

SG Extension Assembly Excomm Conference Call
January 10, 2013 – 2:00 P.M. (EST)
Call-in Number: (888) 648-3590
Pass Code: 13264659

Agenda

Attendance: Jim Falk, Dave Hansen, Kathy Bunting-Howarth, Mike Liffmann, Tom Murray, Jen McCann

2:00pm Call to order (Falk)

Review Duties of Excomm Officers

Refer to By-Laws posted at: <http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/asgepl/publications>

Falk will follow up with the SGA regarding access for the ExComm to the SGA Basecamp site

Location/Logistics of 2013 Assembly Meeting

The location has not been identified yet- likely to take place in November. Ann Faulds has the lead as Doug Lipton is leaving for a new appointment. There were suggestions for alternative locations including Norfolk or Williamsburg (Virginia) and Cape May (New Jersey).

NSGO Update – M. Liffmann

Regarding the Department of Commerce- Acting Secretary Rebecca Blank may stay on in that position for some time; no word on a path forward

Regarding NOAA- Dr. Lubchenco will be stepping down this winter; no word on a replacement.

No news on the 2013 budget. The continuing resolution expires at the end of March. If sequestration goes into effect NOAA will have to make up an 8% cut in the remaining 6 months of the fiscal year; very tough. NSGO intends to absorb as much of any cuts as possible by reducing or eliminating initiatives rather than passing along cuts to the state programs.

Assuming no cuts, there will likely be calls for proposals on aquaculture extension, climate change adaptation (~\$100k projects) and special projects (total budget ~\$200k). A major caveat is that if FY 13 funding is not made available the work will not be funded.

The Performance Review Panels (PRP) process was time-consuming but ultimately useful in evaluating the individual programs. Overall, very good results. The programs, through the Directors, will be notified in another week or so.

Two new Knauss Fellows for 2013 will replace Emily Susko and Wan-Jean Lee. Hank Hodde (TX) and Gabe Dunham (RI/AK). Hank will coordinate SCD and HRCC and Gabe HCE and SSSS.

The 2012 Biennial Sea Grant report was distributed this week by SGAB Chair Nancy Rabalais.

Jim Fawcett sent out an invitation note to the Assembly re the 2013 Climate Adaptation conference that will take place in late March in Los Angeles. All programs should be represented. Budgets for climate adaptation efforts include travel to this conference.

Question from Falk: What is the genesis and function of the "social science network?"

Answer: Formed in response to need for peer reviewers on social science proposals and/or panels. Also, need for better performance measures to evaluate SCD/future RCE aspects.

Question from Falk: Is SGA discussing revising performance measures? Answer: Some effort to quantify social science impacts; this is linked to the social science network.

Sea Grant Academy: Week 1 in DC in late April (21-26) and week 2 in Duluth, MN in early-October (6-11). SGEA is supporting \$1,000 in part to sponsor the Friday afternoon activity at the Smithsonian. Recommend inviting Logan Respass to brief the ExComm.

Website (Update): (Falk) How can we make the website more useful? Possibly send a link around to the Extension Assembly.

Action: Send out a notice when the website is updated.

Treasurer Report (Hansen): \$4,074.45. This does not reflect the \$1,000 that we have committed to the Sea Grant Academy.

Hansen will put together an activity report from the last few years. How can we make the account sustainable?

Assembly Excomm Minutes: All minutes and new documents are posted on the Assembly website (<http://seagrants.oregonstate.edu/asgepl/about>)

Assembly Listserve

- Assembly Directory (Similar to SGA): Falk: Should be up to date with program leaders but there are others on the list and we are not sure who everyone is?

Bacon likely to retire within a year so need to find a host for the listserv.

Should we have an expanded directory of SGEA members?

Falk will follow up with the membership.

Sea Grant Events (2013): Falk created a calendar of Sea Grant related activities. Most are national in scope and of general interest to the broader Sea Grant Extension group.

Need to post on the Assembly Website.

State Program Reports (SGA briefing book for March 5, 6 2013 SGA Meeting): Make sure that all programs participate with updates and overview of major activities.

Falk will send out to the network.

'Fundamentals' Update: (Bunting-Howarth) The copy editor and layout person were impacted by Sandy so a little behind the original schedule. Should be ready by the time of the Academy in mid-April.

Hansen will follow up with Logan Respass about copies for the Academy.

Frequency of Calls (Inclusion of Regional Reps. and Others): (Falk) Should we continue monthly or move to quarterly?

Bylaws say bi-monthly so proposal to have 6 meetings per year, half of which with the regional representatives included.

Alternative months, every third Thursday at 2pm eastern time.

Falk will send out the calendar to the ExComm and regional reps.

Other

Sandy response (Bunting-Howarth) Lots of people without homes. NY Sea Grant staff wasn't hit as hard as NJ Sea Grant. The NJ office was hit pretty hard. Ann Faulds hosted conversations within the network, particularly feedback from others that have been in similar situations. Federal network has also been involved. NY has been able to distribute some research funds, and to collect marina data.

Outstanding questions about ultimate Federal support.

Adjourn 3:00pm