

**National Council of Space Grant Director's Meeting
Spring Meeting
Crystal City, VA
March 19-23, 2002**

Draft Minutes

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

John Wefel (Louisiana), Council Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

As the first item of business, Frank Owens, (Head of NASA Code FE) introduced Courtney A. Stadd, the NASA Chief of Staff and White House Liaison. Mr. Stadd presented an overview of the themes and tone of President Bush and his administration. Key items included:

- Education is a huge priority to this President.
- The President's Management Initiative is a major focus for all government agencies including NASA.
- In general NASA research areas agreed with the President's ideas.
- In an upcoming speech President Bush will lay the framework for the administration's plans for space.

Mr. Stadd then shared some of NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe's plans for NASA. Key items included:

- The Administrator was charged with working on the management of NASA.
- Major initiatives for NASA are to make the concept of One-NASA a reality.
- The agency will have to do the best it can with a \$15B budget with increases of 2% expected for the next few years.
- Budget increases will be given relative to expected benefits.
- The agency wants to develop a budget plan that will do away with the need for Congressional markups.
- The agency will focus on the Centers and operate with a more coherent plan.
- The agency is currently engaged in a Vision & Mission development exercise. The final plan might not satisfy everyone.
- Following the recent comprehensive review, Code FE was judged to be in good shape.

After taking several questions from the floor, Mr. Stadd had to leave for another appointment. The Council thanked him for his time.

Richard Berendzen (D.C.), director of the DC Space Grant, welcomed the participants to Washington, and briefed the Council on the meeting logistics.

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Council Secretary, David R. Downing (KS), then distributed the minutes of the fall 2001 Council Meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska. Because the minutes had not been available for review prior to this report, the Council directed Downing to collect any corrections to the minutes, incorporate these corrections and distribute a final version of the minutes to the Council.

Peter Sukanek (MS), Council Treasurer, presented the Council Treasurer's Report. This report was then approved and distributed.

Bill Hiscock (MT) and **Mike Drake (AZ)** presented an overview of the Proposed Space Grant Student Satellite Initiative. Bill described the program in terms of a Crawl-Walk-Run-Fly spectrum of student satellite projects. He distributed an Initiative brochure and information sheet. The initiative organizers have planned a "Learning to Crawl" workshop for individuals interested in developing Student Satellite Projects in their state. This workshop will be conducted in Boulder, Colorado from June 20-22, 2002. Mike Drake then briefed the Council on the effort he and others have done to identify feasible methods of launching future student satellites. He believes that economical launch opportunities will be found. To gauge the interest in this initiative, Mike also asked what states would be interested in participating in a project that would launch a number of satellites 12-15 months from now if \$5,000 was all that was required. Almost every state indicated they were interested.

Mary Sandy (VA) presented a status report on the Solar System Educator Program. To date, this program has awarded 41 grants totaling \$38,700 to participants from 44 Consortiums. Consortium Directors' were alerted that a new Solar System Educator Program Announcement of Opportunity would be issued soon. This announcement will solicit proposals for up to 20 awards of \$1,500 for new science educators to attend an August training session. Minority candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

Brad Weiner (PR) gave an overview of upcoming fall 2002 Council Meeting in Puerto Rico and took a straw vote on the preferred field trip arrangements. He will be posting the final arrangements and schedule in a few weeks on uprr.pr/prsgc/meeting/ncsgc/2002

John Wefel (LA) reviewed the recent practice of Council Meeting scheduling and venue selection. Over the last few years, the Council has met in the spring in the Washington, D.C. area to conduct Council business and facilitate visits by Directors to their Congressional offices. Fall meetings have been held in host states thus providing the directors to an opportunity to learn about the unique activities and strengths of a host state and to allow the host state to have significant focus at the state and national level. The Council Executive Committee has made the selection of the fall meeting venue after a review of proposals submitted by states offering to host the Council.

Since the fall of 2001, the Council meeting in Alaska, the Executive Committee has received a request from NASA to hold some future Council Meetings at NASA Centers. NASA feels that Council Meetings at Centers would strengthen both the Centers understanding of the Space Grant Program and the Space Grant Directors understanding of the opportunities and needs of the Centers.

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Because this would represent a significant change in the Council operation, the Executive Committee felt that the Council should discuss any change in future meeting venue and that any change should be done by a vote of the Council.

John reviewed the options for the spring and fall 2003 Council Meetings. The spring 2003 meeting is currently planned for March 17-21, 2003 in Washington, DC area. There are basically two options available:

1. Hold the meeting at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD with a day set aside to visit our congressional delegations or
2. Hold the meeting at a hotel closer to DC and spend a separate day at Goddard.

For either of these options, it was felt that an extra day would have to be added to the meeting, either Tuesday through Saturday or Wednesday through Sunday.

With regard to the fall 2003 Council Meeting, the Executive Committee has a proposal from the Kansas Space Grant Consortium to host this meeting.

John then opened the floor for discussion. After considerable, the main points made in the discussion were:

1. The Council Directors are supportive of finding venues that would facilitate substantive interchange between the Directors, NASA management and the Center management and researchers.
2. The Council Directors are concerned in the near term with the security logistics at Centers following the September 11 incident.
3. Several Directors suggested that other meeting formats might be more effective for this desired interchange, e.g., Regional Meetings or Council Enterprise Working Group Meetings.
4. The Council still values the opportunity to visit individual states.

John, asked the Council members to think about these issues and options and be prepared to vote on the plans for the spring and fall 2003 Council Meetings on Saturday morning.

David Downing (KS) presented the Kansas proposal to host the 2003 Fall Council Meeting in Wichita, KS.

The Council of Space Grant Director's meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 21, 2002

The majority of the day was dedicated to State Consortium team delegations visiting their Congressional offices. The purpose of these visits was to thank the Congress person and

Senators and their staff for their help, brief them of Space Grant activities in their states and explore ways they could help with future funding augmentation.

In the evening, the NASA EPSCoR Caucus met. Brent Bowen (Nebraska) led a general discussion among concerns of the NASA EPSCoR states. Julius Dasch and David Atkinson gave an overview of NASA EPSCoR Program and answered the caucus member's questions.

Friday 22 March, 2002

John Wefel reconvened the Council of Space Grant Directors' Meeting at 09:30 am and asked if anyone had an announcement they would like to make. Frank Tai introduced Jeff Hoffman who will be replacing him as the Assistant Director of the Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium. Barrett Caldwell who was the acting Director of the Indiana Space Grant Consortium announced that he is now the real Director. Brent Bowen introduced Jocelyn Nickerson as a new staff member of the Nebraska Space Grant Consortium.

Dave Rosage (NASA GSFC), Janice DeCosmo (Washington) and Dave Bartlett (New Hampshire), who have been working as a study group, shared the plan for a Earth Science Workforce Development Program. They also announced that they were organizing a workshop August 15-17, 2002 at the University of New Hampshire. All Consortium Directors and staff were invited to attend and/or send the appropriate person(s) from their state.

The Council then broke up into small discussion groups to work on 12 Goals from the Council's Strategic Plan. Pat Hynes (New Mexico) led this workshop. At the conclusion of the exercise, Pat collected the ideas generated by the discussion groups. She will compile this material and distribute it to the Directors.

Brent Bowen (Nebraska), Chair of the Council Nominating Committee presented the slate of candidates developed by the Nominating Committee. He then asked for nominations from the floor for council Chair, Executive Committee Member and Nominating Committee Member. He received no nominations from the floor and it was moved, seconded and approved by the Council that the nominations be closed. Ballots were distributed one per state and then the completed ballots were collected. The Nominating Committee then left the meeting room to tally the vote.

Dave Rosage (NASA GSFC) gave a briefing on the NASA Academies

Dave has done a survey of the nine-year history of the NASA Academy participants. The accomplishments of the Academy participants show that that the program is a great success. During the summer 2002, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and NASA Ames Research Center will operate Academies. An 18 member Evaluation Committee considered 83 applicants that were submitted by 38 Space Grant Consortiums. Because of the quality of the candidates, Goddard has invited 11 additional students to participate in a new research only summer experience at Goddard.

Mary Sandy (Virginia) briefed the Council on the summer 2002 NASA Undergraduate Student Research Program. This year the program received over 900 applicants from 40 states, the District of Columbia and the US Virgin Islands. Award letters have been sent to 129 applicants. Of these 129 slots, NASA funded 101, 13 were funded by a NASA Center and a NASA Space Grant Consortium funded 15.

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The Space Grant Space Science, Earth Science, Aerospace Technology, HEDS and Biological & Physical Research Enterprise Working Groups met for a working lunch. A major task of the meeting was the election of new Working group Chairs.

Brent Bowen (Nebraska), Chair of the Council Nominating Committee announced the results of the Council Elections.

Newly Elected Council Executive Committee Chair: Bill Hiscock(Montana)

Newly Elected Council Executive Committee Members: Alec Gallimore (Michigan)
Mary Sandy (Virginia)
Brad Weiner (Puerto Rico)

Newly Elected Council Nominating Committee Members: Barrett Caldwell (Indiana)
Bill Garrard (Minnesota)
Elaine Hansen (Colorado)

The Chairs of the Enterprise Working Groups reported back to the Council.

Jim Taranik (Nevada) and **David Bartlett** (New Hampshire) announced that Lisa Brown (Pennsylvania) had been elected Chair and reported on the groups activities.

Yervant Terzian (New York) announced that he was reelected Chair and reported on the groups activities.

Brad Weiner (Puerto Rico) Chair of the Biological and Physical Research Working Group announced that he will remain the Chair and reported on the groups activities.

Frank Tai (Massachusetts), the Human Exploration and EDS Working Group Chair announced the election of Mark Fischer(Texas) as the new chair and reported on the groups activities.

Brent Bowen (Nebraska) the current Aerospace Technology Working Group chair was reelected and David Downing (Kansas) was elected as vice-chair. Brent then reviewed the current activities of the group and directed individual who wanted more detail to see the groups web site at: www.unomaha.edu/~nasa/aeronautics

Julius Dasch (NASA Headquarters) congratulated the individuals who worked on the Crawl-Walk-Run-Fly Student Satellite Program. He also commented that the one page program description was excellent. Next he present the view from NASA Headquarters on three key activities: Designated Grant Upgrade Competition, Workforce Development Competition and the 15 Year Review.

Julius reviewed the status of the Designated Grant Upgrade Competition – The schedule of events will include an Announcement in April 2002, with a Letter of intent due in 4 weeks. The

Proposal will be due 11 weeks later with selections announced in August 2002. The evaluation criteria will be published and is expected to be very similar to that used in the 1999 competition

Julius also presented a status report of the Workforce Development Competition – An announcement will be issued in early May with proposals due late in June and selections announced in August 2002. The proposal will be limited to approximately 5 pages. A one-year budget should be proposed. Creativity will be valued. An important element required is a direct tie of the proposed activities to one or more NASA Centers or Enterprises. The proposal will also require a plan to measure the direct effect of the proposed activities on the program goals.

The next major Space Grant Program review will be the 15-Year Evaluation. The current schedule for this review is 1. The Review Guidelines will be distributed in October 2002, 2. A self-evaluation will be due in May 2003 and 3. The results of the review will be announced in October 2003. The 15-Year Review will contain several changes from the process used in the 10-Year Review. These Included:

- ◆ A Committee of Space Grant Directors will assist NASA in the development of the Review Criteria and Process.
- ◆ NASA will hold a Training session for evaluators
- ◆ The review will consider 5 years of CMIS data
- ◆ Each Consortium will be evaluated as a whole
- ◆ NASA will survey the opinions of the Consortium's affiliates

Julius reminded the Council of the requests Frank Owens made at the Alaska 2001 Fall Meeting. These requests were that the Consortia:

- ◆ Focus K-12 activities on pre and in-service teacher preparations
- ◆ Make an effort to get involved with Center Personnel Offices
- ◆ Develop tools and perform program longitudinal studies
- ◆ Enhance strong ties between Space Grant and state EPSCoR programs

Malcom Phelps (NASA Assistant Director of FE) presented his view on the status of NASA FE and the Space Grant Program. He alerted the council to the fact that all NASA programs will be evaluated in the context of the President's outcomes-based Management Agenda. Finally he pointed out that the key question for all NASA Programs is "What does this program contribute to NASA"

Diane DeTroye (NASA Headquarters) discussed the status of the Julius' replacement and Headquarters current focus for Space Grant Pre-college and Higher Education programs. Malcom Phelps (FE Assistant Director) has assured Diane that Julius' replacement will be on board before Julius leaves. Because there are many Federally funded Pre-college programs, the Space Grant Consortia should focus on state and regional programs with emphasis on teacher pre- and in-service training activities. Higher Education Space Grant Programs should be Discipline & Expertise based with strong links to NASA Centers. Directors are also encouraged to first contact a Center through the University Affairs Officer so that the UAO can be aware of ongoing Space Grant related activities.

J.M. Wersinger (NASA Space Grant fellow) gave a status report on the NASA Earth Grant Program. He announced that the annual Earth Grant meeting would be held in Storrs, Connecticut on May 21, 2002. The Specialists, the Space/Land/Sea Grant Directors of states

involved in the program and administrators of USDA, NASA and NOAA will attend. For more information see: www.physics.auburn.edu/~egp

Dave Atkinson (Idaho and NASA FE consultant) reviewed the status of the NASA EPSCoR Program. In the 2000 competition, all 20 NASA EPSCoR states received Core Funding and a total of 35 research teams were funded. Dave also announced that NASA is planning a NASA EPSCoR Meeting in Wash DC early 2003. Space Grant Directors will receive more details at a later date.

Randi Quanbeck (Minnesota) briefed the Council about new Minnesota Space Grant Development Activities being initiated to increase the resources available to the Consortium.

Bill Byrd (Iowa) reviewed the status and plans for the National Space Grant Foundation. Bill handed out a financial statement listing by state the status of the endowed and expendable Foundation accounts. He next reviewed upcoming Foundation activities including plans to

- ◆ Provide at Fall Council Meetings exhibit booths to outside organizations that wish to display their products and activities. Currently it is planned to change \$500 fee for a 10 ft x10 ft exhibit space.
- ◆ Initiate an Annual Awards Banquet at the Spring 2003 Council Meeting. The highlight of this banquet would be the presentation of the National Space Grant Distinguished Service Award.

Saturday 23 March:

John Wefel convened the Council Meeting at 8:45 AM

The first item on the agenda was further discussion and a vote on the format and location of future Council Meetings. After a discussion period, the Council voted on several items.

Council Actions:

1. It was moved and seconded that the Council continues with the current format for the Spring 2003 Council Meeting. It was also suggested that Goddard management and researchers be invited to participate in this meeting. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote.
2. It was moved and seconded that the Council accepts the Kansas proposal and have the Kansas Space Grant Consortium host the Fall 2003 Council Meeting. This was approved by a unanimous voice vote.
3. The council also directed the Executive Committee to engage in discussions with NASA to study this issue further and report back to the Council suggested options that would lead to substantive interchange between the Council and NASA Centers.

John asked everyone to check calendars to see if the March 17-21 would work for the Spring 2003 Council Meeting in the Washington, DC area

Regional Groups adjourned to have individual breakout meetings and reported back to the Council on their plans and meetings.

Richard Berendzen had contacted the hotel and reported that our March, 2003 dates were still available.

Mary Sandy rose to thank the Chair for his service to the Council.

John Wefel thanked the group and welcomed Bill Hiscock as the new Chair.

There being no further business, the Spring 2002 Council of Space Grant Director's Meeting adjourned at 11:30am.