

**Sea Grant Extension Assembly
ExCom Conference Call
May 8, 2012**

In Attendance: Bob Bacon, Jim Fawcett, Ann Faulds, Kathy Bunting-Howarth, Jim Falk, Darren Okimoto, Stephanie Showalter-Otts

Chairman Bob Bacon called the conference call meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Sea Grant Week Planning

S. Showalter-Otts and J. Fawcett updated the Excom on their involvement with Paul Anderson in developing a session on Wednesday at SGW centered around 'Emerging Themes'. S. Showalter-Otts noted that the day-long session with a.m. plenary presentations and p.m. breakout sessions would attempt to identify new emerging issues that Sea Grant could begin developing national level programmatic efforts (e.g. white papers, conferences, etc.). She mentioned topics like sustainable coastal tourism, direct marketing of seafood, rip current/beach safety, working waterfronts. It is hoped that a team could be developed for each theme consisting of individuals representing Sea Grant research, extension, education, and communications to plan the overall session for the thematic area. She is requesting that the extension network provide her with ideas for themes/topics that she can pass along to the SGW planning team for further consideration. It was suggested that other areas to search for possible theme areas would be the strategic planning information that is being circulated to the national strategic planning group, as well as reviewing the proposal topics that have recently been submitted to NSGO for national/regional workshops.

B. Bacon also reminded everyone that the Assembly will hold a ½ day business meeting at SGW on Tuesday. An agenda for the meeting will be developed during the next few months. If anyone has business items to discuss please share them with the chairs of your region or with any Excom member.

Assembly Awards

K. Bunting-Howarth and A. Faulds update the Excom on awards. It appears all of the Sea Grant regions are in the process (or have completed) of selecting a regional outreach award winner who will be forwarded for consideration for the Superior Outreach Award (SOA) to be awarded at SGW. One winner from each region will be reviewed by a team of impartial reviewers with extension experience.

Action: K. Bunting-Howarth and Ann Faulds will oversee the SOA process and share the results with the Excom once the review is completed.

Fundamentals Booklet

K. Bunting-Howarth updated the Excom on the progress on revising the fundamentals booklet. She has commitments from all of the individuals who volunteered to draft chapters for the guide. Her deadline for receiving final copy from authors is June 22. She has submitted a proposal to NSGO for funding to print copies of the booklet.

Assembly Treasury

We have been trying to find a new home for our Assembly treasury account for some time and B. Bacon informed everyone that Jon Pennock had agreed to allow the Assembly to deposit our balance in their SGA account and provide us authority to handle deposits and withdrawals as necessary.

Action: Bob will follow up with D. Hanson and Jon Pennock to make sure funds have been transferred and that we have a signature authority process for writing checks and handling deposits.

Assembly Bylaws

Updated Assembly bylaws were circulated to the Assembly members for a vote in March, 2012 and a 2/3 approval of Assembly members voting was need to approve the bylaw changes. By mid-April, 26 programs had voted.

Passed: The amended bylaws were approved unanimously (26-0).

With no further business the call concluded at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Falk (filling in for Secretary Dave Hansen).