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## The 18th Annual Sea Turtle Symposium – Student Paper Awards

**ANDERS G.J. RHODIN**  
AND **F. ALBERTO ABREU GROBOIS**

The 18th Annual Sea Turtle Symposium was held in March 1998 in Mazatlán, Mexico. Over 650 participants from over 43 nations attended and 265 scientific papers and posters were presented. Student presentations were entered and judged in a competition for the Archie Carr Best Student Presentation Awards. These awards have been co-sponsored and jointly presented by the Sea Turtle Symposium and Chelonian Research Foundation since the 17th Annual Symposium in 1997. Student papers and posters were judged on both the scientific quality and research significance of their content as well as the professionalism of their presentation.

Forty-seven student presentations (22 papers, 25 posters) were evaluated by the Awards Committee: Anders G.J. Rhodin (Chair), Javier Alvarado, Frank V. Paladino, Richard D. Reina, James I. Richardson, Edward A. Standora, Robert P. van Dam, and Blair E. Witherington. A total of \$2000 was awarded in prizes to one winner and two runners-up in each of the two presentation categories. Student award winners are listed in bold type.

### Papers

- BOUCHARD, SARAH S., AND BJORN DAL, K.A.** Nutrient transfer and energy flow from marine to terrestrial ecosystems by loggerhead sea turtles at Melvourne Beach, Florida, USA. (Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA). \$500.
- MATSUZAWA, YOSHIMASA, SAKAMOTO, W., SATO, K., GOTOU, K., OHMUTA, K., ASAI, Y., AND UEDA, H.** Sand color, temperature, and sex ratio of emerging hatchlings on loggerhead nesting beaches in Japan. (Laboratory of Fisheries Environmental Oceanography, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan). \$250.

- DECARLO, LISA, SALMON, M., AND WYNEKEN, J.** Comparative studies of retinal design among sea turtles: histological and behavioral correlates of the visual streak. (Dept. of Biology, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida, USA). \$250.

### Posters

- BARRAGÁN, ANA R., AND DUTTON, P.** Genetic population structure of the leatherback turtle in the eastern Pacific: conservation implications. (Laboratorio de Tortugas Marinas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma México, Mexico City, Mexico). \$500.
- CURTIS, CAITLIN, WILLIAMS, C.J., AND SPOTILA, J.R.** Mating system of Caribbean leatherback turtles as indicated by analysis of microsatellite DNA from hatchlings and adult females. (Dept. of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA). \$250.
- GÁMEZ, LETICIA, ORDÓÑEZ, C., AND BENABIB, M.** Comparison of techniques used to sex leatherback hatchlings. (Laboratorio de Tortugas Marinas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma México, Mexico City, Mexico). \$250.

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## Symposium on the Status and Conservation of Florida Turtles

**GEORGE L. HEINRICH**

A *Second Symposium on the Status and Conservation of Florida Turtles* will be held at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida on 8-11 October 1999. Co-sponsored by Eckerd College, the Gopher Tortoise Council, and the Florida Turtle Conservation Trust, this symposium will address the problems faced by Florida turtle species, as well as conservation strategies and specific recovery solutions.

Paper session topics include populations, habitat, disease, commercial trade, and conservation measures. In addition to a poster session and field trips, workshops on the identification of emydid turtles, field methods, and environmental education are scheduled.

A volume describing the conservation biology of Florida turtles at the end of the 20th century is planned. We anticipate that it will include 25, mostly multi-authored, accounts. Anyone wishing to contribute to one or more species accounts is asked to contact Peter Meylan at <meylanpa@eckerd.edu>. For more information about the symposium, contact:

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