

UNC Coastal Studies Institute Board of Directors Interim Meeting
Friday, June 26, 2009
Coastal Studies Institute
Manteo, North Carolina

ATTENDEES

Board Members Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Richard Johnson, Cheryl Oliver, Charles Evans, Ben Cahoon, William Kealy, Charles Bruton, and Ron Baird

Ex-officio: Deirdre Mageean (VC for Research ECU) and Dr. Nancy White

Staff: Marie Magee and Linda Davis

Guests: Irvin Aldridge (past member of UNC Board of Governors), Courtney Thornton (Representing VP Steve Leath, Ex Officio Board Member from UNC GA), and John Robinson

Board Members Absent: David Twiddy, Joan Weld, Rolf Blizzard, John Wells and Dr. Steven Leath

CONVENE/INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Mike Kelly welcomed all in attendance to the interim meeting of the CSI Board of Directors.

MINUTES

The minutes from the April 23, 2009 were reviewed. The minutes need to be corrected to show that William Kealy attended the meeting via audioconference. Cheryl Oliver made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 23, 2009 BOD meeting. Bill Kealy seconded the motion, all were in favor.

REPORTS AND CONTINUING BUSINESS

Director's Reports:

Facilities:

Nags Head Lab Update

The renovations to the Nags Head Lab are 99% complete. The renovations will provide full functionality for the Estuarine and Coastal Processes Program. In the context of the changing budget climate, this renovation has been an interesting process requiring 3 design revisions and State level review for the entire process. We started this process with a \$100,000 budget and completed the renovations with a \$34,000 construction contract.

CSI Campus Update

Nancy White informed the Board that the Skyco land purchase is complete. All expenses related to the purchase came out of the CSI capital account.

CSI has started working with the design team to redesign the campus. The programming aspect is almost complete and then we will start on the schematic design phase. We may hold another Board meeting at the end of July to discuss the campus design.

Nancy White announced that she was notified yesterday that the Appropriations Committee reduced our construction budget by 3.5% (a reduction of \$1,601,463). The Committee justified the cuts by claiming that construction costs are down due to the current economy. Nancy noted that the actual scope of the project is greater due to the canal and marine elements afforded by the Skyco site.

Nancy White stated that she was selected by ECU to submit a letter of intent to the National Institute of Standards and Technologies for \$13.25 million. If approved, this money would fund a portion of the construction and green technologies for our research building.

Personnel:

Coastal Engineering

Billy Edge, the new Coastal Engineering Program Head, officially started his duties on June 15, 2009. Dr. Edge has already been participating in the campus design process as well as the canal and boat/service plans for the campus.

Human Dimensions

The hiring of the candidate for the Human Dimensions Program Head position has been temporarily stalled until the budget shortfall can be resolved. The expansion budget will need to be supported before we can fill this, the maritime or support the engineering positions. Nancy White reviewed that Research and Graduate Studies had possibly planned to support the entire salary for this position until CSI acquired the funds. However, Deirdre Mageean stated that, because this position would command a larger salary as an economist, Research and Graduate Studies does not currently have the money in their budget to cover this expense. Additionally, it is difficult to make a decision about budgetary issues when the future is so uncertain.

Budget:

Nancy White stated that the NC Legislature is considering an approximate 26% cut for Centers and Institutes. At this time, CSI is slated for a 20% cut. We are considering going to Raleigh to try and offset these efforts. It is important for the Legislature to know that Centers and Institutes are doing the kind of work that the University wants done (providing public access/applied research) and most importantly generating revenue. It may be 3-4 more weeks before the legislature approves a budget.

Nancy White sent out, via email, a spreadsheet showing the current CSI operating budget. White reviewed the spreadsheet for the understanding of the Board. The spreadsheet includes budget scenarios showing 3, 6, 10, and 20% cuts for the Institute. White stated that we have not yet been informed if the balance of the carryover money or the grant offload funds will be available this

fiscal year. The budget spreadsheet reviewed at the meeting showed budgeted amounts for only fixed expenses and salaries for upcoming fiscal year.

Other Committee Reports:

Foundation Update:

Ben Cahoon provided an update on the Coastal Studies Institute Foundation Board activities. The Foundation is planning on preparing a two year fundraising plan that will be built around the design and construction of the new campus. The fundraising campaign will run from approximately October 2009 to October 2011. Some fundraising suggestions include hard hat tours and naming opportunities. The goal of the campaign is to raise money to cover the Foundation's expenses as well as create student and faculty endowments. It was strongly suggested that the Foundation designate all money raised as being for the Foundation and not for the Institute (i.e., specifically for endowments and not for campus construction or design costs). The Foundation will unveil the fundraising plan at the upcoming joint Board of Directors/Foundation meeting in the fall of 2009. The new Foundation Executive Director, Webb Fuller, has been working with Cathy Hanby-Sikora from UNC GA to develop a long term fundraising plan which will include anticipated expenses and fundraising expectations.

By-Laws:

There is no report.

Other Business:

Nancy White stated that CSI would like to post Board Member biographies and pictures on the CSI website. Mike Kelly recommended that an email be sent out regarding this and Board Members respond individually.

NEW BUSINESS

Partnership with NOAA Marine Sanctuary Program:

Nancy White noted that at the last CSI Annual Board of Director's meeting Dave Alberg stated that NOAA wishes to have a significant presence in North Carolina, either in the Outer Banks or in Morehead City. NOAA currently has 2-3 people located in NC; however, in the future, that number may increase to 10-12 people. This expansion may result in a future partnership between NOAA and the Coastal Studies Institute. White then asked Board members to review a letter to Dave Alberg expressing support for expansion of the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan. Richard Johnson made a motion to support continued participation with NOAA. Charles Evans seconded the motion. All were in favor. Cheryl Oliver recused herself from voting on this motion because she is employed at NOAA. The letter will be printed on UNC Coastal Studies Institute letterhead and will be sent to Mr. David Alberg, Sanctuary Superintendent of the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary.

Nancy White announced that the Coastal Studies Institute is holding a reception for Mr. Dan Basta, Director, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuary Program, on Wednesday, July 22nd. The reception will be at Pamlico Jack's Restaurant (formerly Penguin Isle) in Nags Head from 6:00 to

8:30 pm. CSI employees and partners will be meeting with Mr. Basta on Thursday, July 23rd. Board members are welcome and encouraged to attend both/either events.

ADJOURN

There may be another short videoconference meeting in late July. The agenda will include the campus buildings elevations and a five year budget strategy. The Board of Directors annual meeting will be held sometime in late September-early November. The meeting will be a joint meeting between the Board of Directors and the Foundation. The date will be decided after the Foundation completes their fundraising plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda L. Davis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Respectfully Submitted,".

Linda Davis, Recording Secretary