

The Role of Program Director and Local Host for NASBR Meetings

The Board of Directors recommends that NASBR redefine the roles of the Program Director and Local Host. Previously, the Program Director handled virtually all aspects of the annual meetings. We suggest that these duties be largely assumed by the Local Host with the exception of assembling the abstracts and program for the meetings, which will be the responsibility of the Program Director. The Board recommends that the Program Director be appointed by the Board to serve a 3-year, renewable term.

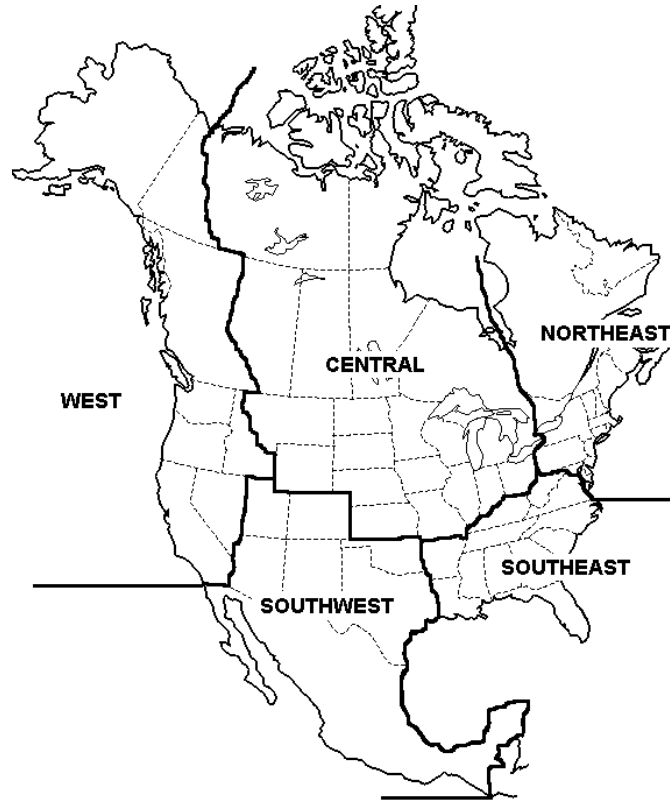
The redefinition of the roles of Local Host and Program Director and the mechanism for appointing the Program Director will be a topic of discussion at this year's General Business Meeting. Anyone wishing to make comments on this topic prior to the meeting should contact the Chair of the Board of Directors (Betsy Dumont, bdumont@bio.umass.edu).

Selection of NASBR Venues

It was clear at the last NASBR meeting that the membership would like to be more involved in the process of selecting future venues. We propose to return to a system in which NASBR members vote on bids during the General Business Meeting at our annual meetings. Under normal circumstances, the membership's choice of venue will stand. However, the Board of Directors retains ultimate authority over choice of venues. As events of the past year have demonstrated, it is critical that the Board have the ability to make decisions about venues in the event of an emergency.

The 2006 NASBR meetings will be held in Wilmington, North Carolina and the 2007 meetings will be held jointly with the IBRC in Merida, Mexico. We need to select venues for 2008, 2009 and 2010 at the meetings in Wilmington this October.

To ensure that our meetings rotate among different regions of North America, the Board proposes the establishment of a geographic rotation system. Over time, this will ensure that everyone has a chance to have the meetings close to home, and that we all have the opportunity to experience new places. We suggest using the following 5 regional divisions: West, Southwest, Southeast, Northeast and Central. Because NASBR is still a relatively small society, we suggest that the map be used to guide rather than dictate the choice of venues. For example, it may be useful to consider potential venues in two different geographic regions each year. The adoption of the geographic rotation system will be discussed at this year's General Business Meeting.



The following table outlines the locations of NASBR meetings from 1996 through 2007 by geographic region:

<u>West</u>	<u>Southwest</u>	<u>Southeast</u>	<u>Northeast</u>	<u>Central</u>
2005	2007	2006	2002	2004
2001	1997	2000		2003
		1996		1999
				1998

Because we are selecting three future venues this year, the Board wants to ensure that there are at least four choices presented. In future years, when we are selecting a single venue (three years in advance), the Board will ensure that there are at least two venues to choose from and that the geographic rotation system is maintained to the extent possible.

Making a Bid to Host a NASBR Meeting

The Board of Directors is presently soliciting bids for the 2008, 2009, and 2010 meetings. While the bidding is open to all geographic regions, we strongly encourage bids from venues in the Northeast because that region has been underrepresented over the last decade (see table above).

If you are interested in making a bid, please contact the Chairman of the Board ASAP to discuss the responsibilities that hosting a meeting will entail. Notice of intent to make a bid must be made in writing to the Chairman by the NASBR abstract deadline. If the Board of Directors judges that the venue is viable, you will be invited to present a bid at the annual meeting. Presentations of bids will occur early in the meetings and will be limited to 5 minutes.