

## NOAA Education Council Meeting

Date/Time: August 15, 2012 (1:00–4:00 pm)  
 Location: SSMC3, Room 14836  
 Dial-in: 866.901.0711  
 Passcode: 8134683  
 Contact: Erin Sams (202) 482-9183, Lisa Iwahara (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 NOAA's Role in Regional Education Policy -- Shannon Sprague (15 min presentation/15 min discussion) (*Informational*)  
 1:40 Strategic Plan Update -- Steve Storck (10 min presentation/10 min discussion) (*Decisional*)  
 2:00 M & E Performance Measures Review -- John Baek (25 min presentation/15 min discussion) (*Decisional*)  
 2:45 Break  
 3:00 Virtual Platforms & Traditional Knowledge Workshops -- Peg Steffen (10 min presentation) (*Informational*)  
 3:10 Higher Ed. Programs -- Marlene Kaplan (15 min presentation/15 min discussion) (*Input Requested*)  
 3:40 Updates & Announcements  
 3:50 Adjourn

## Next Council Meetings:

**September 19, 2012**  
**October 17, 2012**  
**November 14, 2012**

## Attendance

**In person:** Peg Steffen (PS), Steve Storck (SSt), Sarah Yue (SY), Chelsea Berg (CB), Christos Michalopoulos (CM), Shannon Sprague (SSp), Paulo Maurin (PM), Erin Sams (ES), Lisa Iwahara (LI), John Baek (JB), Marlene Kaplan (MK), Micah Efron (ME), John McLaughlin (JM), Heather Eberhard (HE), Jennifer Hammond (JH), Judy Koepsell (JK), Maria Murray (MMu), Bronwen Rice (BR), Chantelle Haskins (CH), Sandy Sarvis (SSa)

**On the phone/chat:** Bree Murphy (BM), Rochelle Plotchak (RP), Sarah Schoedinger (SSc), Eric Hackathorn (EH), Seaberry Nachbar (SN), Frank Niepold (FN), Stephanie Bennett (SB)

**Presenters/guests:** Heather Eberhard (HE)

## Welcome/Opening Remarks (MK)

- Lisa Iwahara new to the Office of Education, will serve as the Education Council Coordinator
  - LI: participated in Council through PPI in the past, looking forward to meeting each of you individually
- MK: We also have Micah Efron joining us as the new PPI representative to the Ed Council, filling Lisa's former role
  - ME: looking forward to becoming involved with the Council. My diverse education experiences have me well suited to be a resource and to learn from all of you.
- JM: Heather Eberhart, winner of the ISEF last year, just completed her internship with NOAA this summer; will be giving a NOAA brown bag tomorrow
  - HE: learned more than ever thought I could over the summer, presentation will cover the data collection and programming that I learned
- Changes to Ed Council organization; adding Christos to Ed Council as a voting member
- Release of CoSTEM Strategic Plan has been postponed until after the election
- FY11 Inventory Report will be released in September; plan is to hire a writer to create the final report after the election

- Will be available for public review soon, need to keep an eye on it
- OMB/OSTP memo out on FY14 budget and at last there is a paragraph on the importance of STEM Education

### **NOAA's Role in Regional Education Policy - Shannon Sprague (Informational)**

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See PowerPoint.

- PS/JH: how many NOAA regions?
  - LI: Eight
- FN: how do we stay connected to this enterprise, stay involved in this discussion?
  - SSp: if you're focused in a particular region, engage with that education liaison to coordinate efforts or to make sure no opportunities are missed to get national and regional groups working together
  - FN: We're working both the policy and programming sides. How would we know how to best connect to their programs, or more realistically, how regional programs can know how to connect to us.
- CM: Timely and important effort; This will help NOAA be very responsive to regional efforts
  - I get the sense that the policy-related initiatives are focused on K-12 Education
  - The NOAA regional structure is well designed for this but is limited in resources to do so
  - SSp: regional perspective needs to be included in the upcoming strategic plan re-write; and membership should be re-examined once the plan is complete
- PS: timely regarding the development of our Strategic Plan revisions; scale has been a difficult issue for us.
- MK: this is something that we've struggled with in the IWG-OE; we know these pieces exist but don't know how to connect to them
- FN: How do I know who else is working with a state, and how do we stay aware of this information flow to stay the most connected and coordinated?
  - SSp: Under the suggested structure, there would be a regional liaison who would know what is going on in the region as well as the appropriate contacts. Their role would be to facilitate coordination among NOAA educators.
  - PS: That needs to be somebody's job!
  - FN: And we need to know who that person is. A state needs to know how to find these people...
- CB: States are often not reporting because that step is another step that takes away from time spent doing their jobs

### **Strategic Plan Update - Steve Storck (Decisional)**

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See PowerPoint.

- JH: Best part of the process is that it isn't creating anything new, but rather taking the time to collect past information for Steve & Valerie to review and create a framework based upon
- BR: great for someone to come in with a fresh perspective, having not been in the discussions in the past. Some side benefits to having a fresh perspective while looking at your program's development.
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- SSt: I have everyone on a list and I'll send an email with a list of documents to provide us. Once at this step, we'll talk about setting up a timetable to develop a concept framework
- FN: the next round to the SEE Implementation plan modifications is coming up, so I'm trying to meld the Education Strategic Plan into the SEE Plan and into the Climate Education goals of our office...
- SSt: This goal framework will help inform and give us a better tool for communication
  - FN: only nuance is that I have an annual modification process for the SEE plan, so trying to do these things more closely together is better for using resources most efficiently

### **M & E Performance Measures Review - John Baek (Decisional)**

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See PowerPoint.

- **Webinar this Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 2:00**
- CM: We can do perhaps a prescreening for Ed Council members to whom some measures do not apply
  - JB: yes, I am doing the cross checking for that
- CM: So we should have you present the outcomes of the poll at the September meeting?
  - JB: yes, I can give a brief overview
  - MMu: Due date?
  - JB: **COB August 31<sup>st</sup>**
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### **Virtual Platforms & Traditional Knowledge Workshops - Peg Steffen (Informational)**

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See PowerPoint.

- SB: What about the Pacific?!
- PS: We're hoping the Western workshop would include the Pacific Islands
  - SB: would that include Alaska? Because that's a whole different community
  - PS: We're looking into it.
- PS: Eastern coast workshop might be located in West Virginia, Western workshop may be in PNW

- MK: Interagency groups often encourage us to take traditional knowledge into consideration

### Higher Ed. Programs -- Marlene Kaplan (*Input Requested*)

See PowerPoint.

- CB: how are the scholars being tracked?
  - MK: The institutes track information (race, ethnicity, name, number of students) to see if the students show up again in their programs. They track high school and college students as part of their grant.
- CM: the director of the NASA program spoke highly of the CREST event that Louisa attended last week
- CM: I don't see anything wrong with going to NASA or NSF to ask for permission to use their instrument that is already PRA approved
  - MK/CH: can't do that directly
  - CH: we have a voluntary "update" form that is PRA approved and can be updated with the information we want to collect
  - MK: performance measures can help us determine what information we want to collect
- KT: one of the things that came out through orientation is having them be ambassadors for not only Sanctuaries and NOAA but for the ocean itself. They can go back to their colleges and say what is happening in NOAA, etc. A component that they would have to write up as a final product of their experience is about how they see themselves as ambassadors of NOAA?
  - SSa: we are doing similar things with our interns. We ask them to be our ambassadors at career fairs around the country
- MK: Providing them leadership opportunities is also important so that they can build their resumes to apply for new jobs or move up within NOAA. I'm interested to see if we can give an alumni group a more official role within NOAA so that their recommendations come through the Ed Council and make it to NOAA leadership
- KT: What does Sea Grant do for their alumni network right now?
- CB: They keep track of themselves for the most part. We also have an online database that alumni participate in voluntarily. DC Alumni network is pretty established and active, holding events throughout the year.
  - MMu: jobs list is sent out to all alumni, so background information is useful for this
  - CB: diverse group, not just alumni at the moment (AAAS, other groups also included)
- MK: Any tips for how you do this? Issues that you struggle with?
  - CB: Hard because early-career professionals jump around so much and are sometimes difficult to track; we have a full list of criteria that they can include in the database ("Knauss Address Book")
- MK: I want to hire a group to go out and do this tracking, get something out on the street next year, build something that is consistent with NASA/NSF frameworks; we can put funds from Hollings toward this effort
- SN: You mentioned leveraging resources as an output? Is this mapping funds from grants, etc?
  - MK: Yes, they've been able to track funds from other sources (NSF grants, etc.)
- SSa: When we conduct this study, what are we actually looking for?
  - MK: We want to be able to say that some went into federal positions, some went into research or graduate school, some pursued a different field, etc.
  - CM: Hollings Scholarship was designed to attract future NOAA staff, so we should design a tracking metric to see if these people stay in NOAA sciences
  - MK: More broadly, if we are attracting students to STEM fields, we should be able to report that
- SSt: TAS left some tracking metrics off their tracking model; maybe by asking if the TAS participants were involved in other programs or made additional contributions, we could benefit from their results as well.
- MK: We had this conversation in our IWG-OE meeting and Carli Bertrand asked why don't we reverse engineer it...ask the graduate programs whether they use any of NOAA's programs as recruiting tools. Many used NSF's REU program and NOSB as recruiting tools. We have to go back and talk to Ocean Leadership about how they can use this information.

### Updates and Announcements

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