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

**November 29, 2010**

Mary Sandy, John Gregory, Yervant Terzian, Angela Des Jardins, Pat Hynes, Chris Brown, Carolyn Fuller, Chris Koehler, Bill Garrard, Paul Johnson, Peter Schultz, Joe Danek, Majid Jaraiedi were present.

Mary Sandy started the meeting by asking Carolyn Fuller to provide her update. Carolyn stated that the Omnibus is probably not going to pass but that a comprehensive bill is still evolving. Some information should be available within the next couple of weeks. Carolyn had provided her update in writing prior to the meeting. Ms. Sandy called for questions. Yervant expressed concern that it would lead to delays in funding to Consortia, particularly since many of the Space Grant programs start in April.

The next item of business is the potential for dues payments to TIG using Space Grant Foundation funds. Some states are not able to pay their Alliance dues because of a prohibition against paying for lobbying purposes. Joe Danek suggested we separate the VSA and TIG so that a bill or invoice would be sent by TIG which is not involved in any kind of lobbying. Then, those Space Grant Consortia should be able to come up with some money to pay. This is not a new problem but a potential new solution. Mary suggested that the Board move ahead with this plan if there is no opposition. John and Mary will review the Bylaws and if there needs to be a change, the Board will discuss it further.

Changes will be made to the Bylaws as amended at the meeting in Portland.

Mary sent a copy of her notes from the Education Design Team teleconference with NASA Centers. She discussed her notes with the Board including Leland Melvin’s statement that line items for Space Grant and EPsCOR had been requested of OMB for the FY 2012 budget. Chris Koehler mentioned that through his regular conversations with Diane DeTroye, she is going to ask officially through the Ex-Comm for feedback on the Design Team recommendations.

Mary asked Majid to handle the nominations and elections process for officers for the upcoming year. Majid is willing to stay on as treasurer. Jaydeep is willing to stay on as secretary. Nominees will be needed for the two positions would be Chair and Vice Chair. Majid will send out an email to the board for nominations.

Joe Danek presented his matrix document that was previously forwarded to the Board members by email. This document is good background for programs within the Obama Administration..

Mary asked the members to review their calendars for December 14 and 15 in case of the need for a quick tag up. Based on feedback on availability, Mary set the meeting for December 14 at 2:00 p.m. If the meeting is not needed, it will not be held.

Mary welcomed Angela and Paul Johnson to the Board as new Board members whose term commences January 1, 2011. Terry Shehata (not present) also will be new to the Board starting January 1.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Sandy acting on behalf of Jaydeep Mukherjee