



National Space Grant Alliance

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MINUTES OF THE SPACE GRANT ALLIANCE

Board of Directors Meeting

February 27, 2008

Attending: Erian Armanios, Majid Jaraiedi, Paul Hardersen, Mary Sandy, Yervant Terzian, Jean Teasdale, Bill Hiscock

Absent: Luke Flynn, Pat Hines, Jeff Hoffman, Peter Schultz

Guests: Carri Booth, Joe Danek, Carolyn Fuller, Mike Wiskerchen, John Kostmatka, Dorcas Metcalf

Meeting:

- Chair Yervant Terzian called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm. He introduced the new officers for the Alliance Board (Yervant Terzian, Chair; Mary Sandy, Vice Chair; Majid Jaraiedi, Treasurer; Jean Teasdale, Secretary).
- Yervant Terzian announced that the Foundation is now providing a web site service for a fee. Mark Fischer is the point of contact at the Foundation for this service.
- There was a discussion regarding the meeting time/date for future DC meetings. The change was necessary because it is important that we separate the Alliance business from the National Space Grant Council business for auditing purposes.
- The Five Year Funding Plan was slightly revised since the last vote by all Alliance members so it will need to be approved again.
- Other budget issues include:
 - The budget request for FY 2008 includes 35 consortia at \$750,000 and 17 consortia at \$550,000
 - The funding will be awarded in stages.
 - The full cost accounting amount may not include Diane and her staff.
 - We need a plan to address a budget cut, if necessary.
- A discussion followed regarding the talking points for the hill visits. Some suggestions included:
 - Need to explain starting point of budget
 - Upgrade states from B grants to A grants
 - Increase competitive "extension" funding to \$2M
- Joe Danek, Carolyn Fuller and Carri Booth discussed the budget process and issues
 - It will be a tight budget year; stay calm and be positive
 - Nothing will be passed for this year and probably not until February 2009
 - Space Grant will testify on April 2, 2008. It was suggested that Majid Jaraiedi and Wally Fowler provide the testimony
 - There are too many dear colleague letters circulating so it may not be effective to do one this year
 - We need to move forward and not go back to the FY08 budget
 - At the Alliance meeting, we should convey that we have made progress with NASA:
- Earlier progress reports
- Faster award processing
- Diane will be talking with Bill Hiscock once a month regarding EPSCoR and with Chris Koehler on Space Grant issues.
- Majid Jaraiedi presented the Treasurer's Report
 - It was proposed that next year, dues will be proportional to the amount of the award. This will result in an increase for non-designated states because their funding has been increasing at a greater rate than the designated consortia.
 - The Alliance is in a financially sound position
 - Taxes and audit are in the process.

Yervant closed the meeting at 1:15 PM

Respectfully submitted: Jean A. Teasdale, Secretary

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