North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature
– 75th Annual Meeting –

Thursday, October 22, 2020 (10 am to 12 pm and 2 to 5 pm)
Virtual Meeting Held in Conjunction with GSA Annual Meeting,
Montréal, Québec (on Microsoft Teams)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order of the 75th Annual Meeting (Attachment) (Commissioner Haggart)

- Commissioner Haggart welcomed everybody to the first completely online annual NACSN meeting. This inaugural online meeting was held using Microsoft Teams.
- Refer to attached file: "1 75th Mtg Agenda.pdf "

2. Roll-Call (Attachment) (Commissioner Haggart)

- Refer to attached file: "2 2020-10 NACSN Mbrshp.pdf"

For the **American Association of Petroleum Geologists** (3)
Richard Denne [2018-2021]
Katherine A. Giles [2019-2022]
Doug Sprinkel [2020-2023]

For the **Association of American State Geologists** (3)
David Dockery [2018-2021]
Matt Joeckel [2018-2021]
Berry H. (Nick) Tew [2019-2022]

For the **Geological Society of America** (3)
Marieke Dechesne [2017-2020]
Joe Hannibal [2018-2021]
Jon J. Smith [2020-2022]
Gordon C. Baird [2020-2023]

For the **U.S. Geological Survey** (3)
Nancy Stamm [2018-2021]
Lucy Edwards [2019-2022]
Julie Herrick [2020-2023]

For the **Geological Survey of Canada** (3)
Jim Haggart [2018-2021] **Chair, 2019-2020**
Lynn Dafoe [2019-2022]
Robert MacNaughton [2020-2023]

For the **Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists** (2)
Brian R. Pratt [2018-2021]

John-Paul Zonneveld [2020-2023]

For the **Geological Association of Canada** (2)
John Johnston [2020-2023] **Vice-Chair, 2019-2020; Chair, 2020-2021**
Frank Brunton [2019-2022] (absent)

For the **Society of Sedimentary Geology** (2)
Marie-Pierre Aubry [2018-2021]
Howard Harper [2020-2022]

For the **Servicio Geológico Mexicano** (2)
Rosario Isabel López-Palomino [2017-2021]

For the **Asociación Mexicana de Geólogos Petroleros** (1)
Hilarión Sánchez Hernández [2017-2020] (absent)

For the **Sociedad Geológica Mexicana** (1)
René Alejandro Téllez Flores [2020-2023] (absent)

For the **Instituto de Geología de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico** (1)
Fernando Núñez Useche [2019-2022]

Commissioners-at-large
Carlton E. Brett [2017-2022]
Tom Dignes [2016-2022] (absent)
Mike Easton [2018-2021]
Ismael Ferrusquía-Villafranca [2020-2022] (absent)
Stanley C. Finney [2018-2021] (absent)
Richard H. Fluegeman [2016-2022]
Ed Landing [2018-2021] (absent)
Norman P. Lasca [2018-2021]
Randy Orndorff [2018-2021] **Webmaster**
Robert W. Scott [2019-2022]
Janet Slate [2020-2023] **Vice Chair 2020-2021 [To be confirmed at AGM]**

- Commissioner Haggart noted that quorum was established and there was record attendance at the 2020 annual NACSN virtual meeting.
  - Commissioners representing organizations (26 total = 3 absent and 23 present or 88% present)
  - Commissioners-at-large present (11 total = 4 absent and 7 present or 64% present)
  - Total NACSN commissioners (37 total = 7 absent and 30 present or 81% present, including commissioners-at-large)
- Commissioner Haggart referred to the attached file: "2 2020-10 NACSN Mbrshp.pdf" for membership terms ending in 2020 as either (i) confirmed for the current year and/or going forward after this year or (ii) queried.
  - Term Confirmed for Marieke Dechesne [2017-2020]
  - Term queried for Rosario Isabel López-Palomino [2017-2020] and Hilarión Sánchez Hernández [2017-2020]

3. Approval of the Agenda (Commissioner Haggart)

- Commissioner Edwards added subepoch under Geochronometric in Table 2 in attachment file: "18B 75th Mtg Note 69 Table2_2020.pdf" so that it matched what was shown in attachment file: "18A 75th Mtg Note 69 Aubry, MP Subseries.pdf".
- Added an agenda item where Commissioner Edwards will address revisions to the NA Code in item 17. The latest draft of the Code revisions for discussion are in attachement file: "17B Nacsn code 2020_Oct21.docx".
- Commissioner Haggart asked for a motion to approve the Minutes (Motion to Approve: John-Paul Zonneveld; Seconded: Richard Denne; Accepted: Unanimously)

4. Introduction of New Commissioners and Guests (Commissioner Haggart)

- Commissioner Haggart welcomed guests Werner Piller (ISSC) and David Harper (ICS)
- 10 Total, which include Commissioners with a new term: Doug Sprinkel [2020-2023] for the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Jon J. Smith [2020-2022] and Gordon C. Baird [2020-2023] for the Geological Society of America, Julie Herrick [2020-2023] for the U.S. Geological Survey, Robert MacNaughton [2020-2023] for the Geological Survey of Canada, John-Paul Zonneveld [2020-2023] for the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, Howard Harper [2020-2022] for the Society of Sedimentary Geology, René Alejandro Téllez Flores [2020-2023] for the Sociedad Geológica Mexicana, Commissioners-at-large with a new term: Ismael Ferrusquía-Villafranca [2020-2022] and Janet Slate [2020-2023].

5. Approval of Minutes of the 74th Annual Meeting (September 23, 2019, Phoenix, Arizona) (Attachment) (Commissioner Haggart)

- Commissioner Haggart noted the Minutes of the 74th Annual Meeting held in Phoenix, Arizona had been circulated and changes and additions made
- Refer to attached file: "5 NACSN 74th Mtg Minutes JWH.pdf"
- Agenda addition: Lucy Edwards will address revisions to the NA Code in item 17. Attached file: "17B Nacsn code 2020_Oct21.docx" (17B) is the latest draft of the Code revisions for discussion. Distributed 3-4 weeks ago and changed.
- Commissioner Haggart asked for a motion to approve the Minutes (Motion to Approve: Matt Joeckel; Seconded: Joe Hannibal; Accepted: Unanimously)

6. In Memoriam of Past Commissioners (Commissioner Haggart)

- Fortunately, there were none.

7. Recognition of Awards Received by Commissioners (Attachment) (Commissioner Haggart)

- Refer to the attached file: "7 Carl Brett LL Sloss Award for Sed Geol.pdf"
- 2020 Laurence L. Sloss Award given to Carl Brett https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/About/awards/GSA/Awards/2020/sloss.aspx

8. Chair's Report (Attachments) (Commissioner Haggart)

- Thanked all commissioners for help and contributions
- Worked with former Chair Pratt to compile the Minutes from the 74th Annual Meeting held in Phoenix, although this took longer than anticipated.
- Worked to clean up Commissioners' contact information files and update period of Commissioners' terms.
- Interacted with former Chair Pratt to help identify potential new Commissioners. This was especially challenging, but we were able to have new representatives nominated for both AAPG (Doug Sprinkel) and CSPG (John-Paul Zonneveld), both long-deficient in their 3rd and 2nd representatives, respectively. Unfortunately, we are still lacking representatives for Servicio Geologico Mexicano.
- Further consolidated various informal documents floating around summarizing duties of the Chair and Vice-Chair.
    - Refer to attached files: "8A NACSN Exec Duties.pdf" and "8B NACSN Officers 1946-2021.pdf".
- Worked with webmaster Randy Orndorff and Commissioner Pratt to update the NACSN website with current information, and also to identify possible new hosts for the website. In anticipation of a move to a new host, I compiled a list of all files that we might want to include on the website, including new ones that are not there presently.
- I was fortunate to be able to have our Librarian at GSC, Warren Wulff, undertake a compilation of all previous publications of NACSN, for potential inclusion on the website. This compilation will be discussed later.
- I worked with Commissioners Brett, Finney, Fluegeman, Lasca, and Pratt to prepare a nomination of one of our members, Lucy Edwards, for the AGI's Ian Campbell Award. The nomination was ultimately unsuccessful, but we will try again this coming year.
- Worked with a number of Commissioners to try to find an agency to translate the Code to French; leads with the Provincial Government of Quebec look promising in this respect. There is no sense translating the Code until all necessary revisions resultant from several recent additions to the Code have been incorporated, and Commissioner Edwards has worked seemingly unendingly on updating the Code with these, as she will discuss subsequently.
- Worked with a number of Commissioners to initiate a review of the NACSN Articles. This had been raised at the last meeting and Commissioner MacNaughton agreed to chair an *ad hoc* committee to review the Articles. The Committee's report will be presented later.
- Dealt with the challenge of setting up a virtual meeting of the Commission under COVID.
- Prepared the Agenda and the Scrolls.

9. Vice-Chair's report (Commissioner Johnston)

- Thanked all commissioners for support
- Help Chair in any way needed throughout the year, mostly worked with commissioner Haggart in e-mail responses
- Offered to help with web page, hosting at UW or refining
- Helped find a new Vice Chair
- Helped manage the virtual meeting on Teams, including handling questions and comments by commissioners during meeting
- Recorded minutes at Annual Meeting

- AGI received a request from the European Geosciences Union (EGU) to sign a proclamation for a Declaration of the Significance of Geoscience Expertise to Meet Global Societal Challenges. The consensus of discussion amongst several commissioners was that affirming this proclamation is beyond the scope and mandate of the Commission, so we declined.

10. Report on AGI Business (Commissioner Lasca)

- Brief discussion of meetings, either face-to-face, hybrid or completely online. There are about 50 members in AGI and most meetings have been hybrid and some meetings were totally online. There were few proposing face-to-face meetings.
- Brief discussion of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Commissioner Lasca emailed the attachment file: "Diversity_Inclusion.pdf ", AGI's draft Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion document at the end of this meeting for comment. AGI has requested that all member societies review the document and submit comments/suggestions for improvements by November 21st. Please send your comments to Commissioner Lasca by mid-November so that he can respond for the Commission by AGI's deadline.

11. Report on IUGS and ICS (Commissioner Finney)

- Finney was not in attendance

12. Report on ICS (Guest David Harper)

- David Harper presented slides on a shared screen shown through Teams.
- Emailed presentation to commissioners after the meeting. Attachment called "12 Dave Harper Prsntn ICS_2020_virtual+NACSN.pptx".
- Some significant achievements for ICS:
    1. Definition and ratification of some 10 GSSPs in the last three years; associated dedication ceremonies.
    2. Three versions of the chronostratigraphic chart published in 2020 and many new translations, the Hungarian chart is now available.
    3. Bases of the Lower/Early, Middle/Mid-, and Upper/Late Holocene Subseries/Subepochs coincident with the respective stadial GSSPs.
    4. Bases of the Lower/Early, Middle/Mid-, and Upper/Late Pleistocene Subseries/Subepochs coincident with the respective global stages GSSPs. New colour coding agreed with the Map of the World.
    5. New web page design and content.
    6. The term Precambrian was recognised as informal since this name for the oldest division of Earth history is commonly in use and therefore should not be abolished.
    7. Open for proposals for the next STRATI meeting following success of the Milano Congress.
- Looking forward for ICS:
    1. Priority funding is for those subcommissions moving to complete GSSPs, through field meetings and some laboratory work.
    2. For dedication ceremonies, these are key outreach events.
    3. Preparation of data for the Deep-time Digital Earth and Geobiodiversity Database.

4. Calibration of the timescale is an important part of the work of the ICS and we are now supporting a 17th subcommission of time scale calibration; no dates no rates.
5. Prepare short articles from each subcommision for a thematic issue of *Episodes*.

- Commissioner Hannibal inquired about a capital "P' in Precambrian but it is not formal. David said it has been in italics since Darwin times and there has been more than three subcommissions for this very long time interval but he is going back to check.
- Commissioner Aubry inquired about the procedure processes and procedure clarification: should we go to David first or to a subcommission? David said go to subcommission. For individual cases, present the reasons, and a discussion and vote will occur and then potentially ratify it in subcommission. If there is a strong case it is put to the ICS and then to IUGS afterwards.
- Commissioner Pratt inquired about an update on the Anthropocene. David said they are discussing this, but it is mainly used as a cultural term.
- Commissioner Brett inquired about sub stages. David said they will stay at stages for subcommissions.

13. Report on ISSC (Guest Werner Piller)

- Werner and commissioner Aubry led a discussion on subseries related to the recent publication: Marie-Pierre Aubry, Richard Fluegeman, Lucy Edwards, Brian R. Pratt and Carlton Brett, 2020, NACSN Report 14 – Revision of Articles 73, 81, 82 and Table 2 of the North American Stratigraphic Code to Formalize Subseries and Subepochs, published in *Stratigraphy*, vol. 17, no. 4, pages 315–316. https://doi.org/10.29041/strat.17.4.315-316. For further discuss please talk to commissioner Aubry.
- Werner led a discussion about how chemostratigraphy is related to event stratigraphy. How do we formalize one or both? Still a lot of problems of how to formalize event stratigraphy and chemostratigraphy.
- Commissioner Aubry said the chronostratigraphy chapter is coming along. Commissioner Scott welcomed comments on chronostratigraphy and will incorporate before finalized.
- Werner said the Biostratigraphy chapter of the Guide remains incomplete and has been sitting for some time. Werner would really like to see some Paleozoic expertise brought into the chapter. Commissioner Aubry offered to help and Rick Fluegeman said he will work on this chapter.

14. Report on the NACSN Archives (Commissioner Lasca)

- Commissioner Lasca reminded all commissioners to include him on all communications (i.e., cc in e-mails) related to the NACSN.
- Need all background communications related to notes 70 and 71 so that they are included in the archives.
- Commissioner Haggart and others created a list of the executive committee, updating and filling in gaps. This important endeavor is recorded in attachment file: "8B NACSN Officers 1946-2021.pdf".
- Commissioners Orndorff said he has a list of all commissioners back to 2011 but we need to update this list before 2011. Some is recorded in the literature.

15. Report on the NACSN Website (Attachments) (Commissioners Herrick, Orndorff, and Pratt)

- Commissioners Orndorff thanked AGI for hosting the NACSN web site but this cannot be a permanent location. Thus, other agencies are being asked to permanently host the NACSN web site. Commissioners Pratt talked to Jeanette Hammann, director of publications for the Geological Society of America. Further discussion is needed.
- Please contact Commissioners Orndorff to indicate what should be included on the NACSN web site. Refer to attachment file: "15A NACSN Website Files to Post.doc".
- Commissioner Haggart asked Warren Wulff, Library Manager of Natural Resources Canada, Vancouver, to compile a bibliography that lists all known documents published as part of the "Notes" series, result from the work of the NACSN from 1947 to present. Refer to attachment file: "15B Notes Series and Miscellanea Bibliography for North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature - 3June2020.pdf".
- Commissioner Johnston asked if we can add a list and connect reputable related organizations, relevant meetings for stratigraphers in North America, and stratigraphy courses (university and professional). And can we request to directly edit our own web site so that we are not dependent upon a web manager outside the NACSN?

16. Report on Latin American Geoscience Societies (Commissioner Pratt)

Commissioner Pratt had no significant news to report.

Commissioner Núñez Useche has been in contact with a number of Latin American colleagues. There is interest in participating in the Commission's activities from Central and South America. We discussed the possibility of making an official invitation to participate in commission activities but not full commissioners at this time. An interest and commitment should be established first. In addition, it was mentioned that we seek help to make a new edition of the N.A. Code in Spanish, the last one was created about 10 years ago. Haggart asked to contact Pratt to coordinate these efforts. Please also see related agenda item 22.

17. Recent NACSN Publications (Attachments)

Publication of Note 70 and 71 and Report 14 (Commissioner Fluegeman)

- Richard H. Fluegeman, Carlton E. Brett, Frank Brunton, Lucy E. Edwards and Howard Harper, 2020, North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature Note 70: Records of the Stratigraphic Commission 2014-2017, published in *Stratigraphy*, vol. 17, no. 1, pages 59–62, 2020 https://doi.org/10.29041/strat.17.1.59-62 Refer to attachment file: "17A NACSN Note 70 Fluegeman, RH 2020 NACSN Update.pdf".
- Robert W. Scott, Carlton E. Brett, Richard H. Fluegeman and Brian R. Pratt, 2020, NACSN Note 71 – Application for addition of chemostratigraphic units to the North American Stratigraphic Code: A case for formalizing chemostratigraphic units, published in *Stratigraphy*, vol. 17, no. 2, pages 135–139. https://doi.org/10.29041/strat.17.2.135-139
- Marie-Pierre Aubry, Richard Fluegeman, Lucy Edwards, Brian R. Pratt and Carlton Brett, 2020, NACSN Report 14 – Revision of Articles 73, 81, 82 and Table 2 of the North American Stratigraphic Code to Formalize Subseries and Subepochs, published in *Stratigraphy*, vol. 17, no. 4, pages 315–316. https://doi.org/10.29041/strat.17.4.315-316.

Preparation of Commission Records 2018-2020 (Commissioner Haggart)

- Discussion about the frequency of bylaws/notes summarizing the commission. Suggested range should be every 1-3 years but could be completed every other year to create consistency. Commissioner Fluegeman suggested past chairs and co-chairs should write these and then distribute to the commission for review. *Stratigraphy* was suggested for publication because they are currently seeking new papers.
- Haggart, Pratt, and Johnston agreed to prepare the next NACSN Records 2018-2020.

Revisions to the North American Code (Attachment) (Commissioner Edwards)

- Commissioner Edwards presented the Draft of the Code revisions and they were discussed.
- Refer to attachment file: "17B Nacsn code 2020_Oct21.docx" and see the revisions in red. A few of these include a new forward, a definition of submembers and inclusion of complexes, voting on subseries remarks 73, additional new references, and Appendix 2.
- Commissioner Orndorff asked Commissioner Edwards about strategies for proofreading this document. Commissioner Edwards offered to serve as leader for this proofreading and to ask several commissioners to help (i.e., 2 commissioners proof reading 3-6 pages each).
- Illustrations were discussed and commissioners asked where the original figures are located and if they are in digital format. Commissioners Edwards, Lasca, and Orndorff will investigate this.
- There was discussion about where the Code would be published. Commissioner Orndorff recommended the journal *Stratigraphy*. It was mentioned that AAPG made some changes and updates when the last edition was published by them. Commissioners asked what are the copyright laws governing publication of the Code. Commissioner Orndorff received a letter describing that we could reproduce the publication.
- Commissioner Edwards will lead the update of the code. Please contact Lucy to review the Draft of the Code.

18. Update on Formalizing Subseries in the Code (Attachments) (Commissioner Aubry)

- Commissioner Aubry presented Note 69 – Application for Addition of Subseries/Subepoch to the North American Stratigraphic Code; refer to attachment file: "18A 75th Mtg Note 69 Aubry, MP Subseries.pdf". This published paper has been out for discussion since 2018.
- Commissioner Aubry presented Table 2. Categories and Ranks of Units Defined in This Code, refer to attachment file: "18B 75th Mtg Note 69 Table2_2020.pdf
    - Commissioner Edwards recommended adding (Subepoch) with Epoch under Geochronometric in Table 2. Refer to the attachment file: "18B new Table2_2020v2.pdf".
    - Commissioner Edwards proposed an amendment for the addition of (Subepoch) in Commissioner Edwards' document, accepting this recommendation in Note 69. There was unanimous agreement with minor changes.
- Commissioner Aubry presented Subseries/Subepochs approved as a formal rank in the International Stratigraphic Code; refer to attachment file: "18C Aubrey, M-P 2020 Subseries-Subepochs.pdf".
- The Commission discussed addition of Subseries/Subepoch to the North American Stratigraphic Code. It was mentioned that this is one chance to change this before the guide

comes out and it is one small change. Commissioner Brett mentioned the advantage of making it available for use, having formalization with flexibility.

- Vote: Motion to support revision of Note 69 by adding Subseries/Subepoch to the North American Stratigraphic Code by Commissioner Brett and seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Vote was unanimous in favor of Note 69 revision.

19. Update on Inclusion of Chemostratigraphy in the Code (Note 71) (Attachments) (Commissioner Scott)

- Commissioner Scott presented Note 71 – Application for addition of chemostratigraphic units to the North American Stratigraphic Code: a case for formalizing chemostratigraphic units; refer to attachment file: "19A Scott etal 2020 Strat_17_2_135-139.pdf". Attachment file: "19B Landing et al 2020 HERB.pdf" was also discussed in the context for formalizing chemostratigraphic units. Refer to attachment file: "19C Chemostrat pub revised_09_2020EL_9_07-2020.docx"
- Discussion about event stratigraphy and unique geochemical properties. Commissioner Brett agreed to discuss potential additions with Commissioners Piller and Aubry.
- Commissioner Brett agreed to distribute to commissioners.

20. Update on Formalizing Biochron in the Code (Commissioner Aubry)

- Commissioner Aubry indicated that there has not been progress on this topic. The principal problem is reconciling two distinct issues: one is the use of "biochron" as the temporal equivalent of a biochronozone, and the other is the use "biochron" as a means to characterize or name the biosphere during a specific interval of time. An example of this would be the Neogene biochron: for many of us, the old concept of Neogene is very meaningful, and encompasses from the beginning of the Miocene to today. The change in definition of the Neogene to incorporate the Quaternary was unfortunate for those cognizant with the old Neogene—which is truly a natural entity.
- Commissioner Haggart suggested that it would be good if Commissioner Aubry would update her original manuscript with a discussion of the problems that she is having. Commissioner Aubry agreed to do this and distribute to the Commissioners.

21. Proposed Article (Bylaw) Changes (Attachments) (Commissioner MacNaughton)

- Refer to attachment files: "21A NACSN Articles discussions to circulate.docx" and "21B NACSN Articles (Bylaws) (Rpt 11).pdf".
- Motion to include inclusive language, revising his or her to their by Commissioner Zonneveld and seconded by Commissioner Scott. Vote was unanimous in favor of inclusive language.
- Motion to accept proposed amendments, changing the title of officers of NACSN and having in person, online, or a combination of two for the NACSN annual meeting by Commissioner Scott and seconded by Commissioner Lasca. Vote was unanimous in favor of the proposed amendments. Commissioner Zonneveld recommended changing meetings to meeting, referring to the Geological Society of America in the proposed amendment. Motion to amend the original amendment by Commissioner Scott and seconded by Commissioner Zonneveld. Vote was unanimous in favor of the meeting correction in the proposed amendment.

- Commissioner MacNaughton described an emerging consensus within the Articles Committee regarding several additional matters but wants to get feedback from all commissioners on the following issues. Please send comments to Commissioner MacNaughton.
    - Discussion about a need for a procedures document. There is an informal list of duties but the committee recommends a more formal document. They recommend getting a copy of the SEPM document as an exemplar, to get ideas and guidance. Commissioner Harper offered to help and will send the SEPM document to the Articles Committee.
    - Discussion about quorum, whether to leave or investigate further. Number, attendance, and role of commissioners-at-large were discussed. A potential online option for voting was also discussed. Commissioner MacNaughton will take discussion points back to the committee for further discussion. If any commissioner has any additional ideas or thoughts, please email Commissioner MacNaughton.
    - Discussion about how many people are appointed by member organizations. Commissioner Edwards says the organization decides whether to send 1, 2, or 3 commissioners. A review is recommended.
    - Discussion about amendments. Please see the attachment.

22. Discussion on Future Directions of NACSN

- It was agreed that the Biostratigraphy session planned for GSA this year, would be postponed to the Portland 2021 GSA meeting

Discussion on Inclusion of Cuban Stratigraphers in NACSN (Commissioners Pratt, Fluegeman)

- Commissioner Núñez contacted the Cuban Society of Geology and was provided the name of a possible representative. Commissioner Núñez is continuing to look for a second person to represent Cuban stratigraphers. Commissioner Haggart recommended asking the identified individual if they would like to join the NACSN. Commissioner Scott mentioned we should have representatives for all organizations, similar to what is in the USA, Canada, and Mexico. Commissioner Zonneveld asked how far south should NACSN consider? Commissioner Lasca mentioned there was a history of considering the NACSN to be more broadly 'American,' including Central and South America, and this had been discussed with several people throughout the Americas, but never made official. A 'hybrid' meeting might be valuable to include organizations from Central and South America. Commissioner Edwards recalled the process when SEPM joined the NACSN, wherein SEPM originally asked the NACSN if it could join, then the NACSN invited SEPM to a meeting to explain why they wanted to join. This approach could be standardized and summarized in the Articles, so that an agency could understand how to make their interest known, when their interest would be taken into consideration, and when a decision would be made. Another option could be to create interim commissioners-at-large. A further recommendation was made to look at the International Guide for a list of regional organizations similar to ours, to help guide inclusion and expansion of NACSN member organizations.

Discussion of Possible Student Commissioner (Commissioner Haggart)

- Commissioner Haggart proposed establishment of a Commissioner position which would be held by a graduate or post-graduate stratigrapher. The objective of this would be to educate the younger scientists in the stratigraphic community about the goals and objectives of the Commission, and also to bring new ideas to the Commission itself, which is composed principally of senior scientists in the field.

- Discussion was generally supportive and it was suggested that the student could be selected through a competitive process. Commissioners Haggart, Easton, and Stamm agreed to form a committee to develop a proposal to bring to the Commission at large. Any others interested in participating were requested to make their names known.

23. Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2020–2021

- Commissioners Haggart, Stamm, Easton, and Aubry.

24. Election/Renewals of Commissioners-at-large

- Janet Slate confirmed as Commissioner-at-large, unanimous in favor, none opposed.
- The Nominations Committee will explore options to nominate a student stratigrapher and a Cuban stratigrapher to the commission.

25. Presentation of Scrolls

- To: **Marieke Dechesne**, **Hilarión Sánchez Hernández**, and **Rosario Isabel López-Palomino**
- Continuing: **Julie Herrick** and **John Johnston**

26. Adjournment of the 75th Annual Meeting

- Outgoing Chair's Comments:
  - Before I adjourn the meeting, I'd like to thank all the Commissioners for their efforts and the work they have done over the past year.
  - It's been a pleasure to interact with such a motivated and hard-working group and I've really enjoyed working with everyone to further the interests of the Commission and stratigraphy in general. It's been a great experience and I feel honoured to have been given the opportunity and privilege to serve.
- Motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Edwards. Seconded by Commissioner Pratt. Vote was accepted unanimously.

27. Call to Order of the 76th Annual Meeting (Commissioner Johnston)

- The 76th meeting of the North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature is hereby called to order. Motion to approve and second motion: not recorded. Vote was accepted unanimously.

28. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers for 2019–2020

- Commissioner Johnston noted on behalf of the Nominating Committee that Commissioner Janet Slate has agreed to be Vice-Chair for the next year. Approved by acclamation. Virtual applause.

29. Remarks by Incoming Chair (Commissioner Johnston)

- Commissioner Johnston thanked Jim Haggart (outgoing chair) 2019-2020, for his service and welcomed to Janet Slate (incoming vice chair) 2020-2021. Johnston welcomed any advice and help in this new role and is looking forward to working with more commissioners. Johnston is hoping to inspire and stimulate education and outreach and continue to improve participation and involvement or discussions in online and in-person avenues.
- Commissioner Johnston is excited to support activities at the Geological Association of America 2020 annual meeting. These include:
    - 10 T43. Sedimentary Geology Division/SEPM Student Research Poster Competition: Dynamics of Stratigraphy and Sedimentation (Posters) Brian A. Hampton, Geological Sciences, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM Session Monday, 26 October 2020 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM GSA e-Attend Platform - Meeting Rooms
    - 30 D24. Recent Advances in Stratigraphy Joshua R. Malone, Jackson School of Geosciences, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX and Brian Platt, University of Mississippi Geology & Geological Engineering, University, MS Session Monday, 26 October 2020 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM GSA e-Attend Platform - Meeting Rooms
    - 35 T65. Applications of Conodonts to Integrated Studies of Biostratigraphy, Chemostratigraphy and Sequence Stratigraphy—North American Pander Society Annual Meeting Martyn L. Golding, Geological Survey of Canada, Vancouver, BC, Canada Session Monday, 26 October 2020 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM GSA e-Attend Platform - Meeting Rooms
- Commissioner Johnston is also excited to support activities at the Geological Association of America 2021 annual meeting next October in Portland, Oregon, USA. Technical Session proposals are due Feb 1st, 2021. Please contact Johnston if there is interest in organizing a session(s) and possible NACSN sponsorship of a Special Session at GSA 2021.
- A toast to a successful and productive year ahead.