**National Space Grant Alliance Board of Directors Telecon**

**February 4, 2011**

**Participants**: Mary Sandy, Majid Jaraiedi, John Gregory , Pete Schultz, Angela Des Jardins, Chris Brown, Jaydeep Mukherjee, Yervant Terzian, Pat Hynes, Terry Shehata, and Chris Koehler

**Not present**: Paul Johnson, Dick Henry

**Guests:** Carolyn Fuller, Joe Danek

**Update on Washington –Carolyn Fuller**

Carolyn talked about the FY2011 federal budget. She informed the Board that, yesterday, the chairman gave the subcommittees their allocation. Working from FY2010, for CJS there is a reduction of 16% ($10B). Mary Sandy mentioned that she had a telecom with Frank Wolf’s chief of staff and he assured her that she had Congressman Wolf’s support. He also mentioned that we need to reach out to all members of Congress – particularly the newly elected 86 members of Congress and educate them about the Space Grant program and how the cuts will affect the program. He also mentioned that we should be realistic and expect some cuts.

Carolyn said that she has been hearing from a lot of the staff that, coming out of committee, we probably have to expect anywhere between a 5% to 10% cut for many programs. She suggested that the Directors make the first contact with the new members with letters and flyers. Chris Brown mentioned that Carolyn will come up with a template that the Directors can use for contacting the members.

**FY2012 budget update**: Carolyn informed the Board that the President’s budget will be announced the week of February 14th, but may be delayed by a week. The budget request will be no more than last year at its highest. In FY2011, the president’s budget had Space Grant at $28.6M

Chris Brown hoped that the Dear Colleague letter will be ready a week or 2 before the Washington meeting. Carolyn mentioned that we have to first get a sponsor of the letter and it may be difficult to get a sponsor this year.

Joe Danek suggested that the Directors be provided with some talking points for their discussion with the congressional delegates. John Gregory reminded everyone that this has to be done in the next 2 days

**Alliance Meeting in DC:** Chris Brown reminded the Board that the Alliance Board will meet at 4pm on March 1, 2011. The General Meeting will be held next morning.

Chris Brown will send the list of new members to the Directors, once he receives them from Carolyn. Chris also informed the Board that Diane Detroye will give the 2009 data by February 18th and he will then include the new numbers in the alliance fact sheet.

**Council Update:** None

**Summer of Innovation (SOI)**: Mary Sandy mentioned that the new SIO RFP has been released. The guideline for the RFP is different than the Capacity building grants and most of the people that had capacity building grants are not able to do what is in the new SOI RFP.

**Telecon scheduling**: Next telecon on February 18th at 1pm. The monthly telecom will be held on the third Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jaydeep Mukherjee