

# SNA Meetings Committee 2010-2011

## Activities / Accomplishments

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Warren Boothman, Chair  
Frank Baily, At-large  
Chris Schlekat, At-large  
Steve Reynolds, At-large  
Tim Iannuzzi, At-large  
Weiyang (Tim) Jiang, Student  
Kim Anderson, 2010 Annual Meeting program chair  
Jeffery Steevens, 2009 Annual Meeting program chair  
Jerry Farris, BoD liason  
Patrick Guiney, SETAC Secretary-Treasurer  
Greg Schiefer, Executive Director

### Standard Operating Procedures

- The Meetings Committee (MC) submitted a revision of the SNA Meetings Committee SOP to the BoD for approval. The revisions were made to reflect changes in operating paradigm for management of annual and other meetings, for example, the use of external consultants to solicit and investigate potential meeting sites and facilities.
- The MCX provided on-going revision and expansion of the Annual Meeting Program Committee Guidance to reflect experience gained from recent meetings and evolution of the Program Committees' activities and make-up.

### Annual Meetings

- The MC reviewed and recommended for approval a proposal to dedicate the Special Session on Boston Harbor/Massachusetts Bay at the Boston Annual Meeting to Professor Gordon Wallace.
- The MC reviewed ongoing planning for the 2012 Annual Meeting in Long Beach, recommending approval for the makeup and organization of the Program Committee and engaging in on-going discussions regarding use of technology to extend the reach of the meeting (see item below).
- The MC reviewed the comparison of proposals for potential 2016 meeting sites in Orlando and provided concerns and recommendations to the SNA office staff. The MC expressed concerns about the expense and isolation of the resorts evaluated, feeling that SETAC members are likely to want to be able to get out-and-about during breaks in the program and in the evening, and that putting student rate rooms at more hotels might impose an additional financial burden on students if the hotel doesn't provide shuttle service. The MC suggested negotiating for shuttle service connecting the hotel/meeting site with the downtown Orlando area.

### Discussion of streaming video potential for SETAC

- The MC has considered the use of streaming video as a potential opportunity for SETAC to reach a broader audience and add variety to the overall presentation of meetings. The concern is that such an effort needs to be done well/properly; if done poorly, it would detract from meeting

and have the opposite overall effects. Several members suggested taking a slow approach, where select parts of the meeting are offered as a pilot effort. Two directions were suggested:

- a. Starting at the low-profile end (e.g., general session presentations) to allow for the inevitable kinks to be worked out in the background, relatively speaking.
- b. Alternatively, starting at the high-profile end with well-known keynote speaker(s) or "hot topic" panel discussions / session presentations that would attract larger audience, with the payoff being a substantial paying web participation that would offset the costs in the short term, and that would potentially increase membership in the long run. A few notable sessions could be broadcast (e.g., a Gulf of Mexico session), to both show the potential of SETAC to new audiences and make the highlights available to those members who are unable to travel.

These discussions will be continued with members of the 2012 Long Beach Program Committee

#### Merida (Mexico) Focused topic meeting

Finally, the MC chair contributed to the planning and execution of the SNA Focused Topic Meeting in Merida, Mexico. The meeting was, by most assessments, very successful, as it served as a springboard for the Mexican Chapter to initiate more meetings and interaction of their own and support collaborative approaches to environmental research, management and governmental policies between Mexico and its North American neighbors. In addition, the meeting enabled a number of interactions between SETAC and the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) that have the potential to produce greater complimentary interactions between SETAC and SER in the near future.