

## **NOAA Education Council Meeting**

Date/Time: November 16, 2011 (1:00–4:00 pm)  
Location: SSMC3, Room 14836  
Dial-in: 866.901.0711  
Passcode: 8134683  
Contact: Luis Leandro - work: (202) 482-3139

Adobe Connects Link to Meeting: <http://connectpro46305642.adobeconnect.com/edcouncil/>

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### **AGENDA**

1:00 Welcome/Opening Remarks

1:10 New CO-STEM Education Taskforce Activities – Michael Feder (*informational*)  
(30 min presentation/30 min discussion)

2:10 Break

2:25 Mid-Atlantic K-12 Environmental Literacy Strategy – Shannon Sprague (*input request*)  
(10 min presentation/20 min discussion)

2:55 Climate Working Group Report Out – Frank Niepold (*input request*)  
(5 min presentation/10 min discussion)

3:10 Leadership Working Group Report Out – Bob Hansen (*input request*)  
(5 min presentation/10 min discussion)

3:25 Updates & Announcements

### **Next Council Meetings:**

December 14, 2011

### **Attendance**

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**In person:** Louisa Koch (LK), Marlene Kaplan (MK), Luis Leandro (LL), Paulo Maurin (PM), Rochelle Plutchak (RP), Michelle Arsenault (MA), Ron Gird (RG), Bob Hansen (BH), Frank Niepold (FN), Bruce Moravchik (BM), Michael Feder (MF), Kate Thompson (KT), Atziri Ibanez (AI), Molly Harrison (MH), Jennifer Hammond (JH),

**On the phone:** LuAnn Dahlman (LD), Paula Keener-Chavis (PKC), Maria Murray (MMu), Amy Clark (AC), Shannon Sprague (ShS), Sarah Yue (SY), Stacey Rudolph (SR), Sarah Schoedinger (SES), Stephanie Bennett (SB), Lindsay Knippenberg (LKKn), Steve Storck (SSSt), Peg Steffen (PSt), Lisa Iwahara (LI)

### **Announcements (LK)**

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LK introduced Michael Feder  
The new head of Education at EPA, Dale Perry, just came on board.

### **1:10 New CO-STEM Education Taskforce Activities – Michael Feder (*informational*)**

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*See PowerPoint.*

BH: Were there other federal agencies that were mandated to write a strategic plan, and how is OSTPs plan being coordinated with this?

MF: Yes, asked agencies for strategic plans although many did not have one. MF is unsure who was mandated to have one. NSF, USDA, Navy and a few others have them but it is not govt. wide. Looking at this as a criterion that each agency should meet.

PM: 1% of what? Is that compared to state and local levels?

MF: K-12 and higher Ed through grad school.

PM: No duplication? At what level? Federal?

MF: Yes, these data represent investments at Fed level.

PKC: Can you define Investment, and STEM education and duplication:

MF: These definitions were part of survey (read definitions from survey).

BH: Patent Trade Office has STEM program but they are not represented?

MF: PTO did not spend over 300K (which is what OSTP used as cutoff)

SES: Can you clarify numbers for educators? (slide 6)

MF: yes, (slide 6)

FN: Commerce piece of pie? (slide 7)

MF: Commerce had 5

PKC: Slide 10 when you say only science-23M, what does that mean? Will save question for later.

FN: Concerned that separation of agencies and their STEM efforts are important because it's connected to the agency mission.

MF: OSTP understands the importance of this division and recognizes that monetary assets are not the only thing the agencies have to offer. OSTP is sensitive to the issues having a strategic plan could bring up.

PKC: Will plan be released for public review or just released.

MF: no public review. Strategic plan will be released with Presidents budget.

MF: we do not know the exact mechanism we will use to seek public input yet.

PKC: is there a schedule?

MF: act says plan must be updated every year,

FN: will agencies have opportunity for comment?

MF: Yes

AI: slide 12, aligned with best practices? Is this the doc that was circulated a month ago?

MF: process is iterative, so this is the same doc that has been circulated before, updated and revised.

MK: working with OMB to improve efficiencies, have they seen inventory?

MF: Part of Co-stem group and are happy to not be doing to any more. OMB was surprised to find little duplication, but this was explained to them later. OMB is looking to see how they can help improve STEM education, since it's a cross-agency priority.

PKC: how will this interface with GAO survey?

LK: GAO will be sending us the survey results next week

MF: GAO and OSTP surveys were written in parallel, although they were not identical based on priorities for each group. They are

working together to explain differences between reports so when reports are released they can justify the differences. Congress and Agencies are two primary audiences.

LL: Once we finished the various surveys we (internally) looked at differences, so if OSTP needs help with any info, please ask and we could possibly supply that info

SY: Will we be able to update and revise answers, for example, primary objectives?

MF: Yes, we are open to improving the process and people can make updates.

LK: can you talk more about education effectiveness and postsecondary degrees and what the implications are for the agencies and programs.

FM: Looking for flexible funds or what funds can be 'shifted' towards the four priority goals (slide 12). These goals are still under development.

LK: Current metric under consideration is # of programs and dollars that can shift into priority goals....

MF: Legislative language is not the only constraint, but those agencies that have more flexibility will be expected to shift, say from in service to pre0service

MF: OSTP understands that not all agencies will be able to shift to specific priority goals and that's ok.

FN: 4 priorities seem focused on STEM professionals not STEM literate society.

MF: If you look at details you can see that both are addressed.

RP: How are you defining "engagement?"

MF: Poorly so far. Don't have a really strong definition

MF: If people have more questions please contact him! He is very open to feedback, comments and criticisms.

Photo op break.

**2:25 Mid-Atlantic K-12 Environmental Literacy Strategy – Shannon Sprague (input request)**

*See PowerPoint.*

LK: DE is going back to revise state strategic plan? Is that MD and DE and are they connected to Climate Literacy Plan?

ShS: Yes, state plan. And DE attended the summit last week and realized they had gaps they needed to address which is why they felt the need to revise.

AI: What about Neers?

ShS: Not listed currently, but that is an oversight

FN: How would you like to coordinate the response for Goal 2?

ShS: I will circulate doc to all. Doc has matrix, so please fill out matrix and send back to ShS.

ShS: Please review doc for alignment with goals.

ShS: Would like to have conversation about whether NOAA should engage in similar efforts... (on 2<sup>nd</sup> to last slide)

LK: Environmental workshop that ShS convened was great. People were very dedicated.

ShS: Schools in Chesapeake Bay are pledging to be Green and LEED certified and are taking actions already. They are also looking to the future with regard to saving future moneys. NOAA has a role to play in this and should.

LK: Look at email Luis sent about “America's green K-12 schools movement”

AI: I agree that NOAA should engage but were you thinking that we should coordinate?

ShS: Don't want to make it more complicated, but would like to know if NOAA Ed Council can get involved? Would like more strategizing, not just sharing of info.

KT: Perhaps we can have presentations by the various regions...

AC: With regard to Eco restoration task force- post oil spill-several presentations and exec order to develop high level strategy and there is a small piece that includes education, so this could set a lot of things in motion for the gulf coast area. Would like to strategize with people from other regions to learn how to move forward.

FN: We do have people that represent NOAA interests in the various regions, perhaps we could brief them. It would be beneficial to coordinate with the regional coordinators.

RG: There are many SOSs, so how could SOS network be facilitator for this area? Maybe we could use SOS to get our messages across.

ShS: How would council be involved?

LK: perhaps Ed council could be briefed by various entities.

KT: How about setting up a working group sponsored by the Ed Council? Congressional support?

LK: Perhaps we can form a task team first before forming a working group? ShS-can you contact counterparts and discuss the possibility of forming a team?

AI: Would like to be included in this.

ShS: would like to include others...NEERS, FN, and whoever else would be interested.

SB: would also like to participate

LL: Would love to participate as well, please include

LK: SB has volunteered herself for Hawaii/Pac, Kate suggested Jennifer Stock for West Coast, Great Lakes: Kate suggested Ellen, but will get back to the Ed Council about that.

FN: perhaps the Sea Grant connection is better for Great Lakes.

KT will introduce Jennifer Stock and Shannon by email

LK: What about SE, NE, and AK? Don't want to miss someone obvious.

AI: NAAEE has list of states/regions for reference on their website

LK: What efforts can we make to connect .....?

FN: as soon as NSDF releases NCEP 2 grant, many people will be seeking funding. 10 M over 5 years, and one of the things they are trying to do is connect initiatives with the funding, and connect groups together for leverage. We can't have all states, but perhaps we can concentrate our efforts. Let's not worry too much about 50 states strategy.

BM: Peg sits on state supervisors panel, so should be kept abreast of developments.

AI: Make sure the regional people are active and are operating at the strategic level.

LK: Can be more than one person per region, so don't limit the group to one per.

### **2:55 Climate Working Group Report Out – Frank Niepold (*input request*)**

*See PowerPoint.*

FN: First cross cutting topic of agency, but it shouldn't be the only topic

LK: Common metrics and how to measure them is work in progress.

FN: Asked AI about NEERS and performance indicators/outcomes.

AI: Testing for one full year, but they have specific outcomes they are trying to measure. Trying to dig deeper than just performance indicators

### **Leadership WG Report Out – Bob Hansen (*informational*)**

*See PowerPoint.*

AI: added that the Chinese delegation was very interested in NOAA Data, as was the Russian delegation that came for a visit.

## Updates and Announcements

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