

2008 Excerpt From Cyamus Annual Report

The 2008 Cyamus Conference took place on San Juan Island, Washington at the Friday Harbor Laboratories of the University of Washington. The conference facilities, location, and hosts were all wonderful and helped make the meeting a very memorable and excellent gathering of Cyamus members. The program provided time for networking, reporting on institutional activities and news, discussion of relevant topics, collected from members in advance, and great presentations from Cyamus members and local scientists.

Plans are underway for the March 2009 Cyamus conference, which will be held at the Asilomar Conference grounds in Pacific Grove, California.

Cyamus Structure Changes

At the 2008 Conference members reported that planning and funding of our annual conferences was getting more challenging and difficult. In addition, managing funds from IAMSLIC was taking a lot more time and accounting effort than in previous years, due to funds coming from IAMSLIC with the expectation that the regional group would be responsible for keeping track of awards for travel grants, projects, and conference expenses. After general discussion it was proposed that a new structure with an elected treasurer and secretary be presented to members for a vote. This new structure was sent out electronically (email message) to Cyamus members for a vote, and the decision, by majority of votes, was to have two new elected officers, treasurer and secretary, to join with the Representative to make up a Cyamus “executive board” starting end of summer 2008.

The discussion on the complexity of requesting and receiving funds from IAMSLIC, distributing grants and awards to members, and planning annual meetings, led to the creation of a Cyamus checking account with the help of IAMSLIC president, Barb Butler, who supplied documentation and tax ID numbers to facilitate the new Cyamus account.