**National Space Grant Alliance General Body Meeting**

**Green Bay, WI**

**September 21 , 2011**

General Body Meeting commenced at 5:00pm and was chaired by Chris Brown

**1--Alliance purpose:** Chris Brown talked about the National Space Grant Alliance charter

**2--Membership board**: Chris Brown introduced the board

**3-Approval of Washington DC minutes:** John Wefel motioned to accept the minutes, Yervant Terzian seconded the motion. All in favor

**4- Elections**- Bill Gerard, chair of the nominating committee mentioned that there were four candidates for four open positions. He also added that Paul Johnson, the Wyoming Space Grant Director, has resigned his position on the Alliance Board on August 19, 2011 and Steve Ruffin of the Georgia Space Grant had accepted Chris Brown’s invitation to join the board and then stand for election on September 21. This was done according to the Alliance bylaws in the section pertaining to the Board: Section 3. Vacancies “ Vacancies shall be filled by the appointment of the Chair until the next meeting of the Alliance members at which point a new Director shall be elected”. For Steve Ruffin’s position, Majid Jaridi moved to accept Steve Ruffin as Paul Johnson’s replacement, Denise Thorsten seconded the motion. All were in favor.

All nominees were elected.

**5**-**2012 budget:** Chris Brown gave an update on the 2012 budget

 Authorized in (2010) $45.6M

 Presidents request $26.7M

 House $26.7M

 Senate $44.2M

Alliance FY 2012 Request was for $45.6M and had requested the following report language ( 42 states at $900K and 10 states at $700K). Chris Brown informed the Board that the language was not inserted in the senate bill. Chris Brown also talked about the 2012 NASA Education budget (both House and Senate) and showed the breakdown of the budget. He also informed the General Body on the FY 2012 CJS Appropriations Bill and listed the House and Senate members of the CJS sub-committee.

**6- FY 2012- Next step:** Chris Brown suggested the following next steps:

* + Thank your Senator
	+ Alliance Board will develop message for the house
	+ Begin communications (regarding the FY2012 budget ) with your representatives in the 2nd week of October
	+ Encourage House to agree with Senate
	+ Focus on Space Grant strengths, on how different Space Grant is compared to other programs, non-federal match, our reach, etc.

**7- Space Grant Message:** Chris Brown elaborated on the Space Grant message:

* + Strong network
	+ Highly collaborative
	+ Sharing of resources
	+ National priorities
	+ Highly leveraged
	+ Help with STEM policies
	+ Flexible and adaptable to meet national and state needs

He also made suggestions to deliver the Space Grant message such as

* + Frequent communication with legislature offices
	+ Invite staffers and representative from your districts

**8- Continuing Resolutions for 2012**

* + FY 2012 begins October 1, 2012
	+ No FY 2012 appropriation bill have been enacted

**9- 2013 Budget**

* + President will submit budget to Congress in first week of February
	+ OMB guidance to agencies was to reduce 5% under current spending and have a 10 year contingency plan

**11-Looking to the future**

* + Support for a presidential budget request for Space Grant in 2013 in line with FY11 appropriation of $45M and authorized level of $45.6M
	+ Partner in non-federal agencies
	+ Share proven Space Grant approaches with other agencies

There was a discussion on how to advocate for whole of NASA education

**12- Treasurer’s Report by Majid Jaridi for calendar year 2011**

* + Dues collected in 2011 $237,750
	+ Uncollected in 2011 dues $27,700
	+ Audit Report covered January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 and in general was in compliance

**Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm**