

**Sea Grant Extension Assembly Business Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 2015**  
**Mystic, Connecticut**  
**10:30 am-12:00 pm EST**

1. Roll Call:

Program/State	Present
Alabama	x
Alaska	x
California	
California-USC	x
Connecticut	x
Delaware	x
Florida	x
Georgia	x
Guam	x
Hawaii	x
Illinois-Indiana	
Lake Champlain (VT/NY)	x
Louisiana	x
Maine	x
Maryland	X
Massachusetts-MIT	
Massachusetts-Woods Hole	
Michigan	x
Minnesota	x
Mississippi	x
New Hampshire	x
New Jersey	x
New York	x
North Carolina	x
Ohio	x
Oregon	x
Pennsylvania	x
Puerto Rico	
Rhode Island	x
South Carolina	x
Texas	x
Virginia	x
Washington	x
Wisconsin	x

2. Treasurer's Report: Balance as of 12/02/15 is \$5,798.43.

3. Chairman's Report: T. Murray

-Field trips are full so it'll be a challenge to switch.

-The year has been focused on developing the meeting agenda with input from selected extension leaders and communicators.

-Meeting planning committee consisted of Assembly ExComm, Nancy Balcom, Rex Caffey, Cindy Knapman and others.

4. Assembly Reports (5 minutes each)

a. Sea Grant Assembly Update – Dave Hansen

-Dave will send around the written report when it's written.

-This was the 5<sup>th</sup> Sea Grant Academy.

-This Academy was put out as a competition with Oregon Sea Grant being given the award. The NSGO will put out the Academy as a competition on a four-year cycle the next time.

-The attendees were a diverse audience: 35 people from 20 Sea Grant programs. Annapolis was the site for first meeting and Oregon for the second meeting.

-Dave is getting feedback about the Academy via a participant survey.

-Question 1: What is the program (Oregon Sea Grant) pitching in? Answer: Dave's time is donated. \$50K award supports staff time. \$1500 registration fee/person for 2 weeks includes lodging and food (airfare not included).

-Question 2: Does the new structure works for a diverse audience? Answer: Participant feedback was that the structure of the Academy is still useful.

b. Sustainable Coastal Community Development – Jim Falk

-The SCCD network hasn't had a conference call in the past 6-8 months but is active in planning for a climate network meeting.

-The network seems to be floundering--not sure of the reason but the network is preparing for new leadership early next year. The network was formalized about 8 years ago and aligned with the SCD focus area.

-Mike Liffmann: There were a lot of Sea Grant folks at the Working Water Fronts meeting. Just stay tuned that spin offs in different directions are occurring in the Assembly network.

-Question: Where can I find a list of all Sea Grant networks? Answer: See National website and Assembly websites.

-Question: What are the momentum drivers for the network? Answer: Leadership. Majority of SCCD members are not directors or extension leaders but extension agents. How do we incentivize their efforts? E.g., gave \$500 to each network for activities.

-Question: What are the benefits to my work by participating in this network? Answer: Demonstrate leadership through participation in a national network. The structure in place with an email listserve helped re-galvanize the fisheries network with new folks coming on board.

-Comment: Face-to-face meetings are important to get together but difficult to do because of funding costs.

-Question: How do we maintain these parent networks or maintain different strands? Answer: Needs to be discussed by the Assembly.

c. Fisheries Extension – Fisheries/Climate Change Work Group

-Sunny Rice: Fisheries Extension Network created a webinar series. They meet quarterly and encourage others to join. They have a good listserv maintained by VIMS Advisory Services. Erik Chapman is the lead with Sunny.

-Jesse Schomberg: Members of the Sea Grant Climate Network (SGCN) and Sustainable Coastal Community Development (SCCD) networks co-planned a meeting on the day before the Adaptation Conference started to discuss opportunities for collaboration. The NSGO helped with logistics (and paid for a last-minute projector). There were 23 oral presentations and 9 posters from the Sea Grant network at the Adaptation Conference. Question: We need to figure out ways to work with other Sea Grant networks.

-Jesse: One result of the conference was a proposal for a follow up workshop through IL-IN Sea Grant to explore network integration with fisheries but it was not funded. But it was a good exercise to put these good ideas down on paper and explore the role of the Sea Grant network in resilience across the nation. What capacity would be needed? Good big picture discussions and what programs would need to make that happen (nice visioning piece).

-Kathy Bunting-Howarth and Helen Cheng gave a webinar presentation for EDEN on the Sea Grant resilience tool kit.

-Sustained national climate assessment: nominated Jessica Whitehead to serve on their committee. Question (Jen McCann): What are people's thoughts on working on mitigation versus adaptation and what's our role in that? Answer: Kola Garber: This is a good discussion for our strategic plan and at the state program level as well. It may be helpful/useful to share information across the Sea Grant network.

-Ann Faulds: We are working on projects that examine co-benefits and share that with other stakeholders. The National Sea Grant Office website is searchable so users can search for mitigation specific projects.

-Jen: Maybe there is an opportunity for Sea Grant to get more engaged in mitigation. Sea Grant has been more engaged in adaptation activities because that's what the network has been involved in and it taps into university resources.

## 5. Sea Grant Administration

### a. Updating Performance Measures/Metrics – Josh Gunn, et al.

-Josh is trying to revise the reporting system at Texas Sea Grant. He got 14 responses from the network and feedback from Jesse and Ohio Sea Grant. He compiled the information and gave it Pam. Texas Sea Grant doesn't have IT support so it's subcontracting these services with the university. The problem is updating the tracking system when the information changes.

-Question: Is there a way to come together and collect information as a network? Josh is interested in using graphics to communicate information. Should the Sea Grant network come up with a common standard so everyone is measuring behavior changes similarly?

-Pete Rowe: The research coordinators are having a discussion on finding a home for e-Sea Grant. Luckily there are 13 programs who are able to chip in funding to support this tracking program. We need to develop e-Sea Grant so it can dump data right into PIER (no manual entry). There is a diversity in state

and national performance measures, which raises the question about how to deal with multiple strategic plans and reporting for this.

#### 6. Extension and Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) – Kathy Bunting-Howarth

-Abby Hostetler is from the EDEN network and will give a primer tomorrow about EDEN. EDEN is a collaborative multi-state effort by Extension Services across the country to improve the delivery of services to citizens affected by disasters and is housed in land grant programs. There are two seats on the board filled by Sea Grant (Mike Liffmann and Kathy).

-We need to find a replacement for Kathy before she becomes the Assembly Chair in 2017. Questions raised during the discussion: Could this be a rotating assignment among Sea Grant extension leaders? Could the Sea Grant representative be an extension agent or communicator? Why don't we (Assembly) help support travel logistics? If you are an EDEN appointed board member then EDEN will cover travel to two board meetings.

-22 Sea Grant programs don't have EDEN delegates—this may be an opportunity for these programs?

-EDEN is organized like Sea Grant with specific tasks in addressing flooding and drought issues.

-Kathy and Helen Cheng gave a resilience webinar at EDEN that was well received.

-EDEN was asked to put together a proposal for a White House Summit and they are waiting to hear back on the status of their proposal. Kathy participated in the proposal development process; this is a good example of Sea Grant engagement through the development of a strong working relationship with EDEN.

-South Carolina got 200 resources from EDEN during their flooding event.

-Kathy got a lot out of attending the EDEN meetings and meeting the diverse members from other institutions of higher learning.

#### 7. Networks Advisory Committee (NAC) Report – N. Balcom

-Sylvain De Guise was the SGA Chair when Nancy became the NAC chair. All network chairs sit ex-officio on the SGA Program Mission Committee (PMC).

-New SGA liaison for the NAC is Paula Cullenberg—we need to figure out how to engage Paula. The PMC looks at reviewing the National Strategic Initiative process (big network issues).

-The External Relations Committee works with Congress and the National Sea Grant Advisory Board (legislative and budget activities/issues).

-The NAC request for briefing book information was very different this year—it focused on network-wide activities, regional activities or cross-cutting network issue. It was well received by SGA so we'll continue with this type of request.

-Nancy will help with the National level strategic planning effort.

-PIER reporting is a cross cutting issue that could be addressed through NAC.

#### 8. Assembly Ex-Comm Nominations: J. Schomberg/M. Main/D. Okimoto

-One At-large Position open: 2-year term starting January 2016. Results: Heather Triezenberg of Michigan Sea Grant is the new At-large replacing Jesse. The main duty is to oversee the Assembly awards.

9. Fish Biz Presentation – Burrage, et al.

- Website (fishbizplan.org) will roll out shortly.
- Sea Grant Fisheries network will do a webinar on it in the future.
- It's okay to share this with the Sea Grant network now.

10. Assembly participation in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign and Sea Grant Week 2016 Planning

- Kathy as the Assembly temporary point-of-contact asked for assistance with these planning efforts as she does not have the time to effectively do both. For Sea Grant Week, Beth Bisson, Darren Okimoto and Jen McCann volunteered to assist Kathy. For the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign, Jim Falk and Sam Chan volunteered to help out.
- Communicators having lunch tomorrow to discuss their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign planning activities.
- Nancy can forward information about 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign to the Assembly and ask Cindy to give us an update on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign planning efforts.
- Jim Falk advised checking out the Fall 2015 SGA Briefing Book for suggestions about the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign (see page 163).