

**SAML 2005 Business Meeting Minutes 5-12-05**  
**UNC, Wilmington, NC – Center for Marine Science**

**Minutes of the Spring 2004 Meeting** Galloway  
Motion to accept minutes with minor corrections, seconded -  
Accepted with edits by acclamation

**Treasurer's Report** Mahadevan  
See attached report

**Financial Committee Audit Report** Committee  
“We have inspected this financial report and associated supporting documents, and find it to be an accurate representation of the financial transactions and status of SAML”, submitted by Mike Orbach on behalf of the committee (Orbach, Tunnell, Mohavaden).  
Discussion: What is the number of SAML paid labs? ~45-46; several have been dropped during the past year due to lack of dues payment/interest in participation.

**Nominating Committee Recommendations** Van Dolah  
**Member at Large—2006-2008**  
Matt Gilligan  
Nominations from floor: none  
Motion/seconded to accept nom comm. recommend: Voted in by acclamation

**President-Elect—2006-2008**

Discussion: identified that last 3-4 Presidents have been east coast Directors and should consider Gulf Coast Directors. G. Crozier was mentioned as an excellent choice, but hadn't been able to reach him. Kumar suggests we take vote and if George declines then the election could be held via email. Wes suggested Roger Zimmerman might be a good candidate. Jim suggested we defer the vote until Friday morning when we may be able to contact both George and Roger.

Group agreed to defer.

**Friday morning discussion:** Bob suggested that we solicit Gulf members for nominations, including asking George if he would serve; Bob and Jim agreed to move this forward next week and then hold a vote via email. Group agreed with this suggestion.

**Meeting Updates** Sanders, all  
*NAML winter meeting(3/8-9/05)*

Busy and productive meeting; centered around whether NAML should be more active in decision process re: Ocean Sciences government policies. Decision was made to hire a firm to develop a strategic plan and action plan over next 6 months. Dues

from State and Federal Labs will be handled separately from funds that lead to support of the 'lobbying group'. How will the political activity be sustained, since it will be at a cost of about \$100k/yr. Discussion was held whether the NAML dues should be raised...no decision was made. NAML now has a public policy committee (Tony Michaels, Madilyn F. ) that will work with contractor, ... Committee membership is open to all interested SAML members. NAML board held discussion on email as to who can approve letters from NAML to various government entities. If item controversial should be brought to all of NAML. Are there NAML by-laws that cover this decision process.

*NAML fall meeting(9/21-23/05)* Sanders, all  
Stone Laboratory – Jeff Reuters

Jim would like to see strong attendance of SAML members; represent approx >1/3 of NAML membership

*SAML spring 2006 meeting* Tunnell  
TAMU-CC, Harte Center

Wes prefers Mar-Apr timeframe; will be in new bldg with conference center; maybe should consider first two weeks in Apr

*SAML spring 2007 meeting- SKIO/SSU- agreed*  
*SAML spring 2008 meeting- New College of FL*

## **President's Report**

Sanders

*Change in meeting timing, format*, to allow for annual workshops

Jim's reflection is that when a long-standing director leaves there appears to be a disconnect; record keeping and passing on information is a fault of a volunteer organization. Kumar suggests that pres-elect should be responsible to update the Director's contact list is update annually. Jim suggested that Treasurer be responsible for updating the billing list. Mike Orbach has suggested that Belinda of his organization will be assigned task of updating the list...and contacting all previous members to update information. Jim suggests that there might be a more recent list than the one in the handbook (approx 50 members). Kumar suggests that the by-laws should be amended to encourage a representative of the director attend (esp since there is only one mtg per yr). There was consensus that all labs will have an alternate and encourage their participation when Directors are not available.

*Attendance and Recruitment* Sanders/Tunnell

Wes and Jim volunteered to call folks and see why they were unable to attend annual meetings and how SAML could serve their members better. Conflicts were major reason for not attending from the people Jim contacted. Wes, no consensus about timing; contact person incorrectly id'd or not in position newly filled. Might want to set date soon after this meeting...Bob Van Dolah suggested against this early date setting...Mike indicates he agrees that it should be set sooner than later. Two critical folks are Mike and Wes, since they have to be there! Window – first two weeks in Apr and first week of May. Most are supportive of the week vs weekend format. Question should we have more regular meetings. Of course the fall NAML mtg every other year

takes place...thought maybe the off-year fall slot could be filled by a SAML Workshop (Ecosystems Mgt, Fisheries Mgt Workshop, Education, State of Atl coast SAML research)...who is the target audience for this type of meeting? Certainly more focused on researchers than directors. Lou indicated his vote for single mtg per yr, but supports Kumar in the desire to encourage attendance by a Lab rep. Having rep may help with continuity when Director's position changes. Bob opposed to 2 mtgs per yr. Suggests that we id external and internal issues early so that the topical issues of interest will encourage attendance.—e.g. like new Federal initiative presentation. Jim has three topics given to him for next year internal/external issues. Jim tabled suggestion for special meeting/workshop.

### ***Website development***

George Crozier suggested that we need a SAML webpage, doesn't feel that NAML webpage does the job. M. Orbach has begun this—see below.

### ***New Member request***

Sannibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation  
Director: Stephen Bortone  
Iris moved that this request be accepted; Bob seconded; accepted by acclamation

### ***WAML***

SAML assisted WAML to get off the ground with funds; WAML would like to contribute \$5K for hurricane assistance to, maybe small labs. Kumar lost a weather station he could use the funds, also Harbor Branch...but it seems like a difficult decision process. Bob suggests that maybe the 5 worst hit labs, support level staff maybe could benefit...Kumar maybe put the dollars in a hurricane fund that could be used to provide immediate help following a future hurricane; e.g. a generator  
Motion: Mike O; accept WAML offer to set up a hurricane relief fund dedicated to hurricane relief – decide in future process; Wes second --- accepted by acclamation.

### **President-Elect's Report**

Orbach

Mike excited at opportunity to serve SAML; has wonderful assistant, Belinda, who will make things happen. Dedicated to improving communications and to setting a new agenda --- oriented more toward policy --- constituents and community involvement. Handbook is one of the first goals for updating; it is converted to Word and they will work on updating. Will also consider a dedicated website; probably create straightforward page that will link directly to NAML where most maintenance is conducted.

### **Education Committee Report**

Gilligan

Position of Education Chair should be considered as a rotating role; Matt does not see himself in this role in perpetuity; it is suggested that maybe another member of the committee might step up to the Chair position; request volunteers from entire membership.

SAML awards program has been quite successful. Follow guidelines set up by both ERF and ASLO. Question how long program should be in place...recollection is that it was a trial period. Would be approp for committee to make recommendation. Also recognized that there were other societies/organizations that might be appropriate. Success and effectiveness assessment: students desire additional rewards for presentation. Motion: Matt recommends that the current award program be continued: \$1K per org per yr max; ASLO and ERF; ERF prefers lower amount \$600 per meeting (every other yr); amended by Jim put time-frame (3 yr thru 2008) so that decision will be reevaluated. Second – Lou Burnett. Accepted by acclamation. Discussion Kumar suggested this should be an annual decision by the board with input from the Education Committee. Should other groups be considered? Maybe work on this during the year and encourage the Board work with the Education Committee. Matt suggests that if there is a new society there needs to be a SAML point contact. Lou suggests that we should include the award winners be posted on the webpage. Motion: Bob VD education comm. solicit input on other societies that should be considered and (amended Sylvia G.) willingness to be a point contact; develop background information. Withdrawn motion and send topic to Education Comm.

New/old business: workshop exploring increasing minority institution collaboration with marine labs; Matt was unable to pursue this initiative due to work overload and involvement with NOPP, education sub-committee (ORAP); it is possible that the SAML Education committee maybe able to address this topic during the next year.

## **New Business**

None.

Meeting adjourned.

Attachments: Approved Minutes of Spring 2004 Meeting; Financial Report a/o 12/31/04; Dues Paid Roster; SAML Education Committee Report;