from the society

Going once, going twice, sold – it’s auction time at the IBS Miami meeting

Do you want to help IBS raise funds for students to get to future meetings? Do you want to improve funding for the IBS journal Frontiers of Biogeography? Do you want to provide memberships for biogeographers from developing countries? Well then look no further. The IBS will be hosting an auction at the upcoming 6th International Biogeography Society conference at Florida International University in Miami in January 2013 and we need your help with getting it stocked with goodies. The auction festivities will be hosted by IBS’ finest auctioneers and will take place during the beach party – of course after the alcohol has been served.

So what are we looking for? We’re looking for you to bring new or used books, cool posters, useful field gear/clothing, software or anything else you think anyone might bid for, when you come to the meeting. And if you’re not interested in playing it straight, get creative – gag items sell as well as serious ones. Do you have Ed Wilson’s field magnifier that you borrowed and forgot to return? Bring it! Alfred Russel Wallace’s field boots in the back of your closet? Bring them! Charles Smith, we’re looking at you for that one. Do you have Jim Brown’s very first live trap for kangaroo rats? Bring it! Or do you have one of Rob Whittaker’s fanny packs (bum bags, for those not familiar with the peculiarities of American English) sitting around collecting dust? Well you’d better bring that because we know how functional they are! And finally, for the greatest gag gift of all, make sure to bring copies of the books that you’ve published!

Most importantly, don’t forget to bring your wallet and a willingness to help out by bidding up the price on these useful and useless objects. Every purchase you make will go straight to the IBS, helping us achieve our goals. If you’ve got something in mind that you’re thinking of bringing, please feel free to send us an email at ibsauction2013@gmail.com or just bring it to Miami.

Lawrence R. Heaney
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Did you know that any member of the IBS may raise an issue or appeal a decision of the governing Board of Directors by placing a matter before the Board of Directors for discussion?
If there is a matter you would like discussed at the next Board meeting, write to the society’s Secretary (check current list of officers at http://www.biogeography.org/).