



Wyoming NASA Space Grant Consortium

2012 Spring Board Meeting

April 20, 2012

University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Members Present: Suki Smaglik, Lorna Pehl, Burt Davis, Bill Gribb, Andrew Young, Sylvia Parker, Derek Montague, Rich Laidlaw, Mary Schwem, Mike Brotherton, Shawna McBride, Michele Turner.

Guests Present: Jason Krueger via teleconference

The meeting began with introductions by those in attendance.

1. Shawna provided an overview of activities in the Space Grant Office:
 - a. Space Grant hired Michele Turner as the new project coordinator. She was previously in Heather's position.
 - b. Heather has left Space Grant for another opportunity on campus. We will hold off on the possibility of hiring her position until later this summer.
 - c. Scott Thompson with Gillette College will be leaving us as an affiliate; he is working on finding a replacement
 - d. Activities the Space Grant Office will be participating in:
 - i. Undergraduate Research Day – April 21, 2012
 - ii. Women in Science Conference – May 8, 2012
 - iii. Community College Transfer Scholarships – DUE June 1, 2012
 1. Posters available to take back and distribute at colleges
 2. Suki, Lorna and Drew agreed to volunteer for the review committee
 - iv. WSSU Undergraduate Summer Fellowships – June 18 – July 27, 2012
 - v. AstroCamp – June 17 – June 26, 2012
 - vi. Summer of Innovation Camp – continue for 2012?
 1. Discussion about moving camp around the State so it would be in a different location each summer, offering opportunities to students throughout the State.
 2. Formal sub-committee to determine logistics for how to move forward with the SOI Camp. Lorna agreed to sit on the sub-committee which will meet during a summer teleconference and then present a formal idea at the Board Meeting in the Fall.
 - vii. Exploring Science Summer Teacher Workshops – August 6 – 10, 2012
 1. Questions about presenting workshops during the school year, possibly at the community colleges
 2. Bill Gribb suggested combining the SOI and teacher workshops; we could offer mini-grants to encourage them to attend, which would allow them funding for supplies
 - a. Could help fill the gap in K-12 STEM education

- b. Burt suggested it could assist teachers by providing more resources for them; more PD opportunities
- e. National/Regional Space Grant Meetings and Updates
 - i. Carla and Heather attended the Western Region Space Grant Director's Meeting in Fairbanks in August 2011.
 - ii. Suki and Shawna attended the Fall National Space Grant Director's Meeting in Green Bay in September 2011.
 - iii. Michele W., Shawna, Heather and Paul attended the National Space Grant Director's Meeting in Washington, DC in March 2012.
 - iv. The Fall 2012 Regional Meeting will be held in Coeur d'Alene, ID – September 27-29, 2012.
 - v. The Fall 2012 National Space Grant Director's Meeting will be held in Seattle, WA – October 25-27, 2012.
 - vi. The Spring 2013 National Space Grant Director's Meeting will be held in Washington, DC in early March, 2013.
- f. 2011 Competitive Grant – Innovation in STEM Ed
 - i. 1st area of interest – Increase undergraduate retention in STEM
 - ii. 2nd area of interest – Increase the number of qualified STEM educators
 - iii. Can apply for either or both, no matching fund requirement
 - iv. We will form a sub-committee to review and submit for this/these grants
 - 1. Suki will be on the sub-committee
- g. NASA is in the process of reorganizing their education priorities. At this point we do not know what this will look like, however, there may be changes to Space Grant
- h. Space Grant and Affiliate highlights are being solicited and are welcome by NASA Administrators. The contact email to send highlights: hq-space-grant@mail.nasa.gov.
- i. The OEPM Reporting System is not yet up and running. We will submit a progress report in the next couple of weeks and then complete a survey monkey in the fall if the system is not operational yet.
- j. Shawna mentioned several Citizen Science Projects.
- k. Engaging Minority Serving Institutions
 - i. Winston-Salem State University - Shawna had a very successful visit to WSSU in March; we received 16 applications this year
 - ii. Wyoming Conservation Corps Yurt Project – The Wind River Tribal College and the University of Wyoming will be hosting field courses in ecology on the Arapaho Ranch
 - 1. Suki will contact; possibly look at trying to partner with the Tribal College again
- l. MST Program in Astronomy seems to be stagnant right now. Lack of advertisement?
- m. Shawna is working on updating applications to make the cost share/match section clearer
- n. Also working on updating/clarifying the application instructions for including all current funding sources to be included in application.
 - i. Once updated, Shawna will forward to affiliates for their review and feedback.
- o. Faculty Research Grant and Graduate Research Fellowship Proposals were shortened from five to three pages.
- p. Faculty can no longer write a proposal for an unidentified undergraduate student; Undergraduate fellowship proposals are to be written by the student, not faculty
- q. CC STEM Scholarship applications; we will be adding the UW Vendor Form to the application for them to fill out; this is for ease in processing after the fact

- r. Discussion moved onto the Balloon Satellite Program
 - i. Possibility to use in High Schools, Middle schools; a joint Community College/High School effort as a model for others.
 - ii. Will form a sub-committee to determine what the program should look like (goals/objectives/implementation/assessment), what other items might need to be purchased; how to help defray costs; travel expenses
 - 1. Suki volunteered, Michele will initiate, and other suggested members were Astrid, Paul F., and Michele W., UW Atmospheric Science
 - iii. Launches could be done at workshops; rotate workshops/launches between the community colleges
 - iv. Possibility of presenting payload/launch results in some form– sub-committee will review
 - v. Board tentatively approved the initial purchase price of the equipment plus \$2000/year to cover launch expenses for two years, pending the final recommendation of the sub-committee
 - vi. Possible 2 day workshop/launch at the next Fall Board Meeting at Casper College
 - 1. Invite a few exceptional science teachers to attend and start program
- s. Mike Brotherton mentioned UW has an REU in Astronomy; Danny Dale is advertising but Mike B. felt this group should be part of their target audience in attracting students to the program.

2. Video Conference with Jason Krueger from StratoStar where he described the program, equipment, and support. Q&A with Jason.

3. Fellowship/Scholarship/Grants/Internships

- a. Community College STEM Scholarships – FY2010, 44 awards; FY2011, 37 total awards to date
- b. Community College Transfer Scholarship – 2011, 3.5 awards; 2012, 4 awards
- c. WSSU Summer Fellowships – 2011, 3 students; 2012, 4 students
- d. NASA Internships – 2011, 1 student; 2012, 5 students
- e. Undergraduate Research Fellowships – 30 applications, 10 awards, 2 alternate
- f. Graduate Research Fellowships – 23 applications, 5 awards, 2 alternates
- g. Faculty Research Initiation Grants – 14 applications, 4 awards, 1 alternate
- h. Faculty Education Enhancement Grants – 10 applications, 4 awards, 2 alternates
- i. Travel Grants for scientific conferences (\$250 each) – FY 2011, 9 awarded; FY 2012, 31 awarded to date
- j. Moonbuggy Team placed 6th out of 44 teams!
- k. Rocket Science Team will be going to NASA Wallops in July

4. New Items:

- a. Should Space Grant raise the hourly wage associated with our undergraduate fellowships? Should the amount of the award be lowered?
 - i. Raise to \$10/hour
- b. Should Space Grant adjust the stipends for the graduate fellowships to include all summer months?
 - i. Propose at fall meeting for board the vote on
- c. We plan on updating the Space Grant website this summer.
- d. The Space Trunk collection is in process of expanding to include a wind energy trunk and a Sr. level rocket trunk.
- e. Summer of Innovation follow-up – 7 sites are installing wind turbines

- i. We hope to have the website with live data from the turbines and weather stations up and running soon.
 - f. Space Grant is continuing to collaborate with INBRE, EPSCoR and McNair helping each other advertise, providing joint student luncheons, and the joint Space Grant-INBRE-EPSCoR event during Undergraduate Research Day.
- 5. Next Meeting:
The Fall 2012 Space Grant Board Meeting will be held at Casper College in Casper. The time and date to be determined – Thank you Drew.