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OF

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INTRODUCTION

The fourteenth meeting of the Association began with an inaugural address by the Rector of the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Dr. Antonio Rosario, and a welcoming address by the Director of Centro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina, Dra. Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventi, on the morning of 20 November, 1978. The Dean of the Faculty of Sciences of the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Lic. Melba Baez de Erazo, presented a Diploma de Reconocimiento de parte de Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo to Luis A. Almodóvar for his support and services to the University. After a short break, the President of the Association, Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventi, opened the scientific sessions which extended over three days in eight sessions with 39 simultaneously translated presentations. In the evening, the Director of National Parks, Ing. Merilio Morel, invited the participants to a cocktail party at Dirección Nacional de Parques in the historical building Casa de Bastidas in the beautiful and historic old portion of the city. For part of the evening, the halls and garden of this ancient and impressive place were illuminated picturesquely with only candles. In the evening of the following day, Dr. Dato Pagán presented a special seminar, "Los peces en el arte rupestre indígena de la Hispapiola" to the participants in the Dentro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina. Following the seminar, the President, Idelisa Bonnelly, convened a special Panel Session concerning the activities of member marine laboratories of the Association. The Panel Session was chaired by Manuel Hernandez-Avila and included the following speakers:

Robert F. Dill and Dennis Hubbard, Hydro-Lab. A tool for marine scientists at the West Indies Laboratory, St. Croix, U.S.V.I.

Anaisa Delgado y Alida Ortiz. El programa Sea Grant en Puerto Rico.

Narciso Almonte. El Departamento de Recursos Bioacuáticos, Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura.

Amado Acuña. Instituto Oceanográfico, Universidad de Oriente, Cumaná, Venezuela.

Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventi. El Centro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina, Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo.

Manuel Hernandez-Avila. Departamento de Ciencias Marinas, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayaguez.

Refreshments were served in the laboratory following the Panel Session. On the evening of November 22, the Secretary of Agriculture, Agr. Hipolito Mejía, invited the participants to a dinner party at the Restaurant Antoine at the Hotel Santo Domingo Sheraton. During four sessions of the Executive Board: the Center for Energy and Environment Research, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, was invited to joint the Association; The Port Royal Laboratory, Jamaica, was selected to host the next meeting; the Bylaws of the Association were revised; progress
toward obtaining outside funding for student travel was discussed; and dues regulations and the proceedings policy were revised. The revised Bylaws were presented to the members by the First Vice President and the Secretary Treasurer during the General Business Meeting on the morning of 23 November. The new Bylaws were accepted. Three committees were designated: (1) Sophie Jakowska to form a Spanish translation of the Bylaws; (2) Charlene Long to seek support for student travel to Association meetings; and (3) Paul and Beverly Yoshioka to advertise the next meeting of the Association. The First Vice President thanked all the organizations which supported the meeting and all the members who contributed to the success of the scientific sessions. The President closed the Fourteenth Meeting of the Association. Excellent field trips were provided for the participants to the Botanical Gardens in the afternoon of 23 November; to Bahía de las Calderas on 24 November; and to the National Zoological Park on 25 November. A special concert was conducted by the National Symphonic Orchestra for the participants on the evening of November 24.

The Fourteenth Meeting of the Association was exciting, enjoyable, and very productive. The entertainment was probably the most sophisticated and magnificent ever provided for an Association Meeting. The participants are deeply grateful to Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventí, Sophie Jakowska, Francisco X. Geraldès, Valentín Rivas, Venecia Alvarez, Nidia Terrero, Mayra García de Geraldès, Manuel Montero, Nirva Nuñez de Ricart, Elizabeth Navarro y Rosa Forzani and others of the Centro de Investigaciones be Biología Marina for producing an excellent meeting.

Ernest H. Williams, Jr. - Editor