

Annual Report of SETAC-North America (SNA) Regional Chapters Committee

Committee: Regional Chapters Committee

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Report period: November 2010 to October 2011

Top 1-3 goals of committee

- Provide a forum for Regional Chapter Presidents to communicate/interact
- Provide information about SNA resources available to the regional chapters
- Encourage and evaluate proposals for SNA funding (e.g., short courses)

Accomplishments

Communication

- Implemented web-based (surveymonkey) applications for short-course funding, and submission of chapter annual reports, to improve consistency in the information provided
- Received many more applications for short course funding than in previous years
- Encouraged regional chapters to use the Communities site, where information is posted (e.g., SOP, reviews of past short courses)

Short Course and Science Fair Funding

Regional Chapters were reminded of the availability of funds for Short Courses and Science Fairs. Two calls for proposals were made this year. Many chapters were successful in obtaining their own funding for short courses, student travel awards, and presentation awards. Funding was provided by SNA for the following:

Science Fairs

- Carolinas (\$200): Two awards of \$100 each for middle and high school students. The winners were also invited to the Chapter Annual Meeting.
- Midwest (\$175): Funding for first, second, and third places, at \$100, \$50, and \$25, for the Science Fair in February 2012.

Short Courses

- Carolinas. (\$400): Science Communication.
- Laurentian (\$300): Review of ERAs.
- Mexico (\$1000 – if the course goes forward in November 2011). 1-week course: Assessment of biological effects of contaminants in marine and estuarine environments.
- Ohio Valley (\$300). Urban Restoration, Remediation, and Risks.
- Rocky Mountain (\$300): Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry of Nanotechnology.
- Southcentral (\$300): Applications of GIS and Remote Sensing in Environmental Assessment.

The SNA budget for contributions to Regional Chapter science fairs and short courses is \$3000. In 2011, \$2800 was provided (plus \$175 for early 2012).

Chapter Annual Reports

Please see the individual chapter annual reports attached for details on activities of each chapter.

Issues

It is a challenge to track the change-over in Regional Chapter Presidents and Vice Presidents, as these change at different times of the year, depending on the chapter. See attached spreadsheet with current information. We may attach the list to the agenda each time we have a RCC conference call, to ensure the information is up-to-date. This also may allow us to track each chapter's annual meeting date, at which point we can enquire about change in leadership.

Some chapters are more active than others, and participate in the RCC conference calls more regularly. The Mexico and Quebec chapters have not participated in any calls this year. We will reach out to these chapters to encourage more active participation.