

<b>No. 15</b>	<b>Equal Opportunity Section</b>	<b>Lonnie Gonsalves</b>
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TO: **John Boreman**, President

FROM: Lonnie Gonsalves, Equal Opportunity Section President

DATE: August 23, 2013

### **I. Motion Report**

No motions for consideration sponsored by the Equal Opportunity Section (EOS).

### **II. Activity Report (5 pages max)**

**Objective 3.2.** Enhance participation of students and professionals at all levels of the society to assure recruitment, retention, and leadership development into the future.

The section will be awarding four \$500 travel awards to support student attendance at the 2013 AFS Annual Meeting. Claira Matten (University of Southern Mississippi), Manish Pant (Eastern Illinois University), Tancy Moore (Humboldt State University), and LaTrisha Allen (Florida A&M University) will each be honored during the EOS annual business meeting. These awards help to encourage student and student advisor participation in AFS. Each recipient is scheduled to present at the 2013 annual meeting. Award recipients will also be encouraged to continue their participation in EOS activities and involvement within the parent society.

**Objective 3.3.** Promote diversity within AFS and the fisheries profession.

The section is currently collaborating with the Student Subsection of the Education Section to host an event highlighting the achievements of female professionals in AFS during the 2013 AFS Annual Meeting in Little Rock, AR. This event is being held in conjunction with the student social and represents, to our knowledge, the first collaboration between EOS and the Student Subsection. This event will provide students a chance to learn from the success stories of these female professionals while networking with their peers in a relaxed environment.

The section will also host a symposium in Little Rock that will showcase research performed at minority-serving institutions and programs geared towards diversity

outreach in fisheries science. This symposium will serve as a platform to highlight the scientific contributions of these institutions and to promote increased participation in AFS among underrepresented groups.

**Objective 3.5.** Practice good governance and organizational management.

The section has retrieved data from the parent society which was used to report on the current demographic makeup of AFS in the EOS spring newsletter. This information is being used as a baseline to track how well EOS is assisting with increasing the participation of traditionally underrepresented groups in AFS.