

SAML 2006 Business Meeting Minutes 4-12-06 Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies

Minutes of the Spring 2005 Meeting (S. Galloway)

*Motion to accept minutes with minor corrections, seconded -
Accepted with edits by acclamation.*

Treasurer's Report (K. Main for K. Mahadevan)

See attached report (cash balance 12/31/2005 \$77,000.06).

*Motion to accept treasurer's report made and seconded, motion accepted by
acclamation.*

Dues discussion: Jim S. suggested that the new dues structure allowed federal labs and state labs to choose to opt out of NAML dues...related to the lobbying role of NAML; decided on dues rate based on lab size; also decided that the dues will be billable by NAML, opt out NAML \$200 full dues \$500, though for those that cannot go the extra \$100 raise for association with NAML their dues will remain at previous level of \$400; will allow those who want to be member of NAML, but opt out of the lobbying activities of NAML to pay \$500, but put into separate pot of funds; check with Jim's email describing proposed dues structure. Bob VD asked about current policy relative to back dues payment to SAML since payment will be through NAML – we set SAML policy to drop members after 2 years in arrears; Mike and Wes will investigate how to handle this.

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 Bob Van Dolah on behalf of the committee (B. Van Dolah, K. Clark, I. Anderson, K. Main).

Discussion: note that the money market fund is accumulating ~\$2K/yr.

Nominating Committee Recommendations (Committee)

Members at Large—2007-2009 presented by Jim Sanders: need to replace two members at large; Lou Burnett's term expired; need to replace Wes since he is President-elect. Need to vote on new member and a replacement. Two recommendations from committee along with specific terms:

Bill Hawkins GCRL [Gulf Coast] 2005-2007

Madilyn Fletcher USC [East Coast] 2007-2009

Nominations from floor: none.

*Motion/seconded to accept nominating committee's recommendations: Voted in by
acclamation.*

Discussion: Jim S. discussed the situation relative to the NAML members-at large; NAML is streamlining the board of directors, trying to get to a size where a quorum could be achieved. New NAML structure includes 15 members – four members at large from each of the three regions (total of 12) + President, President-elect, President-past.

Jim suggested that SAML should decide on who will serve as the four members at large. He pointed out that NAML suggested that 3 of the 4 members-at-large from each region should be the regional President, President-elect, President-past; one problem will be that the President-past of SAML would be the President-elect for NAML every 3rd term. Jim suggested that we could set a priority order scheme of who will serve with the exception of any SAML officer that is a federal member (non-NAML member). Mike O. suggested that the members-at-large from SAML should be the 3 presidents (present, past, elect) and the 4th be nominated/elected from the priority order. Lou B. suggested a process set in the place; David J. asked whether the presidential representatives would have too much responsibility placed on them by this requirement? Jim pointed out that there will be 3 meetings a year required...Fall General Meeting, Spring General Meeting, and Spring Board Meeting; Mike stated that given the importance of the federal arena for funding, he couldn't imagine not being engaged in NAML while on the Board of SAML. Jim and Mike understand that every two years we have to let NAML know who our representatives are...doesn't mean that the process is locked in concrete...most agreed that the first 3 representatives should be the presidents...the question then was, how do we select the 4th and potentially the 3rd when the SAML president is also the NAML President. One suggestion was that an open election be held vs taking the representatives from the existing board/members-at large.

Motion for the representatio will be 3 presidents (present, past, elect) with open election for the remaining representative(s) normally selected from (3) members-at-large.*

*Doesn't constrain us from selecting from general SAML members.

Motion seconded and accepted by acclamation.

Jim offered to put a slate together for NAML representation to be voted on tomorrow.

Meeting Updates

(M. Orbach, W. Tunnell, J. Sanders, all)

NAML winter meetings

Catalina Retreat hosted by Tony Michaels: many of NAML changes were instituted at this meeting.

Washington DC (same week as CORE meeting): budget discussions - agency, specific laboratory budgets; met at Lewis-Burke & Assoc. offices, Joel Widder arranged an outstanding group of people to meet.

NAML fall meeting(9/21-23/05)

Hosted by Stone Laboratory – Jeff Reutter

Jim S. reported that NAML fall meeting was very productive; started the ball rolling on renewing NAML's involvement in support of regional laboratories; Bush's Competitiveness Program was discussed; talked about strategies to move NAML/regional groups forward.

Discussion: Mike O. mentioned the CORE membership has a two faction element, with large institutions vs small institutions; NAML is trying to avoid this factionalism. SAML is a grass roots organization and NAML is trying to capture this approach. Kelie C. and Mike agreed that Joel W. can get into the right offices to get attention to the NAML-regional AMLs needs.

SAML spring 2007 meeting- SKIO/SSU- agreed

SAML spring 2008 meeting- New College of Florida

SAML spring 2009 meeting- Morgan State

Jim brought up: Question whether the meeting format should be moved back to weekends vs the current middle of the week format. Bob, suggested that you will see that as many will prefer weekdays as weekend. Wes suggested that it be a general poll. Bob suggested that we should go back to bringing in someone from federal agencies with new funding initiatives – have more external issues.

President's Report

(M. Orbach)

Three objectives:

- Continue the great SAML process, website, handbook, etc; proposes to have his assistant update information by calling all institutions to check information, then turn back to voluntary updating. Reformatted handbook into common Word format...request comments from SAML members for updating and edits --- will put this up on the website.
- Build on activities, e.g. Wes's Gulf of Mexico Summit, to emphasize the role of SAML institutions in local, state, regional activities; Mike will review how this might be accomplished
- Wants to take the message of SAML outside of SAML at all levels; will start by strengthening our link through NAML.

President-Elect's Report

(W. Tunnell)

- 20th anniversary meeting of SAML; note the Handbook History, by-laws, and articles of organization remain accurate. Bob VD and Kumar M are only remaining founding fathers of SAML. Meetings were held in over 30 labs during this 20 year period; 17 presidents have served.
- May volunteer to develop a white paper on graduate student stipends.
- Gulf of Mexico Summit (11 states and Mexico) – State of the Gulf of Mexico goal, finally planned an invitation only event to bring together those who could initiate change; had head of NOAA, EPA, 4 Governors (2 US and 2 Mexico)(wanted more); Gulf of Mexico Alliance arose in response to Ocean Committee's recommendations; originally planned for 300, but had 430 attend.

Education Committee Report

(M.Gilligan)

Matt will present tomorrow during Internal Issue III.

New Business

- Iris A. offered to nominate U of NC Coastal Studies Institute for SAML membership; Director is Nancy White. Mike O. indicated that he would make contact to get them into SAML.

Meeting adjourned.

Attachments: *Approved Minutes of Spring 2005 Meeting; Financial Report 12/31/05; Dues Paid Roster; SAML Education Committee Report.*