

NSSA Executive Committee
Minutes of the conference phone call 11:30am ET, 8/11/05
(action items in bold red)

Present on the conference call:

Shenda Baker (SB)
Dave Belanger (DB)
Simon Billinge (SJB)
Rob Briber (RB)
Jim Jorgensen (JJ)
Susan Krueger (SK)
Greg Smith (GS)
Franz Trouw (FT)

Missing:

Agenda

- 1.) Accept minutes from 7/12/05 conference call distributed by Susan**
- 2.) Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)**
- 3.) NSSA elections (Rob)**
- 4.) Other Business (NSSA Prizes); documents attached as drafts to be posted to the NSSA website and for an e-mail mailing announcing the prizes.**

=====

Discussions:

- 1.) Accept minutes from 7/12/05 conference call distributed by Susan**
Accepted without dissent with one typographic correction.
- 2.) Update on ACNS 2006 (Rob)**
Everything progressing satisfactorily. Will not be seeking funding from NSF this time.
- 3.) NSSA elections (Rob)**
Names of possible people for the slate were sent to JJ and SJB. RB will finalize the slates after the call with Jim and Simon and will start calling the people after that. Treasurer and President have to be from universities. JJ: Can we make sure that there is diversity in gender, geography, and faculty/university and subject matter?
- 4.) Other Business (NSSA Prizes); documents attached as drafts to be posted to the NSSA website and for an e-mail mailing announcing the prizes.**

Prizes: RB has worked these over and sent them to excom for discussion. SK: Shull prize has a typo. Everything else looks ok. DB use shall instead of will. RB: Changed wording to tie prizes to ACNS meeting rather than specifying "even years". Also added diversity statement from Shull prize to the others.

Fellows: DB sent wording to RB which was forwarded to excom. An issue is that we need to have a vote on updating the bylaws for the fellows program and this can be combined with the upcoming election. Typos: "members" in the last sentence should be "fellows". Past and present winners of the Shull and Sustained Research prizes should automatically get fellowship if they are not currently fellows. Agreement was reached on having "one nomination letter, and up to two additional supporting letters."

JJ will attend the upcoming users' chairs meeting at O'hare airport. He wants to know if anyone have an agenda, and what issues he should raise? DB: they should propose what they want at the next ACNS meeting rather than have us suggest things for them. JJ: what one or two messages do we want to take? Incremental funding can have a profound effect on users...can we have NSSA send a message to this effect? RB: the facility managers may turn to the user groups and ask "what are you capable of doing?". JJ: NSSA could play a role of helping to document the effect of incremental funding on user programs? FT: Joyce Roberts did extensive work on that at LANL. RB: Though this argument has not always presented forcefully and coherently, at least from the DOE labs, in this way. RB Things NSSA has done and could do again are letter writing and Capitol Hill visits. This is something that can be mobilized again. JJ NSSA could try and establish a contact on Capitol Hill who could be called on in times of crisis. RB: APS lobbyists can help us set up Capitol Hill visits when necessary.

GB noted that there is nothing on the NSSA website about ACNS. RB: this will appear after the next ACNS meeting. There is an ACNS website, but it has not yet been advertised. SJB should we advertise ACNS at ICNS?

Call ended 12:50 pm

Respectfully submitted, Simon Billinge, 8/11/05