

Board of Directors of the National Space Grant Alliance

Minutes of the January 16, 2002 Teleconference

The teleconference was convened at 4:00pm, CT.

Participating Members of the Alliance Board of Directors: John Gregory (Chair, presiding), Bill Byrd, Janice DeCosmo, Richard Hackney, Bill Hiscock, Majid Jaraiedi, Andy Klein, Mary Sandy, Jean Teasdale, Brad Wiener, and John Wefel (ex-officio, as Council Chair).

Also Participating from VSA/TIG: Carri Booth and Joe Danek.

1. Budget Report

Outgoing treasurer Bill Byrd gave a brief budget report to the Board. Basically, income is approximately \$30,000 ahead of expenses at this time. While we are about \$30,000 ahead, it is because several SGs paid their 2002 dues before the end of the year. Otherwise we would have had a much smaller balance. Normally, we more or less break even. Bill and the new treasurer, Jean Teasdale, will prepare a more detailed report for the Alliance membership.

2. Funding Targets and Strategies for the 2003 Budget

The Board agreed upon \$28M as the target for FY 2003. We asked for \$28M for FY 2002 and received \$24.1M based on our argument for enhanced workforce development and competitive upgrades. The figure of \$28M is on record in previous authorizing legislation. This year, we plan to carry the argument further to achieve the level of \$28M.

The Board discussed the need for testimony before the House VA/HUD/IA Appropriations Subcommittee. John Gregory and Joe Danek will work on drafting the testimony. One or more Directors will be asked to present the testimony.

3. Planned February Meeting of the Board

The Board discussed the need for a face-to-face meeting to develop a detailed plan that sells itself and is easy for the membership to follow with a single message. The Board plans to meet in DC in February, some weeks before the March Directors' Meeting, in order to prepare materials and strategies for the March activities.

Joe Danek will provide last year's material, including testimony, brochure text, and other writing related to what we do with extra money -- as a starting point for developing the plan and materials for this year's request, the testimony, and a revised Space Grant Alliance brochure.

4. Concern Over Possible Matching Requirements for the Workforce Money

NASA HQ is working on the mechanism for dispersing the new monies appropriated for FY 2002. The details are to be announced around the end of January when they are complete. Members of the Board expressed concern that many programs are essentially "matched out" and that NASA should be requested to not apply matching requirements to the new workforce money. John Wefel, as Chair of the Council, agreed to prepare a letter to NASA to make this request on behalf of the Directors.

The teleconference adjourned at 5:05pm CT.

Draft minutes prepared and submitted by Richard Hackney, Secretary