President Elect Report 2012-2013

I attended the December meeting of the CSSP (Council of Scientific Society Presidents) with Toby Kellogg and Bill Dahl. Based on this one experience, I did not think that attending this meeting is a good use of time and resources. However, the Council has elected new leadership and it will probably be worth attending a few more times to see if the Council is re-energized.

Committee assignments for 2013-2014 are complete. It will be important to continue to involve new people in these committees. The Darbaker committee is problematic because of the small numbers of phycologists in the BSA. I recommend that we establish a formal arrangement with the PSA to help with this, or explore the transfer of the prize to that society. With Bill’s help, I monitored the award committees to ensure that nominations had been made and that the committees were evaluating them. There were no nominations for the Pelton Award so I asked the committee members to identify a candidate. The committee suggested that that the criteria for the award should be expanded to encourage more nominations. President Toby Kellogg made the appropriate contacts and the criteria have been changed.

One of my goals has been to enhance continuity of information flow as board members turn over. To this end, Carol Goodwillie and I created a “manual for new members” that explains some of the workings of the Board. I have also contacted each outgoing member of the board to read the description of their office that is posted on the web and to make sure that it is as informative as possible.