

**Alliance Board Meeting October 25, 2012, Seattle**

**Participants**: Angela Des Jardins, Pete Schultz, Steve Ruffin, Yervant Terzian, Gary Slater, Mary Sandy, Terry Shehata, Jack Higginbotham, Dick Henry , Heather Nelson representing Chris House, and John Gregory

**Guests:** Joe Danek & Carolyn Fuller

**Council members** **present:** Chris Koehler, Mark Fischer, Denise Thorsen, Alec Gallimore, Bill Garrard, Peter Sukanek, and Pat Hynes

The meeting was chaired by John Gregory.

**Elections:** John Gregory informed the Board that there are 6 open positions for the Alliance Board

**2012 funding**

John Gregory mentioned that NASA was not planning an augmentation to the budget for 2012. He further informed the Board that he conducted a survey among the states regarding 2012 funding and found out that $16M went to fund 30 states for their 4th year, in addition to the third year funding. States face a 40% cut to their 3rd year funding (2012 funds) as a result of no augmentation in 2012

**Carolyn Fuller’s presentation**

Carolyn Fuller talked about the presentation that she will make at the General Body Meeting this evening. She elaborated on 4 major points

* FY 2013 Continuing Resolution
* FY 2013 Regular Appropriations Bills
* Sequestration
* FY 2014

FY 13 Continuing Resolution

* HJ Res 117
  + Signed September 28, 2012 because no regular FY 13 appropriations bills had passed
* Funds Federal Government until March 27, 2013, unless Congress acts on regular bills before
* Funds Federal Government at $1.047 trillion, the cap set in the Budget Control Act of 2011
* Issue: How much is NASA spending under CR?

FY 2013 Appropriations

* Overall Spending Levels:
  + - Budget Cap: $1.047 trillion
    - Senate level: $1.047 trillion
    - House level: $1.028 trillion
* NASA Education Appropriation (in millions)
  + - FY 12: $138.4 FY 13 Request: $100 House: $100 Senate: $125
* Space Grant Appropriation
  + - FY 12: $40/38.9 FY 13 Request: $24 House: $24 Senate: $40
* Enacted Authorization
  + - FY 13: $45.5 million

FY13 Appropriations Language

* House: “*Aerospace Research and Career Development:* The recommended level includes $24,000,000 for NASA Space Grant and $9,000,000 for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The Committee urges NASA to minimize the administrative costs associated with these programs in order to maximize funding available for programmatic purposes. In furtherance of administrative cost oversight, NASA is directed to include an accounting of its administrative costs for both Space Grant and EPSCoR in the spending plan prepared pursuant to the administrative provisions of title III of this Act and in the fiscal year 2014 budget request.”
* Senate: “*NASA Space Grant:* The Committee is disappointed at NASA efforts to hold back funds appropriated for NASA Space Grant and directs that within the $40,000,000 provided for Space Grant, NASA fund 42 States or jurisdictions at $790,000 and 10 States or jurisdictions at $620,000. NASA’s administrative fee is limited to $620,000.”

Carolyn also mentioned that there is a concern that the separate funding levels for states is seen as an earmark by the House. John Gregory mentioned that the Alliance intends to upgrade all states to the designated level through a competitive process.

Sequestration

* Scheduled by law to go into effect in January 2013
* Administration report on impact of Sequestration
  + Based on CR
  + NASA Education
    - BA Amount $136 million
    - Sequester % 8.2%
    - Sequester Amount $11 million
* Possibilities
  + - Handle in lame duck
    - Delay
    - Grand Bargain early next year
    - Allow to go into effect under current law

FY 2014

* Budget Cap
  + $1.066 trillion
  + +$68 billion but 6% cut to baseline
  + No distinction between defense and non-defense
* Appropriations
  + Unlikely to have final FY 13 number when budget prepared for Congress
  + NASA out-year projections had $24 million for Space Grant
* Authorization
  + Current authorization expires September 30, 2013—at end FY 13
* Issues
* Amount to seek
* Individual consortia allocations
* Permitted uses of funds
* Strategy

**Next Authorization Bill:** There was a discussion on the Space Grant language request for the next Authorization Bill. John Gregory requested Joe Danek to prepare a draft of the options available that can then be reviewed by the Alliance Board. Carolyn Fuller suggested that we should be OK with language that gives the same amount of funding to all states. She also suggested that the Alliance form a small committee to write up the language for authorization. Mary Sandy volunteered to be a part of the small committee along with Steve Ruffin and Terry Sehata.

**Space Grant Visibilty:** Joe Danek talked about the issues concerning Space Grant visibility on NASA websites. He mentioned that Space Grant is barely mentioned in the websites. NASA has social media hits on their website and Space Grant has very few hits.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25AM.