

Minutes of Teleconference of the Board of Directors of the National Space Grant Alliance, 14 Feb 00, 1400 hrs PDT.

Members of the Board present: Bowen, Byrd, DeCosmo, Garrard, Gregory, Hackney, Hansen, Henry, Hiscock, Sandy, Taranik, Wefel. Others participating: Fuller and Booth (VSA).

1. The President's budget maintained Space Grant at the \$19.1M level. This is good news for the Alliance because we can work toward new funding, rather than expending our energy simply by maintaining our core budget.
2. New initiatives to take to the Hill:
 - a. Upgrades: 18 of 20 states that are probably eligible to compete for designated status have indicated they are interested and willing to work with their delegations for additional funding for this purpose. Funding for 20 upgrades would require approximately \$4.5M.
 - b. Geospatial/Remote Sensing: We need to make a case for expansion of this program by a factor of 2 or 3. Most likely this would require an additional budget of \$2M. Hiscock will contact Dave Bartlett and Brad Weiner to request they collaborate on some appropriate language to be used here.
 - c. Additional Initiative: Some exemplary Space Grant program on a nationwide basis, and/or coordinating Space Grant with one of the Code FE K-12 programs. The Board discussed the possibility of requesting funds to expand Citizen Explorer's K-12 presence nationwide. The Board agreed that Danek will discuss Citizens Explorer with Hansen, and then discuss both these mission support possibilities with Code FE to determine where we might best fit with their agenda.
3. The Board discussed the development of a long-range strategy: Gregory will have a summary of the Denver meeting results out within a week.
4. The Board discussed the Appropriations Committee request to be submitted. Fuller will draft a request at the \$28M level for FY '01, a figure already approved by the Board. Fuller will identify particular consortia whose directors the Board should ask to forward the request. Requests must be to the Appropriations Subcommittee before March 1.
5. The Board discussed Congressional testimony. The Board approved seeking an opportunity to offer Congressional testimony on the Space Grant this Spring.
6. The Board agreed the next telecon will be 25 Feb 00 at 10:00AM PST. Meeting adjourned at 1500 hours PST.