

**SG Extension Assembly Excomm Conference Call**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 10, 2014**  
**2:00 – 3:00 P.M. (EDT)**

In attendance: Jim Falk, Tom Murray, Jen McCann, Jesse Schomberg, Darren Okimoto, Beth Bisson, Jim Fawcett, Rex Caffey, Marty Jaffe, Michael Liffmann.

1. *Treasurer's Report* (Darren Okimoto)

- Current balance in Assembly account is \$6,136.

2. *National Sea Grant Office Update* (Michael Liffmann)

- 2014 budget update: note being sent to Sea Grant directors today. FY14 budget still not finalized. NOAA's proposed budget reductions still have not been approved by Congress, so the negotiations continue. The proposed \$67.3M appropriation for Sea Grant is broken down as follows: \$57.3M for the base, \$4.5M for resilience research, \$4.5M for aquaculture research and \$1.0M for the Grand Challenge. Something will have to give.
- The Administration's plan for consolidating STEM is back for FY15 and would consolidate STEM programming at the Smithsonian, NSF and Department of Education. There would be no accompanying reduction in Sea Grant's budget.
- Highlights of FY14 Sea Grant budget: Base increase of \$5M over FY 2012; Unspecified base (\$0.5M); Competitive research on Resilient Coastal Communities (\$4.5M); \$4M increase in Permanent Base, \$1M Merit; No STEM reduction; Social Science NSI –\$ 1.6M (27 Programs, 55 Projects for a total of \$3.2M in 2014 + \$3.0 M in 2015).
- Aquaculture – \$4.5M research competition;
- Climate Change Core Capacity Building continues at \$30K per program; Five \$100K projects, selected in 2013 competition, were not funded.
- Initial Rebalancing of State Program Base Funding. Rebalancing highlights: Priorities for increased base funding to programs with less than a minimum effective size (\$1M), those programs that are relatively underfunded according to need, and then all other programs. No reduction in base funding for any Program.
- Call put out on April 11, 2014 to the network for hosting the 2015 Sea Grant Academy. \$50K will be made available to a Sea Grant program(s) to host the training program. Proposals are due May 19. Also, an RFP is being developed for Sea Grant Extension coordinators at

NOAA's five sentinel sites in North Carolina, Chesapeake Bay, Hawaii, San Francisco Bay, and Northern Gulf of Mexico. Co-funded by NSGO and NOS.

- Fisheries Extension Network will debut its first webinar on April 16, 2014 from 3-4 pm EST. Title: *Impacts Of Climate Change On Marine Fisheries: Identification of range of responses of environment, fisheries, and ecosystems to climate change over the next 5-20 years with specific examples from the Northeast United States*. Presenter: Dr. Jonathan Hare, Narragansett Laboratory Director, Oceanography Branch Chief, NOAA Fisheries Service. Kudos to Erik Chapman for moving this effort forward. The second webinar, for Sea Grant only, will be on April 23, also from 3-4 pm EST, and lead presenters will be NMFS' Wendy Morrison and Roger Griffis. Their presentation will be on *Assessing the Vulnerability of Fish Stocks to Climate Change: Methodological Considerations from the Northeast US*. Both webinars can be accessed at <https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/marine>.
- Upcoming deadlines:
  - Minibus for social science program (46.7% subsidy) to hit the street soon once budget is finalized. Additional funds for state Sea Grant programs. Information will be due to grants.gov by May 10, 2014.
  - Sea Grant annual reporting in PIER due June 10, 2014.
  - Upcoming program site visits will take place starting this summer 2014 through 2015. A memo is being drafted by Sami Grimes about this and will be sent out next week.
- Other information:
  - NSGO staff will conduct an impacts training webinar on May 1, 2014 at 3:00 pm EST.
  - NSGO is working hard on building new partnerships for Sea Grant especially for extension. E.g., With NOAA Office for Coastal Management (formerly NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management and Coastal Services Center)
  - Sea Grant Association is developing a fisheries-climate-communities theme that will be shopped through Congress to increase network funding by \$10 million. This is actually a broad-based coastal resilience theme (which could include fisheries, climate, coastal communities, tourism, etc.). The PMC brainstormed this issue at the last SGA meeting and circulated a draft of ideas on the Basecamp site.
  - NSGO is talking with USDA and NOAA Climate Program Office to fund positions
  - Sea Grant is reaching out to FEMA in Region 6 (Charles Cook).
  - Jim Falk and Jack Thigpen will be invited to a conference in DC the week of June 9 on America's recreational opportunities.
  - April 17, 2014: Ann Faulds, Jim Falk, Tom Murray and Mike Liffmann are following up with the Pew Foundation to explore opportunities for collaboration.
- Jim Falk asked a question to Mike about the breakdown of Sea Grant funds by Leon at the Sea Grant Association meeting in March(e.g. how the new allocation process will work).
  - Answer: \$4.5 M for competitive research on resilient coastal communities to increase base funding to some programs; this funding would be divided among selected

programs in order to rebalance the base funding allocation. \$1 million would be minimum amount that a Sea Grant program would get. The merit funding pool was increased by \$1 million which would meet 42% of the needs-based funding to the local programs. A significant concern expressed by the Sea Grant network would be a loss of base funding for some programs (especially legacy programs). Under the rebalancing plan, no program will lose its base funding and core funding will be increased. Most funding will go to smaller and underfunded programs; this applies to institutionalized programs only.

### 3. *Sea Grant Association Meeting Update* (Jim Falk and others)

- Jim Falk mentioned that there was a myriad of different speakers at the meeting who were looking forward to Leon's presentation. There was also a report out on the allocation of funding among the Sea Grant programs (see paragraph above). \$67.3 million appears to be highest absolute allocation given to Sea Grant program and appreciation was expressed to the Oldaker Group for their lobbying efforts.
- *Program Mission Committee* (Jim Falk)
  - The committee spent a couple of hours brainstorming ideas on how to try to raise another \$10 million for Sea Grant around the broad topic of coastal resilience. Karl Havens disseminated a white paper on the topic to the Sea Grant network. More will be coming on this as ideas are being synthesized and revised for marketing in congress.

### 4. *Superior Outreach Program Award* (Jen McCann and Jesse Schomberg)

- Jen sent out an announcement about the award to the Sea Grant network about a week ago. Nominations from each region are due on May 30, 2014. Kathy and Ann were helpful in giving guidance to Jen and Jesse about the award. They are lining up three outside reviewers to review the applications in the month of June. Selection of the award will take place by July 15 for the award ceremony in September at Sea Grant Week. Jen asked if this information should be made public. Jim Falk advised to keep it private for now. Jesse is handling the making of the award plaque. Another reminder will be sent out in early May.
- Jim Falk had a conference call with LaDon Swann and Jim Hurley about chairing the awards ceremony at Sea Grant week. They wanted to touch bases with Jim on the superior outreach program award. Jim mentioned that the Assembly is looking at late June for a decision.
- Jim Falk made a request to the regional representatives to get moving on the nomination process. He also mentioned that he may recognize nominations from each region at awards ceremony.

### 5. *Assembly Listserv Protocols* (Tom Murray)

- Tom Murray asked if folks in the network had any questions about the two listservs the Virginia Sea Grant manages (Assembly and Fisheries Extension). He mentioned that only

Assembly members are allowed to be a part of the listserv and that the listservs are limited to the Sea Grant network and National Marine Fisheries Service. Aside from that, there are no hardcore policies and procedures in place for usage.

- Mike Liffmann asked if there was a way to add or purge folks from the list; he wanted to make the management of the listservs as smooth or less cumbersome as possible. Tom replied that there was no problem for them in managing the listservs. He also mentioned that there are approximately 180-200 folks on fisheries extension network listserv. Each listserv has a standard ‘unsubscribe’ option at the bottom of the message.
- Jim Falk is looking at gaps in information and is trying to identify folks from Sea Grant programs that are missing. Jim also asked if messages or inquiries could be sent through the listservs; Tom replied that both allow this and that only members can do this.

#### 6. *Sea Grant Week 2014* (September 7 – 12, 2014) – Clearwater Beach, FL

- Registration for the conference opened on April 1, 2014. Folks can sign up for the various workshops being offered. See <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/seagrants/agenda.html> for more information.
- The Extension Assembly Business Meeting is scheduled for Monday (9/8/14) from 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 pm.
- Jim Falk mentioned the need for creating a Planning Committee to work on developing the meeting agenda. This meeting will not involve outside speakers and focus on business issues only. He asked Marty Main to take a leadership role and serve as the chair of the planning committee. He also will recruit a couple of volunteers to serve on the committee; Tom Murray volunteered to help.

#### 7. *Network Reports - Assembly Liaisons*

- Fisheries Extension Network Council (Jen McCann)
  - Jen made an announcement about the two upcoming webinars that Mike mentioned earlier. Jen will pass on minutes of the conference call to Darren for incorporation into the minutes (**see Appendix for Fisheries Extension Network Council minutes**).
- Climate Network (Jesse Schomberg)
  - Josh Brown reviewed all Sea Grant omnibus proposals and showed a table listing the climate-related projects; This listing included the \$30K and \$100K funding allocations to Sea Grant programs. (**Note: The Microsoft Excel file containing this data will be sent along with this document to the Assembly membership**).
- Sustainable Coastal Community Development Network (Jim Falk)
  - April Turner, S.C. Sea Grant Consortium, is the new chair. They had a conference call in mid- March 2014.

- They elected new regional representatives, developed a new SCCD Facebook page, and have bylaws that guide their operation.
- They meet annually and host a training session as part of their meeting. They are identifying a national meeting where their core group of SCCD folks will be in attendance (e.g., coastal estuarine conference in DC in November).
- Through NY Sea Grant they are developing a network resource repository page that will contain publications and other resources and is searchable; plan is to get this up and running soon.
- Their next conference call will be in May/June 2014.
- (see **Appendix for the SCCD Network minutes**).

#### 8. *Regional Updates* (Regional Reps.)

- Pacific (Jim Fawcett)
  - Jim Fawcett mentioned that they are in the process of making nominations for the superior outreach program award.
  - Darren Okimoto provided an update on a green conference on energy and water sustainability that Hawaii Sea Grant was offering on April 15, 2014. The evening event features a presentation by former VP Al Gore.
- Great Lakes (Marty Jaffe)
  - Marty mentioned that there will be a regional network meeting on June 16-18, 2014. The superior outreach program awards will be given out then. They are close to implementing a regional tipping point project involving a Michigan/Michigan State University GIS software program that is being finalized. Preliminary proposals for small grants from the Great Lakes coastal storms program were submitted/reviewed and full proposals will be submitted/reviewed in early May 2014. Pennsylvania Sea Grant has submitted an application to NSGO to become an institutionalized program.
- Gulf Coast (Rex Caffey)
  - Rex Caffey reported that the climate community of practice meeting is going on now.
  - GoMRI effort being led by former Louisiana Sea Grant Director Chuck Wilson identified outreach as a gap in their program efforts. In response, each Gulf coast Sea Grant program will host a gulf science oil spill specialist position for two years.
  - Rex will send sent out a reminder to Sea Grant counterparts for nominations for the superior outreach program award. Jim Falk advised Rex to follow the national guidelines as closely as possible.
- Mid-Atlantic (Tom Murray)
  - Tom reported that their regional meeting will take place on April 28-30, 2014. They are expecting good attendance at this meeting and hope to have a decision made on the superior outreach program award by then.
  - Jim Falk mentioned that folks from Jack Thigpen's region (South Atlantic) hasn't been meeting as a region. Some folks have been invited to attend the Mid-Atlantic meeting.

Mike Liffmann mentioned that TX Sea Grant is hiring a new extension leader (Josh Gunn).

- Northeast (Beth Bisson)
  - Beth mentioned that their next regional meeting will take place in October/November in Maine. Paul Anderson is reaching out to other Sea Grant directors to get them onboard with planning efforts.
  - Beth mentioned that the Northeast Region does have an external review process for selecting the recipients of their Northeast Region Superior Outreach Programming Awards. Since their most recent regional meeting took place in November 2013, they plan on advancing one of those three externally vetted projects to the national competition, rather than putting out a new call for nominations for the national award. They plan to convene the Sea Grant extension leaders as a group to make the decision based on the superior outreach program award guidelines.
  - Beth asked for guidance on how the other regions were doing this. Jim Falk suggested using an outside reviewer. Jesse sent their applications out for review and is hoping to identify a winner before the Great Lakes regional meeting.
  
- South Atlantic (submitted after conference call by Jack Thigpen)
  - NC Sea Grant Symposium: Investments and Opportunities: Over 135 attendees participated in the North Carolina Sea Grant Research Symposium was held on April 16 and featured Margaret Davidson, acting director of NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, as keynote speaker for the event. Davidson is the director of NOAA's Coastal Services Center in Charleston, S.C., and previously served as director of the South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium. Through a series of panels, researchers presented results and impacts of projects funded by North Carolina Sea Grant. After each panel, the audience considered ongoing and anticipated issues, along with opportunities within the particular focus area. The program also highlighted future leaders in coastal and marine research through a poster session for graduate and undergraduate.
  
  - SC Sea Grant is a co-sponsor of the Carolinas Climate Resilience Conference, April 28-29, 2014, Charlotte, N.C. The impacts of current climate variability and the evidence of climate change are continuing to grow and with it our understanding of the challenges we face in adapting to those changes. Building resilience – the ability to adjust easily to or recover from a stress or change – is an important step in preparing to successfully address the current and future pressures. This conference seeks to assist by providing a platform to share experience and knowledge of opportunities, tools, resources, local initiatives, and expertise. Staff from local, state, and federal agencies and climate researchers will share information about climate-related tools, resources, experiences, and activities in the Carolinas. Visit <http://www.cisa.sc.edu/ccrc> for more information.

- Georgia Sea Grant, the Institute of Government and the Marine Extension Service will conduct research and collect information to analyze the costs and benefits for a range of actions designed to reduce vulnerability to negative impacts. This partnership is expanding upon a similar project on Tybee Island that received the “Four for the Future Award,” a newly established award cosponsored by Georgia Trend Magazine and UGA’s Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. The effort also will include North Carolina’s expertise in facilitating Vulnerability, Consequences and Adaptation Planning Scenarios, or VCAPS, which involves developing, through a series of public workshops, detailed assessments of communities’ current and future vulnerabilities. These could include potential for flooding, damage to infrastructure and private property and threats to local water supply from drought or saltwater intrusion.
- Florida Sea Grant continues its partnership with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and local governments to deploy and monitor artificial reef systems to promote the conservation and management of the state’s fisheries. Materials donated by Florida DOT are staged and loaded onto a barge for deployment. (All photos provided by Geoff Wallat, Florida Sea Grant agent, UF/IFAS Extension Taylor County) Organizers recently announced that the next Florida Artificial Reef Summit will be Jan. 13-15, 2015 in Clearwater Beach.

#### 9. Sea Grant Law Center Update (Stephanie Showalter Otts)

Stephanie could not make the call and forwarded these notes to Jim Falk to share.

- **Advocacy:** Stephanie will be presenting a version of the advocacy module at both the upcoming mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes regional meetings. Her (Jim Fawcett and I) advocacy workshop was selected for Sea Grant Week. It'll be a four-hour workshop offered twice during the week.
- **Advisory Requests:** Stephanie recently completed advisory requests on ballast water for Minnesota Sea Grant, rip currents for Michigan Sea Grant, and a high-profile beach access case for Maine Sea Grant. She is currently working on a request for the NOAA Office of Aquaculture on the permitting process for finfish aquaculture in federal ocean waters.
- **Invasive Species:** Stephanie continues to work with the regional ANS panels. They're about to release a model law for watercraft inspection and decontamination programs that we developed in collaboration with the Western regional panel.
- **Direct Marketing Guide:** At the end of the month, the law center will have a workshop on direct marketing of aquaculture products in Alabama. They're developing a Direct Marketing Guide that will be released soon. They hope to find funding to adapt the guide for use in other states, especially with MarketMaker Seafood programs.

#### 10. Other Business

- Jim Falk asked Beth Bisson to comment on a network survey on citizen science. Tammy Newcomer Johnson, NSGO Knauss Fellow, is involved in a new citizen science community of

practice effort in NOAA. The matrix that NOAA developed doesn't incorporate all practices in the Sea Grant network. Tammy reached out to Beth to ask her assistance with developing a survey for Sea Grant programs which was circulated on 4/14/14 to Extension Program Leaders and SG Education Network. Mike Liffmann encouraged folks to support this effort so they can publicize this information with relevant stakeholders/partners.

- Next call will take place on June 12 at 3:00 pm EST for the Assembly officers only.

**APPENDIX**

(Fisheries Extension Network Council minutes and SCCD Network Minutes)

**Fisheries Extension Network Council Minutes- meeting #2**  
**March 19, 4:00 pm EST**

On the Call:

X Mike Liffmann  
X Kelly Anderson Tagarino  
X Tammy Newcomer Johnson  
X Dana Morse  
X Elizabeth Bevan  
X Gabby Bradt  
X Sara Mirabilio  
X Erik Chapman  
X Sunny Rice  
X Lisa Liguori

- Quick round of updates (quick! - All)
- Network list serve (Bradt, Mirabilio)
- This will remain a SG-only list serve. We will assign for individuals to do regular maintenance for their region. Initial assignments:
  - SA and Gulf - Sara Mirabilio
  - West Coast – Sunny Rice
  - East Coast – Gabby Bradt
  - Midwest – Rochelle Sturtevant
- Webinar Series
  - Webinar committee – Chapman, Rice, Sturtevant
  - Target for first Webinar: Fisheries and aquaculture and tourism (Dana Morse and Natalie Springuel from ME SG are leading this)
  - Discussion of Fish Stock Climate Vulnerability Assessment (Newcomer Johnson/Liffmann) – Mid-April. Series of briefings.
  - Possible Webinar?
  - **Update! We held a webinar with Dr. Jon Hare Presenting an overview of fisheries and climate change with a focus on effects in the Northeast. Recorded session is available at:**  
**<https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p4ha8hkb2a3/?launcher=false&fcsContent=true&pbMode=normal>**
- Next meeting date:
  - May – Date/Time to be determined.

## First 2014 Quarterly Call of the SCCD Network EXCOMM

Monday, March 17, 2014; 1pm to 3pm EST

EXCOMM Participation in Call (**bolded entries indicate attendees**):

1. Northeast Rep: **Nordica Holochuck**, New York SG
2. Southeast Rep: **Lillian Ramirez-Durand**, Puerto Rico SG
3. Gulf of Mexico Rep: **Lauren Land**, Louisiana SG
4. Pacific Rep: **Matt Gonser**, University of Hawaii SG
5. Mid-Atlantic Rep: Ed Lewandowski, Delaware SG
6. Great Lakes Rep: Mark Breederland, Michigan SG
7. Chair: **April Turner**, South Carolina SG
8. Vice-Chair: **Mary Penney**, New York SG
9. **Elizabeth Bevans**, 2014 Knauss Fellow
10. Liaison to Sea Grant Assembly: **Jim Falk**, Delaware SG
11. Liaison to National Sea Grant Office: **Mike Liffman**, NSGO
12. Secretary/Treasurer: **Bob Swett**, Florida SG

Agenda Item Discussions (see highlighted items for your assigned tasks).

1. SCCD Checking Account.
  - a. The account is housed at Texas A&M and contained \$379.13 as of 1/21/2014.
  - b. **TASK: Bob Swett** will call Rhonda Myers (Texas A&M) and Jim Falk to follow-up on discussions to house SCCD money with the Sea Grant Assembly in order to reduce fees.
2. Schedule Annual SCCD Network Meeting and Training Opportunity.
  - a. As per the by-laws, "*The Network shall meet in person on an annual basis and at a location best suiting the specific purposes of the meeting. The general purpose of the annual meeting is to increase awareness of the SCCD Network and its activities, facilitate cooperation among members, provide training and professional development as appropriate and conduct the Network's business meeting.*" [Does the language "in person" limit the extent to which we can use technology for the annual meeting (e.g., how many have to be there in person and how many remotely)?]
  - b. In the past, the best location/time for the annual meeting has been in conjunction with a national conference that is well-attended by SCCD network members, many of whom also present at the conference. This maximizes attendance and facilitates use of limited travel funds.
  - c. Only one conference in 2014 was suggested - The combined 7th National Summit on Coastal and Estuarine Restoration and Restore America's Estuaries and 24th Biennial Meeting of the Coastal Society November 1-6, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

- i. Disadvantages - the call for sessions/papers has passed and only one EXCOMM member on the call had submitted an abstract. [Note: the call for posters ends on April 30th.]
  - ii. Advantages - Mike Liffman said that National Sea Grant is strongly encouraging attendance from state programs at the conference.
- d. An alternative to meeting at a national conference in 2014: a standalone SCCD meeting (e.g., 2 days) that also incorporates training.

In relation to this alternative, Jim Falk mentioned that each state SG program receives \$50k in recurring funds for SCCD work. Jim suggested that we give consideration to (i.e., work towards) having a portion of those funds set aside for the SCCD annual meetings/trainings. Jim indicated that precedence exists for this, as the fisheries and climate change SG groups do set aside money for their meetings.

**TASK: Everyone** - In the short term, Mike Liffman encouraged each SCCD EXCOMM member to speak with their directors about doing this – setting aside money for upcoming annual meetings.

**TASK: Mary Penney** said she will contact Mike Liffman to discuss options for the future - for example, to see if future allocations of SCCD money to state programs can incorporate money specifically earmarked for the annual meeting/training.

- e. **TASK: Bob Swett** (in collaboration with **April Turner** and **Mary Penney**) will develop an online poll that includes the 2014 annual meeting options outlined above (including dates and potential locations) and training options (from Kristen Grant, former O/E committee chair: Land use/smart growth ordinances; Sustainable Tourism; Conducting community-level economic impact analysis; Watershed/Stormwater education programming; and from Lillian Ramirez: Communicating climate change at extension level; Vulnerability assessment (math forms, etc.); Incorporation of climate change in management (e.g., landuse planning, stormwater management, coastal management...etc.). Once completed, the poll will be sent to the regional representatives for distribution.
- f. Lauren Land mentioned a NOAA RFP for Coastal Resilience Networks for projects ranging between \$50,000 to \$100,000 “...to implement activities that enhance resilience of coastal communities to natural hazard and climate risks through a local, regional, or national network” and she wondered if SCCD might compete for funds (e.g., in relation to meeting/training or other purpose). Due April 11<sup>th</sup>.  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=252013>
- g. Planning for post-2014 Annual meetings - Matt Gonser suggested we consider the American Planning Association Conference in April 2015. April Turner cautioned that the APA registration costs tend to be expensive.

### 3. SCCD Network Resource Repository

Mary Penney updated the group on the development of the SCCD Network Resource Repository page that NYSG will host once completed. Prior to the call, Mary sent two documents (they accompany this email) and a link to the MOCKUP webpage.

a. Resource Submittal Template (attached)

- Meant to ensure consistency of the information provided by the network for posting on the resource repository.
- Language provided in the Resource Submittal Template will be entered as provided by regions - i.e., no editing by NYSG staff.

b. Example of a completed Resource Submittal Form (attached; also, see the same example on the MOCK website under "Economic Development" on website).

c. URL to MOCKUP: [REDACTED]

**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE THIS LINK**...it is a draft of the pages for discussion purposes. Your feedback (see task below) will be used to modify the pages.

Links for resources are grouped by topical headings, which are listed in the left-hand sidebar of the home page. These topical headings were interest groups on the now defunct NING site. There is one example of a resource under "Economic Development" (see also the attached completed Resource Submittal Form).

Question by April: if a resource fits into more than one topic can it be listed under both? Mary said yes, but another (better?) way to handle the situation may be by keyword search.

**TASK: Everyone.** The website is a draft and Mary Penney asks that we each review the site content and then email her (mp357@cornell.edu) with comments/suggestions by Monday, April 7th. Even if you do not have any comments, please email Mary to let her know. That way she will know when she has heard from everyone.

### 4. Regional Representatives versus Regional Coordinators - There has been ongoing confusion regarding these terms (labels) and the roles and responsibilities assigned to each.

**TASK: Bob Swett** will schedule a call (within 2 weeks) with **April Turner** and **Mary Penney** to develop draft language to alleviate the confusion surrounding the terms and roles. The draft language will be sent to the EXCOMM for consideration and discussion at the second 2014 quarterly call. One aim of this task is to magnify the Network's regional reach and effectiveness.

5. How do we Increase the Network's Visibility. (both regionally and within the NSGO)
  - a. Jim Falk mentioned that he updated the Sea Grant Assembly about the SCCD network and its new leadership; and that he made it a point to inform the SG directors about the SCCD network's work and to complement the network's efforts.
  - b. **TASK: Lauren Land** is contemplating a blog that she thinks may be of interest to SCCD. She will flesh out the idea and report back later.
  - c. April Turner encouraged us to consider any opportunity that we have to present SCCD activities – particularly SCCD panel sessions at conferences, symposia, etc.
  - d. Conclusion – due to call time expiring, we did not give this topic the attention that it is due. Need to revisit.
  
6. The Three Listservs
  - a. EXCOMM – the consensus on the call was to eliminate this listserv and use email instead.
  - b. SCCD – this includes Sea Grant and non-Sea Grant people. People are added to it only when they request to be added.
  - c. Business – though originally for communication between regional representatives, it includes all Sea Grant SCCD members.
  - d. **TASK: Mary Penney** will show **Bob Swett** how the listserv is managed and determine if a listing of members of each can be generated. Still need to answer the question as to whether the SCCD and Business listservs are adequate or another means to communicating with the SCCD network is needed.
  
7. Clarification of By-Laws (voting eligibility and regional boundaries)

This was tabled for the next call because we ran out of time.
  
8. General items discussed throughout the call.
  - a. Prior to today's call, only two weeks were given to query regions about training needs. Call participants said that more time is required for such activities – i.e., conducting polls and requesting information from regions.
  - b. Best Practice or a possible Bylaw? Lauren Land said she went through all staff pages in her region to see who might be interested in the SCCD issues and, thus, be a potential member of the network. Mary Penney and April Turner mentioned that they have done something similar in other regions. This is a "best practice." Should it be incorporated in the bylaws or remain as a best practice?
  - c. Matt Gonser developed a Google map showing the locations of SCCD EXCOMM members:  
[https://mapsengine.google.com/map/u/0/edit?hl=en&authuser=0&mid=zuj81jt0jH\\_8.klqRfQ3XpMdU](https://mapsengine.google.com/map/u/0/edit?hl=en&authuser=0&mid=zuj81jt0jH_8.klqRfQ3XpMdU)
  
9. **TASK: Bob Swett** will send out a Doodle poll for the second 2014 Quarterly ECOMM call.