

D R A F T
Minutes of the
National Council of Space Grant Director's Meeting
Wednesday, October 8, 1997
Rapid City, South Dakota

I. Welcoming Address

A welcoming address was given by the President of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Dr. Richard Gowen, who was introduced by Dr. Sherry Farwell, the Space Grant Director of the State of South Dakota.

II. Chair's Report - Mary Sandy

Congressional Activities. Mary recapped the activities of the NCSGD in working with members of Congress to secure additional NASA funding of \$5.8 million for the National Space Grant Program. Mary thanked all of the Space Grant Directors who participated and stressed that key appropriations staff had indicated that the additional funding is a true "plus up" to the NASA budget.

Objectives for this Fall Meeting. The goals for this meeting are to provide opportunities for information sharing and networking to build partnerships between National Space Grant Consortia and NASA K-12 programs.

Spring Meeting. The spring NCSGD meeting will have a higher education focus will involve the OAOs from the NASA centers.

Summary of Recent Activities with NASA HQ. Some of the topics addressed at the NASA Program Manager's or Directors' request include: the change in subcontract requirements for \$100,000 and under, the change in due date for budget proposals, final feedback from the Council for Space Grant Consortia evaluation criteria, and planning for K-12 programs theme for this meeting.

Other. Mary introduced John Norbury as the new Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium Director and announced the appointment of Janice DeCosmo to replace Gary Moore on the Executive Committee. Sandy shared a special plaque that was created for Lynne Keffer to thank her for all her support as Deputy Program Director. Lynne was unable to attend the meeting so the plaque will be delivered to her.

Treasurer's Report. There are approximately \$7,700 of Council funds available. Mary thanked Oklahoma University for the use of the OU apartment in D.C. by Council members for Congressional information campaign purposes.

Proposed Amendment of the Bylaws for a separate position of Treasurer was rejected by the Council by a vote of 17 to 11. The Council will continue with a combined Secretary/Treasurer position. As the Council's Secretary/Treasurer, Paul Johnson agreed to re-explore possibilities for handling funds at his university.

III. Summary of Congressional Activities -- John Wefel

John summarized the Congressional activities by Space Grant Director's prior to the successful funding "plus up". These included visits to the "hill" by directors, follow-up calls, and congressional testimony. The result is that Space Grant is better known on the hill and that there is a better Congressional appreciation for the program. Congress

approved the \$5.8 million augmentation (from \$13.3 million to \$19.1 million). John gave special thanks to Toby Smith (the MIT Congressional liaison), Tim Petersen (Appropriations Committee staff), and Mary Sandy.

There is still work to be done. This includes sending letters of thanks to members of Congress and others who helped us and to maintain our congressional contacts. It is important to continue this education process as congressional staffers change.

IV. Panel Presentation of Space Grant Teacher Professional Development Programs.

Panelists included Steve Horan (NM), Victoria Duca (OK), Ray Foster (VA) Mike Wiskerchen (CA), Judy McShannon (NM), and Linda Allen (SD). The discussion treated "What are good programs?" and "How do we influence and buy into the process of professional development in colleges of education?". The emphasis of some states of a school-to-work program was also discussed.

V. NASA/Space Grant Educational Programs Forum I -- Frank Owens

Frank gave an overview of NASA's precollege programs and introduced the senior managers in charge of each program. Each gave a brief overview of the program (for details see the associated home pages):

Lynn Marra -- Space Science Student Involvement Program [HYPERLINK](http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaay.htm)

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaay.htm>

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaay.htm>

Debbie Glasgow -- Sharp, and Sharp+

[HYPERLINK http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/any/naspgalu.htm](http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/any/naspgalu.htm)

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/any/naspgalu.htm>

[HYPERLINK http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/min/naspgalv.htm](http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/min/naspgalv.htm)

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/k12/prog/min/naspgalv.htm>

Ahmad Nurridin -- GRS program

[HYPERLINK http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaaf.htm](http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaaf.htm)

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaaf.htm>

Debbie Gallaway -- NASA education workshops ([HYPERLINK](http://www.nsta.org/programs/new.htm)

<http://www.nsta.org/programs/new.htm> <http://www.nsta.org/programs/new.htm>),

Nova ([HYPERLINK http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaay.htm](http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgaay.htm)

<http://web.fie.com/htdoc/fed/nas/any/edu/prog/any/naspgdcj.htm>) (which funds the development and preservice courses by teams including faculty in colleges of education using implementation and planning grants of \$8,000 to \$30,000).

VI. Survey Results:

The summary of types of Space Grant/NASA Center educational program office interactions is encouraging.

NASA Centers and Space Grant as Partners in K-12 Programs, Panel Discussion -- Malcolm Phelps, Assistant Director for Programs, NASA Education Division, moderator. Panelists included Mary Sandy (VA), Marchelle Canright, Center Precollege Education Program Officer, NASA Langley; Robert Gabrys, Chief, Educational Programs Office, Goddard, and Bill Anderson, Education Program Specialist, Marshall SFC.

Issues & Obstacles:

Need to access centers by areas of interest as well as geographic location, although K-12 programs are not center specific.
ERCs may be difficult to make contact with.
Space Grant directors need to be knowledgeable about NASA programs.
There are inequities in funding of NASA educational programs.
Timely information exchange.
Proximity to a center makes collaborations easier.
Resistance to using the Space Grant network.
Difficulties in working with non-Space Grant institutions.

Actions:

Put Space Grant Consortia in the critical path for NASA programs (i.e. with respect to planning and budget).
Put Space Grant directors into the information flow and planning.
Invite Space Grant personnel to NASA program planning sessions.
Cc Space Grant directors on award announcements.
Space Grant directors and CPEOs could jointly meet at centers by region (possibly by video conferencing).
Link AESP lecturers to Space Grant and vice versa.

Follow-up?

VII. NASA Space Grant Program Manager's Report -- Julius Dasch

Minority representation in Space Grant Fellowships was discussed. Julius was not happy that the minority participation in the Space Grant Fellowship awardees was down to 19.4%. A discussion ensued as to what the reasons might be for this drop. It was suggested that reporting should include those fellowships that were turned down by minority students and well as those that accepted.

Julius suggested that leads be appointed for EPSCoR and CAPENS directors sub groups. He discussed the necessity that EPSCoR research is tied to center interests and strategic enterprises. (Note: Directors in each of the categories met and elected a representative per Julius's request. John Wefel will represent EPSCoR and John Gardner will represent CAPENS).

Space Grant programs will be evaluated for past performance up to the present. The result maybe that the consortia with the best performance will get the most money.

VIII. Strategic Enterprise Working Groups

IX. MTPE Strategic Enterprise --- David Bartlett

The 4th Space Grant Remote Sensing Conference will be held in October 1988.

More information can be obtained from HYPERLINK <http://www.necci.sr.unh.edu>
<http://www.necci.sr.unh.edu> .

Remote Sensing group to listserve

J.M. Wersinger proposed that Councils for Space Based Agricultural Extension be formed to coordinate the supply and demand of remote sensing data for each state. Councils should include representatives of land grant and sea grant programs.

X. Human Exploration and Development of Space -- John Gregory

Student/Mentor program: Mike Wiskerchen. In the year 2000 there will be a launch of the Near-Earth Prospector Mission, with arrival at an asteroid 9 months later. The next proposed objective should be a student/mentor participation in putting people on Mars.

Thursday, October 9

I. NASA/Space Grant Educational Programs Forum II -- Frank Owens

Curriculum Support and Dissemination.

Publications, including educational briefs, guides, brochures, and CDROMs.

ERCs -- their mission is not only to provide materials but to also work with educational professionals.

Educational Technology -- Phelps

Teacher training.

Developing software

Classroom of the future (Jesuit University, Wheeling WV).

Astronomy village software, Space Link, Quest Educational server, Dewey Decimal search tools.

Surplus property program (computers in particular).

II. NASA Grants Management Process Improvement -- Mary Kicza, Associate Director, Space Science Programs, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and Head, NASA Grants Management Process Improvement Team

Mary Kicza described the reorganization plan for the NASA Grants Management Process to improve grants processing. Her reorganization committee has sent over 4,000 letters soliciting suggestions to improve grants processing. Since 70% of university grants are processed by Goddard, the reorganization will first focus on Goddard.

Survey feedback mentioned the largest problems in the areas of length and timeliness of the process; amount of paperwork and unclear procedures; difficulty finding where one is in the process. Respondents reflected on the need to be able to plan effectively.

Space Grant directors expressed feelings that we currently have an awkward date for the beginning of our fiscal year.

Frank Owens discussed the problem with uncosted monies in Space Grant awards, in particular the difficulties that NASA has in explaining uncosted monies to Congress. It was suggested that we write to members of Congress asking them to be sympathetic about uncosted monies in NASA/university contracts.

III. Strategic Enterprise Working Group Breakout Sessions

Space Sciences Breakout -- Dick Henry Moderator

This breakout session was diverted to a discussion of the Broker/Facilitator program. The program was summarized. There will be four forums in the US: Origins (STI), Solar System Exploration), Structure and Evolution of the Universe (SAO), and the Sun-Earth Connection (Goddard/UC Berkeley). Forums will link to the centers. The Broker/Facilitator will provide the link to the educational community. Five B/F proposals were funded at \$250,000/year (max.) over three years: LPI/U. Hawaii, Ohio Aerospace Institute, Space Science Institute (Boulder, CO), DePaul University, and the South Carolina Space Grant Consortium. In the South Carolina initiative the funding goes to each participating state. A database of relevant teachers will be constructed using GIS. A network of educators will be used to develop curricula consistent with national math and science standards.

Action Item: Space Grant Consortia should help the Broker/Facilitator program by interacting with individual NASA PIs and producing a network of science educators in their states who can be connected to the Broker/Facilitator program. In particular, we have a vested interest in helping the South Carolina Space Grant Consortium led Broker/Facilitator program, the only such program led by a Space Grant Consortium.

Aeronautics Working Group -- Brent Bowen, Moderator

For more information about the AWG: HYPERLINK <http://cid.unomaha.edu/~nasa>
<http://cid.unomaha.edu/~nasa>

Brent discussed the efforts of the AWG to obtain floor space at the Oshkosh Air Show.

Action Items:

Space Grant should maintain a presence at the Oshkosh Air Show.

AWG meeting is next week at Dryden.

University Flight Opportunities Working Group - Elaine Hansen and Steve Horan

The mission of the University Flight Opportunities WG is to help consortia establish their own payloads/missions. Examples include Citizen Explorer, NEAP, UNEX, SLP, GAS Canisters, and Hitchhiker.

Action Item: Determine which consortia wish to work on what projects. Accelerate communications among consortia between meetings.

Elaine described the Citizen Explorer program. Launch is estimated to be May of 1999. A teacher workshop will be held in Boulder on January 24, 1998.

Action Item: Parties interested in Citizen Explorer need to network.

IV. NASA/Space Grant Educational Programs Forum III

Larry Bilbrough:

Consortia should use NASA to support educational systemic reform in their states while addressing state needs, especially with Science, Technology, Mathematics, and Geography national standards. The interaction among NASA and the extended educational communities needs to be heightened and should involve other national groups, including NASMC, Aerospace States Association, NSTA, NCTM, etc. NASA has a presence in each

state with Space Grant, the ERCs, and the Aerospace Education Specialist. All should be used to facilitate systemic educational reform.

V. Costed Funds Reports: Frank Owens:

Frank discussed a financial summary provided each consortia, which indicated the difference between awarded and costed monies on each grant.

Action Item: Frank asked that these summaries be reviewed for accuracy by Grants & Contracts at each institution managing Space Grant awards. Discrepancies should be reported ASAP.

VI. Space Grant Extension Project -- J.M. Wersinger

What is needed in order to get Space Grant Extension off the ground? First, a web page is needed for communications. Second, a state-by-state needs assessment that can be communicated to MPTE.

VII. Cornell Science Workshop for Journalists -- Y. Terzian

The Cornell Workshop for Journalists was described. The purpose is to improve the science literacy of journalists. The 1998 workshop will include: natural catastrophe and terrorism in the 21st century.

Action Item: Have the Council look at using this idea on a national scale.

VIII. NASA Academy Program -- Jim Brice

Goddard Space Academy has improved the application process. There is now an on-line application. Applications will be available in November. Two weeks will be allowed for review of the applications by the consortia prior to selection. **HYPERLINK**
<http://www.nasa-academy.org/> <http://www.nasa-academy.org/>

Other Business

Kids in Space -- Mitch Colgan

This national program was initiated by Space Academy alumni. Students submit essays/poems/or artwork.. The program generates excitement toward learning . This program will begin in November of 1998. More information will be provided to Space Grant directors later.

IX. Native American Working Group -- Andy Klein

Action Items: Interact with advocates from each of the strategic enterprises. Produce a document of worst and best practices.

X. Director's Council Web Page -- Steve Horan

Steve Horan announced the demise of the Director's Council Web Page. The general view is that this Web Page has been replaced by email.

Action Item: It was agreed that a simple "benign" and passive Web Page giving the mission of the Director's Council be produced.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.