

## Report to the AIS from the AIS Foundation -- October 22, 2018

### Foundation Business

At the 2018 Spring Meeting in New Orleans, LA, the Foundation reelected Bob Hollingworth, Gary White and Nancy Price to additional 3-year terms, and Bob Hollingworth was elected President, Judy Keisling was elected Vice President and Jill Bonino was elected Secretary-Treasurer for another 1 year term.

### Grants & Scholarships

Below is the status of Foundation Grants at this time:

1. **Dr. Jinyan Guo Grant:** The Foundation this year funded 1/2 of a 2-year grant (\$5,954) for Dr. Guo's project. The project is the Comparative Micro Morphology, Anatomy and Development of Styles in *Iris*. It proposes to investigate if petaloid styles are truly petal-like and what developmental events led to their morphological feature of a petal. The payment for 2018 has been made and a first year report on progress has been received.
2. **Dr Yuval Sapir:** This is a previously rejected proposal that Dr. Sapir reworked and the Foundation Board recently approved. It is for \$10,500, a one-time grant, for studying phylogenetic relationships between populations and species of the Israeli *Oncocyclus* irises. The Foundation was notified by email in September 2018 that this project has been delayed. Not enough high quality DNA was obtained to send for sequencing. Dr. Sapir expects to complete the project by March 2019. No additional monies were requested.
3. **Dr. Carol Wilson Grant:** Funds for Year 2 (\$2,528) have been paid to Dr. Wilson for her approved Grant for Systematic Studies of subgenera *Xiphium* and *Hermodactyloides* and Related Taxa Utilizing Next-Generation Sequencing and Morphology.
4. **Dr. Carol Wilson Grant:** The Foundation approved funds for a second grant to Dr. Wilson. The project is the Systematic and Biogeographic Studies on *Iris* section *Oncocyclus*, a Morphologically Diverse Lineage of Bearded Species from Mountain, Semi-Desert, and Steppe Communities. Its approval was contingent on the receipt by Iranian Ph.D. student Mona Salimbahrami of a visa to enter the US for this work. She received it, and Year 1 costs were funded in the amount of \$ 6,310.30 in June, 2018. The Grant will cover 3 years for a total cost of \$9,082.60. Again, this project involves extensive use of DNA sequencing.
5. **Dr. Thomas Givnish – University of Wisconsin-Madison:** The Foundation approved in September 2018 a grant from the University of Wisconsin entitled "Drivers of Species Diversification and Floral Mimicry in *Geissorhiza* (Iridaceae): Phylogeny, Biogeography, and Vulnerability in the Cape Floristic Region". The Cape Floristic Region (CFR) is in southwest South Africa and supports roughly 900 species of irids and 9,000 flowering plants overall. The results from this project should reveal the relationships of species within *Geissorhiza* and among genera of the iris subfamily *Crocoideae*. Total cost of this grant is \$21,990. Funds have not been paid out as yet.

**Foundation and DuBose Trust Investments**

The bulk of Foundation monies and all of the DuBose Trust funds are now invested in Mutual Funds with Global Wealth Management of La Canada, CA. Below is the growth and income for these funds since their purchase in January, 2017:

	<u>January 19, 2017</u>	<u>September 30, 2018</u>
<b>Balance AIS Foundation</b>	\$392,682	\$459,875
Interest & Dividends (2018)		\$ 11,000 (est.)
Increase in Market Value to date		17.11%
<b>Balance Sidney DuBose Trust</b>	\$408,753	\$481,068
Interest & Dividends (2018)		\$ 12,338 (est.)
Increase in Market Value to date		17.69%

Interest/dividends earned this year (but not capital gains distributions) will be transferred to the Foundation Wells Fargo checking account in December.

**AIS Library**

Foundation Board member Bob Pries is Chair for the AIS On Line Library. I refer you to his report on progress this year.

A new lease was signed with Deardorff 3-D, LLC in April, 2018 to rent bigger space in the current Molalla facility. Lease will be for two years at \$12,000 per year. A tour of this facility will be held following the Fall Board meeting in Portland.

**AIS Encyclopedia**

Again, much has been going on to update and enhance the AIS Encyclopedia. Please refer to Bob Pries Report for more detail.

**Other Foundation Operations**

**Donations** since January 1, 2018 total \$8,600. Of this, \$6,075.25 are pass thru donations for the American Iris Society. After much discussion at the Spring Foundation Board meeting, the Board decided to work on a plan for promoting more donations for the Foundation. An article about this appeared in the September, 2018 *News and Notes* and will be repeated in the October issue as well.

Chair Debbie Strauss has proposed a third age group for the **Ackerman Essay contest** starting in 2019. Essays would be grouped in age groups 9 and under, 10 to 12, and 13 and over. With 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes in each age group that would bring the annual Ackerman Essay prizes to \$575.

At the Spring Board meeting, the Foundation accepted an **Audit Report** from Lois Linke who examined the Foundation financial records for the 2014- 2015 year, the last year under Treasurer Gary White. She found the records complete and acceptable.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Bonino,  
Secretary/Treasurer