Nicole Le Blanc and Sally Marchand for recording and posting these videos. Finally, I would like to thank WISEatlantic for sponsoring several of our Public Lectures this year.

Respectfully submitted
Dr. Tamara Franz-Odenaal
NSIS President

TREASURER'S REPORT 2020-2021**April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021****ASSETS 2020-2021 as of March 31, 2021**

Bank Account BMO (as of March 31, 2021)	14,780.30
Investments (as of March 9, 2021, to BMO)	21,259.35
Total Assets at BMO March 31, 2020	\$36,039.65

INVESTMENTS as of March 9, 2020 after transference to BMO

Renaissance High Interest Savings Account @ 1.0%	4,240.72
Equitable Bank GTD Investment Cert A (due March 9, 2021 @ 1.91%)	5,095.50
Equitable Bank GTD Investment Cert A (due March 8, 2021 @ 2.72%)	11,923.13
Total Investments as of March 31, 2020	\$21,259.35

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES 2020-2021**REVENUE 2020-2021 as of March 31, 2021**

NSIS Membership (via paypal – Regular, LIFE, and Students)	\$2,854.63
NSIS Membership regular	420.00
NSIS Membership Life	600.00
NSIS Students	40.00
NSIS Membership Institutions	360.00
Income/ACCESS Copyright Royalties	422.09
WISE Atlantic contribution to NSIS lectures	1,500.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,246.72

EXPENSES 2020-2021 as of March 31, 2021

NSIS Proceedings PNSIS /Printing	\$4,284.06
NSIS Proceedings PNSIS/Layout	2,537.82
NSIS Brochures	47.62
NSIS 2019 Writing Science Competition	1,500.00
NSIS website Chebucto Community Net	70.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$8,439.50

Finances

The net worth of Nova Scotian Institute of Science as of March 31, 2020 is **\$36,039.65** that includes \$14,520.30 at BMO account plus transference of \$21,259.35 from CIBC Wood Gundy investments.

During 2020-2021 period, NSIS had a total income of \$4,274.63 that resulted from all paid NSIS Memberships via paypal and via cheques deposited to BMO account. NSIS Memberships dues did include Regular, Life Memberships and Institutions. Other income was received from Access Copyright Royalties of \$422.09.

Total Expenditures of \$8,439.50 resulted from costs associated to Printing of Proceedings of Nova Scotia Institute of Science (PNSIS) for \$ 4,284.06, PNSIS layout costs of \$2,537.82, plus expenses related to lectures advertising of \$47.62, maintaining a NSIS website with Chebucto Community Net for \$70, Contribution to NSIS Student writing Competition of \$1,500.

As mature investments with CIBC Wood Gundy were transferred to NSIS BMO account, NSIS no longer has any investments. CIBC Wood Gundy did originally charged \$250 to NSIS account as management fee and they appear to have refunded the total amount which will be confirmed once all documents are received.

Membership

2020- 2021: NSIS had a total of 129 active members, 111 of these are paid members that include 75 regular memberships, 15 student memberships, 21 Life Memberships and 13 paid Institutional memberships during the year. Additional NSIS memberships were awarded to NSIS lecturers (9) and University student writers (7) plus 2 Honorary Memberships.

New this year is that with Patrick Upson's assistance NSIS CURRENT and NEW NSIS Members were able to renew their memberships or became new NSIS members using paypal directly from the website nsis.chebucto.org. Some renewals and new memberships continue to be received via regular mail and we thank Carol Richardson from Dalhousie University for her great help with NSIS mail collection and distribution. Also, many thanks to Shea McInnis for his contribution as a Membership officer.

The Nova Scotian Institute of Science continues to dedicate all its resources towards communication and support of scientific issues relevant to all Nova Scotians. NSIS continues to support science

lectures, conferences, student science writing competitions, printing and producing the Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science (PNSIS) that are distributed to all members. Another important NSIS contribution has been the funding support to all ten Regional Science Fairs in the Province of Nova Scotia, however due to COVID-19 these have not taken place.

Thank you to all that kindly donated memberships for students.

I recommend that we ask Dr. Robert Cook for his availability to conduct an audit of the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Financial Report since last year was not audited due to COVID 19.

Respectfully submitted

Angelica Silva

NSIS Treasurer

May 3, 2021

EDITOR'S REPORT 2020-2021

Production of the Proceedings (PNSIS) continues to run well, thanks to having an excellent Editorial team and the continued interest of the scientific community from across the Province. The *PNSIS* 51, Part One (2021), was completed in February 2021. The printed copies were then kindly distributed by mail to NSIS members by Carol Richardson of the Killam Library. The Issue was made available immediately as free access on the NSIS website to members. It will be completely free access in August this year.

Many thanks are due to Gail LeBlanc, who once again did a superb job on the layout of *PNSIS* 51(1) and on working with me to copy edit and complete the Issue, and to get it to the Printers in February. This process took several weeks, due in part to the size of the Issue – 252 p. We double-checked two galley printings before approving it for final production.

Many thanks are once again due to Dr. David Richardson, Assoc. Editor, the Editorial Board and the external reviewers for their work handling the reviews and moving papers along for this issue. Dr. Richardson has worked especially hard on smoothly managing the review process, a critical feature of running a quality journal.

Work has been underway since January on the next Issue – *PNSIS* 51, Part 2, 2021-22. To date, we have a line-up of five Commentaries (2 submitted, 4 promised or underway); four Research Articles (2 submitted, 3 underway); and one student paper (submitted, under review). As well, there will be an Editorial (topic yet to be decided) and a complete set of the May 2021 AGM Council Reports. There may be some short book reviews too, on recently published scientific books of interest to the region. We are continuing to seek contributions for this issue and have contacted all the student winners in the writing competition for their submissions; to date, one nibbled the bait!

As in previous years, all members of Council are encouraged to either write articles, especially Commentaries, or to help seek articles from colleagues for the *PNSIS*. This includes obtaining articles from past and present speakers and from current members – this seems to be an annual plea! As stated in last September's AGM report –

“in this prolonged period of pandemic shutdown and uncertainty, we all have lots of time to think and write or to encourage people whom you know could contribute an article”.

The Editor’s report is respectfully submitted to the 2021 AGM, April 29th, 2021.

Peter G Wells
Editor, PNSIS

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT 2020-2021

(submitted for the May 2021 AGM)

The NSIS Librarian serves as a liaison between the Dalhousie University Libraries and the Nova Scotian Institute of Science. The Librarian communicates with NSIS journal exchange partners from around the world and oversees the receipt of partner journals. She also works with Dalhousie Libraries' staff members in the Killam Memorial Library who prepare these journals for the shelves and facilitate access to the online *Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science*.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dalhousie University, including all Dal Libraries locations, closed on March 18, 2020, and staff transitioned to work from home. The Killam Library's Reference & Research Services Office usually serves as the mail delivery location for NSIS mail. As a result of the campus closures as well as limited postal delivery, for a lengthy period of time it was not possible to access NSIS incoming mail.

Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science

During 2020/2021, there were no sales of the *Proceedings* from the Killam Library's Reference & Research Services Office. During the summer of 2020, the Dal Libraries gradually began to open a limited number of bookable study spaces to Dalhousie students, faculty and staff. In this new phase, the Killam Library's Administrative Assistant Carol Richardson arranged to enter the building to pick up the NSIS mail. She also packaged and mailed to members the issue of the *Proceedings* published in the spring (vol. 50.2). Subsequently in March 2021, Carol packaged and mailed copies of the new issue (vol. 51.1) to NSIS members.

The most recent issue of the *Proceedings* is available online to NSIS members only for a period of six months from its date of publication, at which point, the online issue becomes freely available to anyone. The most recent online issues of the *Proceedings* (2002-2021) can be found at: <https://ojs.library.dal.ca/nsis/issue/archive> and older digitized issues (1863-2013) are located at: <https://dalspace.library.dal.ca/handle/10222/11192>.

Indexing and Abstracting Services

NSIS sent complimentary copies of the most recent issue of the *Proceedings* to Library & Archives Canada, the Library of Congress, and several indexing services.

Citations to PNSIS articles

Indexing sources such as Biological Abstracts, the Scopus database, and the Google Scholar search engine provide citation indexing of PNSIS articles. A recent search of these sources reveals that since their publication dates, a number of PNSIS articles have been relatively highly cited (see Appendix A). For example, “A Forest classification for the Maritime Provinces” by Loucks, has been cited at least 167 times. Some articles that were published decades ago have been cited as recently as 2020, which shows that they continue to have research impact. For example, Hicklin & Smith’s 1979 PNSIS article on the diets of migrant shore birds was cited in a June 2020 issue of *Avian Conservation & Ecology*.

Access Copyright

During the summer of 2020, the NSIS Librarian submitted the required forms to Access Copyright for the repertoire payment to publishers. NSIS subsequently received a payment of \$422.09.

Institutional Members and Exchange Partners

NSIS sent renewal invoices to its institutional partners, 11 of which have renewed their subscriptions. There are currently 14 institutional members and 84 NSIS exchange partners.

NSIS Exchange Journal Collection

On behalf of NSIS, I would like to thank Carol Richardson and the Dalhousie Libraries’ Resources staff, who while working under considerable constraints over the past year, continued to process the exchange journals and make them shelf-ready. NSIS receives journal issues from exchange partners around the world. As an example, from mid-March 2020 to mid-March 2021, NSIS received 36 journal issues and society publications from the Institute’s exchange partners. This is a significant reduction compared to previous years. For example, from April 2019 to mid-March 2020, NSIS received 76 journal issues and society publications from the Institute’s exchange partners. It’s possible that COVID-related restrictions resulted in delayed

production schedules and postal delays for the small societies that share their print journals with NSIS.

In October 2020, NSIS received a letter from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, which publishes the journal *Adansonia*. They indicated that “due to administrative reasons”, they would terminate their exchange program in November 2020. Instead of providing an exchange, they will subscribe to the NSIS Proceedings, which is fortunate for NSIS.

*Report respectfully submitted by
Michelle Paon, NSIS Librarian
April 29, 2021*

APPENDIX A

Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science – Highly cited articles (Table indicates the number of times articles have been cited as of Nov. 28, 2020 - as reported in citation indexing sources.)

Article Title	Biological Abstracts	Scopus	Google Scholar	Most recent citation
Loucks, O.L. (1962). A forest classification for the Maritime Provinces. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 25(2): 85-167.	n/a	n/a	167	2020
Hicklin, P.W. & Smith, P.C. (1979). The diets of five species of migrant shorebirds in the Bay of Fundy. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 29(4): 483-488.	58	n/a	84	2020
Ackman, R.G., & McLachlan, J. (1978). Fatty acids in some Nova Scotian marine seaweeds: A survey for octadecapentanoic and other biochemically novel fatty acids. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 28(1/2): 47-64.	n/a	n/a	77	2015
Boates, J.S., & Smith, P.C. (1979). Length-weight relationships, energy content and the efforts of predation on <i>Corophium volutator</i> (Pallas) (Crustacea: amphipoda). <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 29(4): 489-500.	45	n/a	64	2019
Bird, C.J. (1993). First record of the potential nuisance alga <i>Codium fragile</i> ssp. <i>tomentosoides</i> (Chlorophyta, Caulerpaceles) in Atlantic Canada. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 40(1): 11-17.	37	n/a	66	2020

Appendix A cont'd

Article Title	Biological Abstracts	Scopus	Google Scholar	Most recent citation
Taylor, A. (1986). Some aspects of the chemistry and biology of the genus <i>Hypocrea</i> and its anamorphs, <i>Trichoderma</i> and <i>Gliocladium</i> . <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 36(1): 27-58.	33	n/a	51	2020
Vladykov, V. D., & McKenzie, R. A. (1935). The marine fishes of Nova Scotia. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 19(1): 17-113.	17	n/a	38	2020
Roland, A.E. (1946). The flora of Nova Scotia. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 21(3): 94-642.	1	n/a	38	2015
Ferguson, D.C. (1954). The Lepidoptera of Nova Scotia. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 23(3): 161-375.	n/a	n/a	38 + 45 (citations to 1954 & 1955)	2017
Livingstone, D.A. (1953). The fresh water fishes of Nova Scotia. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 23(1): 1-90.	n/a	n/a	36	2018
Beazley, K.F., Snaith, T.V., MacKinnon, F., & David, C. (2004). Road density and the potential impact on wildlife species such as American Moose in mainland Nova Scotia. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 42(2): 339-357.	9	n/a	31	2020
Dale, J., Freedman, B., & Kerekes, J. (1985). Experimental studies of the effects of acidity and associated water chemistry on amphibians. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 35(2): 35-54.	18	n/a	26	2017

Appendix A cont'd

Article Title	Biological Abstracts	Scopus	Google Scholar	Most recent citation
Imrie, D.M.G., & Daborn, G.R. (1981). Food of some immature fish of Minas Basin, Bay of Fundy. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 31(2): 149-154.	16	10	22	2016
Bleakney, J.S., & Meyer, K.B. (1979). Observations on saltmarsh pools, Minas Basin, Nova Scotia 1965-1977. <i>Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science</i> . 29(4): 353-372.	14	n/a	25	2020

*Report respectfully submitted by
Michelle Paon, NSIS Librarian
June 13, 2020*

WEBMASTER'S REPORT 2020-2021

This year we mainly focused on reordering the Hall of Fame portion of the website to order Hall of Fame members alphabetically by last name. We also added a section for Honorary Members (Dr. Arthur B. McDonald and Dr. Mary Anne White). Finally, we have added forwarding features to the NSInstituteOfScience@gmail.com account to automatically forward e-mails to the President, Membership and the Secretary when the subject line of the e-mail contains the phrasing Attention President, Attention Membership and Attention Secretary, respectively.

Otherwise the webmaster efforts were spent updating and adding the monthly talks to the site.

Traffic for the website has remained consistent with analytics for previous years showing spikes in traffic in the months between September and April.

We're still dealing with the 503 Server error that occurs when too many links on the website have been clicked with short periods between clicks. I admit this is my fault for not following up with Chebucto (our web service provider). I will continue to work on the issue.

*Submitted by
Patrick Upson
Webmaster*

STUDENT SCIENCE WRITING COMPETITION 2021

This year we had a successful writing competition. After closing the submissions, we sent the final papers to the reviewers (# of reviewers = 7) and received the feedbacks and scoresheets from all the judges. On April 7, we hosted a virtual Teams meeting with the judges to select the winners in undergraduate and postgraduate categories. After a long discussion, we selected a winner and an honorable mention for undergraduate papers:

Winner: Olivia Melville (title = Identifying the critical nitrogen to phosphorous ratio in food-grade wastewater for the growth of the diatom *Thalassiosira pseudonana*)

Honorable mention: Kat Kabanova.

In the postgraduate competition, we selected a winner and two honorable mentions:

Winner: Morgan Mitchell (title = Long term surface ozone trends and transport in Nova Scotia)

Honorable mentions: Thomas Robert Davies and Megan Fass.

The results were communicated to the winners, NSIS treasurer, and the proceedings editor for those students who might want their papers to be published in our journal.

Below you can find a detailed overview of the NSIS writing competition 2021:

Total number of students who showed an interest in submitting their papers = 47

Total number of papers submitted = 32
(Acadia University initial submissions = 19, others = 13)

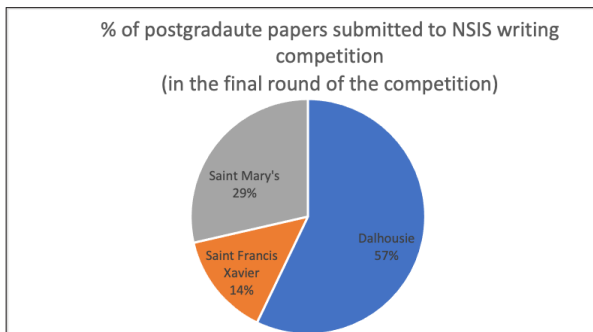
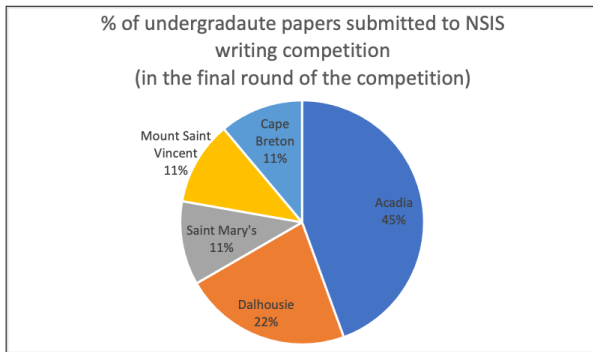
of Papers in the final round of the competition = 16
(undergrad papers = 9, postgrad papers = 7)

We had submissions from 6 different universities in Nova Scotia including Dalhousie University, Saint Mary's University, Mount Saint Vincent University, Cape Breton University, Acadia University and Saint Francis Xavier University.

A few suggestions that came up during the meeting with the judges for the next year writing competition:

- Possibility of splitting the judges between undergraduate and postgraduate competitions to reduce the number of papers for each of the judges.
- Providing a list of the tips for effective writing (either in the video format, workshop, or just in writing) to the students.
- Possibility of increasing the number of awards while keeping the budget constant.
- Providing a page count or word count to limit the length of the papers.

Yashar Monfared and Evans Monyoncho
Co-coordinators of writing competition



NSIS EXCURSIONS 2021

Due to Covid-19, NSIS Excursions have been on hold since the Spring of 2020, and will be so until further notice.

Early in 2020 we were considering the following excursions but cannot proceed until the coronavirus restrictions are sufficiently relaxed:

Petroglyphs and

Guided Nature Hike	(Kejimikujik N.P.)	Jillian Phillips
Waterfalls of Nova Scotia	(various sites)	Carol Morrison
Cape Split Nature Hike	(Scots Bay)	Jillian Phillips
NS Museum of Industry	(New Glasgow)	Hank Bird
Shubenacadie Wildlife Park	(Shubenacadie)	Carol Morrison

Also, when possible, we may be able to have a joint excursion with the Halifax Field Naturalists organization, guided by a HFN expert. Also, T. Fedak raised the possibility of a joint excursion in May 2022 with the Canadian Geological Association.

We welcome additional suggestions and possibilities.

—

For the record, we did thirteen excursions in late 2016, in 2017, in 2018 and 2019:

- Natural History of McNab's Island
- Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens
- The Science and Art of Making Beer
- Burke-Gaffney Observatory
- Joggins Fossil Cliffs
- Shubenacadie Canal
- Bedford Institute of Oceanography
- Dalhousie Planetarium
- Habits and Habitats of NS Birds
(in association with the NS Birding Society)
- Otter Ponds Demonstration Forest
- The Science and Art of Making Beer,
at the 2 Crows Brewing Company

- Fundy Geological Museum, Ottawa House, and the Tidal Power Exhibit
- Discovery Centre (including “behind the scenes”)

Hank Bird

Excursions Coordinator

PUBLIC ONLINE LECTURES 2021-2022**October 4, 2021**

NS forestry – Otter Ponds demonstration forest and recent updates to the biodiversity act

November 1, 2021

TBA – Energy sustainability in NS

December 6, 2021

Student showcase – COVID-19 student research in Nova Scotia

January 3, 2022

TBA – COVID-19 impacts in NS or Mi'kmaq Calendar of the Seasons

February 7, 2022

Tidal wetland restoration and ecosystem services in the Bay of Fundy Dykelands

March 7, 2022

Tiny Materials for Big Challenges:
Designing Next Generation Nanomaterials

April 4, 2022

TBA – Sustainable agriculture

May 2, 2022 | Agm 2022

TBA (COVID-19 impacts in NS or Mi'kmaq Calendar of the Seasons)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICER REPORT 2021

Summary

At the 2020 AGM, it was reported that there were 101 total members of the NSIS. At this AGM, there are currently 130 active members of the NSIS. Since the month following the previous AGM (October 2020), our membership increased from 77 total active members to 130 active members, a 1.7x increase. Over half of these members (73 total) paid via PayPal, showing that this feature was well worth the effort needed to get it working.

We encouraged members to buy gift memberships for others and this resulted in nine new members, eight of which were students. This is great, as discussions were held about how to increase student engagement with NSIS.

Membership Overview

To date, there are currently 130 active members of the NSIS. This is up 29 members from the last AGM.

- 76 Regular (up from 38 in October): 58% of membership
- 21 Life (up from 19 in October): 16% of membership
- 16 Student (up from 3 in October): 12% of membership
- 8 Lecturers: 6% of membership
- 7 Student writers: 5% of membership
- 2 Honourary: 2% of membership

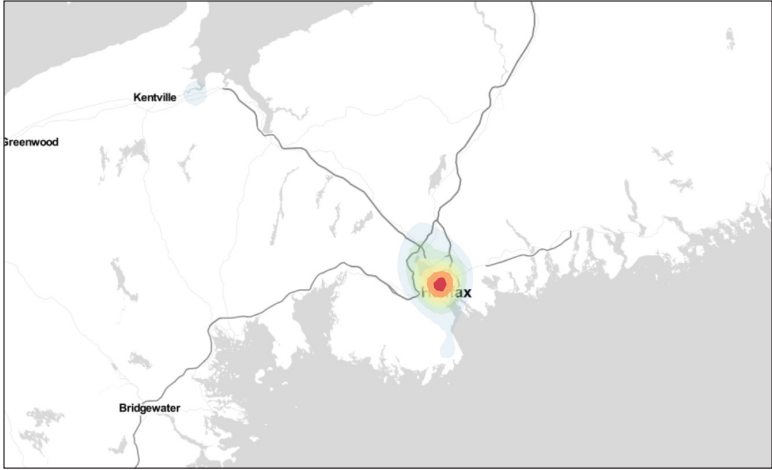
Membership Distribution

Since moving to an online format, we became curious about the geographical distribution of our membership. We created a heat-map (pictured below) of active members and found that the majority of members lived within HRM. Surprisingly, it was found that some NSIS members live as far away as British Columbia!

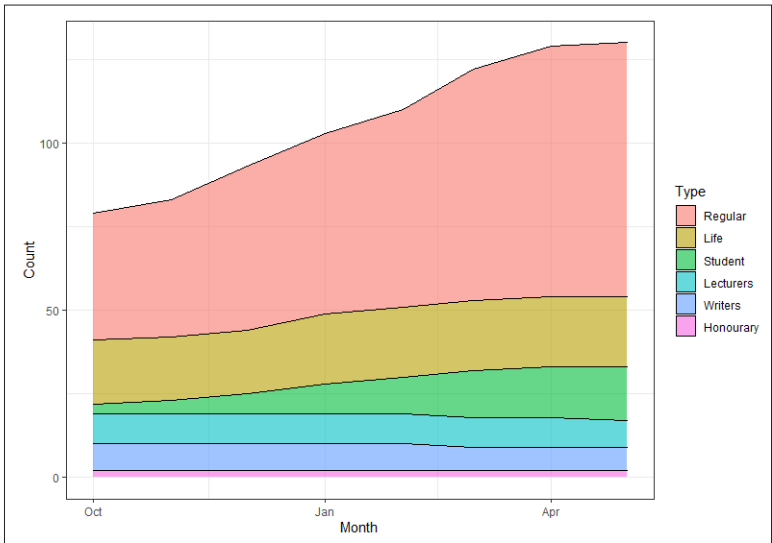
Membership Growth

Regular membership (2x growth) and Student membership (5.33x growth) showed the most growth this year. However, all membership categories grew over time (1.6x growth; illustrated next page)

Shea McInnis



Membership Distribution



Membership Growth

**NOMINATIONS FOR NSIS COUNCIL
2021-2022 SLATE**

President	Tamara Franz-Odendaal
Vice-President	Stephanie McQuarrie
Past-President	Tana Worcester
Secretary	Hank Bird
Treasurer	Angelica Silva
Editor	Peter Wells
Librarian	Michelle Paon
Publicity Officer	Molly Murray (and Nicole LeBlanc)
Webmaster	Patrick Upson
Membership Officer	Shea McInnis
Councillor	Anne Dalziel
Councillor	Glenys Gibson
Councillor	Geniece Hallett-Tapley
Councillor	Youyu Lu
Councillor	Jinshan Xu
Student Representative	Romman Muntzar
Associate Editor	David Richardson