

Wed 25 May 1994 12:30:47 ( 312/16188) T

From: John Meakin  
Subject: Minutes SG Directors 4/16/94  
From: meakin@me.udel.edu

Dear SG Directors:

I have attached the minutes from the Space Grant Directors meeting in St. Louis.

Please let me know if you need a copy of the attachments. Those who attended the meeting should have all the visual aids that are referred to.

very truly yours

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MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-id: <Pine.3.07.9405251609.B23889@me.udel.edu>  
Content-type: APPLICATION/octet-stream; name=Minutesx20ex2dmail  
Content-description:

Minutes  
National Council of Space Grant Directors  
April 16th, 1994  
St. Louis, MO

( The Executive Committee met on the evening of April 15th to confirm the agenda for the Directors Meeting and to review a number of Draft resolutions. Slight changes to the agenda were made to facilitate the planned elections of officers etc.)

The Council Meeting was called to order by Martin Eisenberg at 8:20am in the Ramada Inn adjacent to the St. Louis Airport. He announced that there were 60 pre-registered attendees representing 49 of the 52 Space Grant Consortia. Appreciation was expressed for the local organizers including Dee Becker, Richard Heuermann and Raymond Arvidson. The representatives of McDonnell Douglas were also thanked for the excellent tour conducted on Friday. John Byrne retiring Chair of the Space Grant Review panel extended his apologies for being unable to attend.

Eisenberg reviewed the major goals for the meeting and discussed the voting procedures to be followed. Formal motions require an absolute majority, namely 27+ for approval.

Anne Pierce then announced the elections to be held and the candidates for Nominating Committee, Executive Committee and Chair of the Council. Ballots were circulated to be collected after lunch. It was noted that the Executive Committee is being reduced from 7 to 6 members.

Eisenberg then introduced E. Julius Dasch who in turn acknowledged Sherry McGee who is responsible for the NASA EPSCoR program. Dasch expressed appreciation for the opportunity to address the Council and the efforts of Diane Jeffers, Raymond Arvidson and others who had made the meeting possible.

A wide ranging review of the changes taking place in NASA and the Federal Government in general was then presented. Downsizing, re-inventing government etc. would have impact on SG in common with all federal activities. The review included visuals (appended) showing various aspects of Space Grant Consortia activities. Highlights include Affiliates now totaling 464, there are 335 Academic Institutions involved and 56 Industrial Affiliates. 1,646 Fellowships have been awarded, 39% to women and 18% to designated minorities. The latter figures are a major plus for the program.

Some discussion then took place on the eligibility of all students and Dasch indicated that "Space Related" should be interpreted as broadly as possible. Such non-engineering or non-scientific fields as Law and Architecture were mentioned. A national competition for student awards handled through Headquarters was seen by a number of Directors as unworkable and the importance of local involvement was stressed by Wiskerchen (CA).

Dasch stressed that the SG 5 year Strategic Plan should be used as guidance and not all Consortia are expected to do all things. He reported that Goldin saw the Commercialization of Space and Technology Transfer as major goals for NASA. Mission to Planet Earth should create opportunities for Small Business. The Self-Evaluations had proved extremely valuable as they contained numerous "nuggets" that could be used by Goldin and others to show the successes of Space Grant.

Possible relations with, and comparisons to Sea Grant and Land Grant, were then reviewed. The substantial differences in funding, \$50 million and \$2 Billion, were noted but the potential for using the networks established by these programs should be explored.

The Strategic Plan calls for decentralization of management and numerous

directors saw this as cause for concern. The Centers are not seen as able or willing to handle SG matters, however steps are being taken to allow Centers to give Training Grants. Dasch concluded by noting how small was the SG staff at Headquarters but currently there are 5 SG Fellows working with him. Evaluation of all programs would be completed late this summer. The Self Evaluations ( 7 of which are overdue) would have most influence followed by data in CMIS and Consortium responsiveness. Most SG's will get a 5 year grant but some will be given a 1 year extension with more strict guidelines. The Program will almost certainly continue at the \$15million level and Dasch noted that many other programs were being cut. Some discussion of progress to 'Designation' then took place and it is probable that funding will be found to enable a few of the eligible 7 Consortia may make the change in the near future.

Sherri McGee then discussed the EPSCoR program which Congress had mandated to be modeled on the NSF EPSCoR program (see attached). There are significant parallels to the SG Capability Enhancement grants and efforts should be made to integrate the two programs. McGee described the award process and efforts to help bidders write better proposals. 20 states were eligible and 19 bid. EPSCoR is under the Academic Program budget and currently operates at \$5million/year. The next round of proposals may take place in late FY'95.

Mary Sandy (VA) then reviewed the potential for better communication with Congress, State Governments and NASA Headquarters. She showed how the budget had grown to \$15million but has been at that level since 1992 whereas expenses continue to rise.

A wide ranging discussion followed during which it was suggested that SG learn from Sea Grant which has established a successful 'Association' that maintains a part-time Congressional representative and places Interns in Congressional offices. It was noted that Sea Grant had been zeroed out for a number of years in the Administration budget, but Congress had kept the program going. Dasch noted that SG appeared to have General Armstrong's approval, it has developed an effective network, and has numerous 'low hanging fruit' i.e. easily appreciated success stories.

A motion was made and unanimously approved by voice-vote that a Working Group be established charged with developing Position Papers and Materials that all SG's could use when contacting Federal and State representatives. Directors expressing willingness to serve on the Working Group included Mary Sandy (VA), Jim Wilson (TX), Michael Wiskerchen (CA), Gaylord M. Northrop (AR), William Lakin (VT), John P. Wefel (LA), Mitchell Colgan (SC), Anne L. Pierce (CT), Anna Druker (MA), Martin A. Eisenberg (FL), James Taranik (NV), Paul C. Claspy (OH), Richard C. Henry (MD), Michael Dingerson (MS), Victoria Duca (OK).

Following a break, Gaylord Northrop (AR) presented a review and analysis of the Space Grant Strategic Plan. The range of activities covered by Space Grant was discussed and it was noted that the original legislation was written very broadly. Interaction with industry is described in the Industry-Space Grant Task Force report published at the end of 1993. In the future, selection to the Task Force will be more open (Dasch). Restriction of awards to Native Born Americans was questioned. The legislation mandates citizens but Dasch said that the 'Native Born' was an error. Other topics discussed included the International aspects of SG and purchase of equipment.

At this point Sandy introduced a proposed resolution regarding development of resources to enable fulfillment of the Strategic Plan to be sent to General Armstrong. It was then proposed that discussion be deferred until later in the day. Alvin Strauss, who would be unable to attend the afternoon session, spoke strongly against the resolution. He could see only negative impact if the resolution was approved and sent to NASA.

The next speaker was Wallace Sanders (IA) who addressed "The Second Five Years: the Big Picture". Critical factors discussed were; National vs Local Consortia balance, Flexibility for Consortia, Strong Local Programs, Flight Opportunities and Extension Activities. Matters of concern included increasing funding and achieving flexibility, continuing to generate matching funds and increasing and retaining membership in the Consortia. Concern that EPSCoR participation is cutting into potential matching funds was expressed by Marris (WY).

Various Directors reported on their experiences and activities. Discussion of CMIS revealed a range of opinions from 'very useful' to 'difficult to use and of little value'. The diversity of the SG's was seen as one of its great values and should be maintained in the future. Dasch reported efforts to get the word out to other Codes and NASA Centers and reiterated the value of the Self Evaluations. The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

Following lunch Anne L. Pierce (CT) reported on the results of the various ballots. The Chair-Elect is Stephen Horan. Elected to the Executive Committee are Wayne C. Soloman (IL), William A. Hiscock (MT) and Anne L. Pierce (CT) who will serve 2-year terms from 7/1/94. Continuing on the Executive Committee are Victoria Duca (OK), Frank J. Redd (UT) and Mary Sandy (VA) whose terms expire on 6/30/95. The Nominating Committee will be Chaired by Elaine R. Hansen (CO); members are William Lakin (VT), Alvyn M. Strauss (TN), Anne L. Pierce (CT), John Gregory (AL) and Mitchell Colgan (SC) who will serve from 7/1/94 until 6/30/95.

The proposed resolution was then reintroduced with some modifications. It is to be sent to E. Julius Dasch rather than Armstrong and a reference to the SG Strategic Plan had been added. Following further discussion the motion was put to the vote which resulted in 29 in favor, 6 against and 2 abstentions. The approved Resolution is appended.

Actions arising from the Ohio SG Directors Meeting were then reviewed by Gary T. Moore (WI). The minutes of the meeting were approved by acclamation. Gaylord Northrop (AR) reported that an 8 month lead time would be needed to get the President or Vice-President at the next SG Conference. A working group had been established to deal with CMIS. An e-mail poll will be conducted by Eisenberg to determine the favored 'year' for reporting. The Chair-elect will explore the development of a 5-year plan with the Committee of 5 Directors established at the Ohio meeting.

The final topic was a Draft Resolution that would call for an Educational Component in all NASA RFP's and AO's. Extensive discussion, pro and con, then followed. Finally a straw vote was called for by Gary Moore (WI) and as a result the meeting voted to kill further consideration of the proposed resolution.

David Bartlett (NH) then initiated discussion of Self-Evaluation (SE's), CMIS and Renewal Proposals. Periodic evaluation was mandated by law and the concept of Self-Evaluation had arisen from the Woods Hole meeting. Dasch noted that SE's had been called for in November 1993 with a due date in March this year. Some discussion then concerned distribution of all SE's to all SG's. Dasch will circulate sanitized versions to Directors and University Affairs Officers at the NASA Centers. Numerous Directors reported on their SE experience with a majority reporting significant benefits in the process itself. A sign-up sheet for voluntary exchange of full reports was circulated.

Opinions on CMIS were generally critical. A new version, 2.0 will be out in June with redesigned browse screens and improved transfer functions. Various Directors reported excessive time required to complete CMIS with little evident benefit to their programs. The trend to more complete accountability seems to be inevitable.

Eisenberg and Dasch then discussed plans for the 1995 Space Grant Conference which will take place in the Fall of 1995 at the Kennedy Space Center, FL. Directors are asked to e-mail Eisenberg and Dasch with information on potential conference conflicts with an SG meeting in September or October 1995.

Following a brief break Peter J. Mougini-Mark (HI) reported on the EOS, Earth Orbiting System and its educational aspects (see attached). Mission

to Planet Earth is reported to be high on Goldin's list and SG's were encouraged to become involved. The value of the Worldwide Web on Mosaic was reported and a Homepage on SG's should be prepared (Wiskerchen-CA). Gerald Soffen, Goddard SF Center, noted that the Mission to Planet Earth is being moved to that Center.

The next business was a discussion of the impact of the recent OMB-A21 ruling on SG budgets. It was agreed that a resolution drawn up by Eisenberg would be sent to Dasch. The intent is to get a uniform ruling from Headquarters that could be used by all SG's.

Wayne C. Solomon (IL) reviewed the various NASA budgets now in Congress. They range from \$14billion with the Space Station to \$7billion with no Station or Manned Flight. Engineering Research Centers and some Commercialization Centers may be phased out.

Gerald Soffen then described a successful Space Academy at Goddard Space Flight Center which took place in the summer of 1993. 19 students from 17 states took part in a 10 week program. The activities were described and with modifications will be repeated this year with 24 students from 23 states. Marshall Center will also be running a program with 12 students. Soffen was congratulated by the Directors on the success of the program.

The closing topic was timing for the future SG Director's meetings. Concerns that the meetings were expensive, costs as high as \$2,000 were mentioned, that they are too frequent and that they take place on Saturday were expressed. A vote revealed that a 24:9 majority favored continuing with meetings on Saturday. Dasch sees the meetings as very valuable and would like to see all Consortia represented. A voice vote approved the next meeting at NASA Ames on 10/21-22/94.

In closing Eisenberg noted that arising from the meeting were the following action items

- 1) Directors should send comments on the 5 year Strategic Plan to Dasch by June 30, 1994.
- 2) Eisenberg will send Resolution on Resources for the Strategic Plan to Dasch within a week.
- 3) Directors should send opinions on the best "year" to use to Eisenberg.
- 4) Eisenberg needs information on conferences in the September-October '95 period.
- 5) Dasch will be sent the request for a ruling on OMB-A21.
- 6) 30 SG's have indicated interest in sharing Self Evaluations.

Wallace Sanders then moved that a Vote of Thanks be passed in appreciation of the successful way in which Martin Eisenberg had carried out the onerous duties of Chair of the Directors Council. The vote was passed by acclamation.

The April, 1994 meeting of the Space Directors Council then adjourned on time as a consequence of the tight control exercised by the Chair.

Following the formal business meeting, Julius Dasch made a presentation on his participation in the recent Antarctic expedition investigating meteorites.

Respectfully submitted

John D. Meakin May 25, 1994

Attachments available on request

E. Julius Dasch 12 Visuals  
Sherri McGee 6 Visuals  
Peter J. Mouginis-Mark 6 Visuals  
Resolution to E. Julius Dasch