

Minutes of September 23, 2016 FIO Advisory Council Meeting

Location: Eckerd College, Triton Room, St. Petersburg, Florida

Chair: Jackie Dixon

Attending Council Members:

In person: Richard Long, Gil McRae, Courtney Hackney, Ralph Wilcox, David Hastings, Megan Davis, Jackie Dixon, Phil Kramer, Wade Jeffrey, Frank Biafora, Richard Stevens, Quinton White, Jim Fourqrean, Jim Gelsleichter, Randy Runnels, Sandra Gilchrist, George Maul, Darren Rumbold, Kumar Mahadevan

Online/Phone: Peter Ortner, Mike Allen, Cindy Lewis, Valerie Paul, Andy Shephard, Heather Judkins

Absent Members: Karl Havens, Ian MacDonald, Richard Dodge, Graham Worthy, Jody Harwood, Don Dent, Eric Milbrandt, Linae Boehm, Grant Palmer, Mitchell Roffer, Lisa Oliver, Scott Graves

Other Attendees: Susan Harrison, Shawn Denman, Rob Walker, Libby Fetherston-Resch, Carol Maul, Lieu Huynh, Cam Ngo

David Hastings introduce the Dean of Eckerd College, Suzan Harrison. Suzan Harrison welcomed everyone to Eckerd College. Provost Ralph Wilcox thanked David and Suzan for hosting the event at Eckerd College and welcome FIO new director, Philip Kramer.

- I. Opening remarks and role call by Philip Kramer.
- II. Meeting call to order by chair, Jackie Dixon, at 9:05 AM.
 - A. Request for approval of September 23, 2016 agenda
 - B. Request for approval of minutes from April 25, 2016 meeting.

Wade Jeffrey motion for approval of agenda and minutes, Quinton White second. Agenda and April 25, 2016 minutes approved.

Philip Kramer asked each council members introduce themselves.

- III. FL RESTORE Act Update: Presentation by Libby Fetherston-Resch – FLRACEP Director
 - A. RFPI year 1 is coming to a closed
 - B. RFP II will begin work focusing on long term fisheries monitoring. RFP II was awarded to Dr. Earnest Peebles.
 - C. There will be opportunities for potential funding from NRDA in the future. GOMURC will have an opportunity to make recommendation on the NRDA upcoming meeting. The lead contact is Chris Benson
- IV. FIO Update: FIO Director, Philip Kramer
 - A. Budget Update – FIO is still currently operating in the black. Looking to set aside 5% of year-end balance for emergency issues. Goal is to build the reserves for a goal of \$1M.
 - B. Legislative Update - FIO is requesting \$1.8M in the LBR to assist for operation of the KML for FY 17-18. This include recurring and nonrecurring fund to maintain the facilities and

support SUS subsidized day at KML, which is similar to SUS subsidized shiptime for the WB & Bellows. Council members comment that FIO can include other lab and facilities in the LBR and show that each facilities support each other and are not competing against each other. Council members propose an Ad hoc community for marine lab. Members are in favor and approved.

- C. Personnel Update – FIO hired new webmaster, Tamara Taylor. Shawn Denman is the Marine Vessel Coordinator. Cindy Lewis is the new scientific researcher. We are currently looking to replace Mark Collins’ position, the Education Outreach Coordinator. FIO is also in search of an administrative specialist to support Philip Kramer, FIO director. The KML is looking to replace Mike Norberg, the biological scientist who is returning to Panama City to join FWC. Bill Hogarth will remain with FIO to assist with the construction of the new research vessel until June 2017. FIO will hold off on hiring an associate director, but are open for comments and recommendations.
- D. Vessel Update:
 - 1. Bellows – FIO awarded 53 subsidized ship days for the RV Bellows for FY 15/16. Some of the days were moved to the Weatherbird due to issues on the Bellows. For FY 16/17, 69 SUS days were awarded on the Bellows. The RV Bellows is now in the shipyard to replace the joiner due to a fuel leakage.
 - 2. Weatherbird – FIO awarded 12 subsidized ship days for the Weatherbird for FY 15/16. For FY 16/17, 10 SUS days were awarded on the Weatherbird. The Weatherbird completed a 40 days cruise to Mexico with Steve Murawski. They will be going to Cuba for 17 days in May 2017. Bill is working with the Harte Institute to assist with the trip.
 - 3. New Vessel-- FIO new vessel to be call the William T. Hogarth. First quarter update was submitted to the Governor’s office in August. We are currently ahead of schedule and on track. Vessel expected completion late summer. We have live webcam to track the construction of the vessel if anyone wants to visit, it can be found on FIO’s website.
- E. Keys Marine Lab (KML) – There is an increase in usage of the new seawater system at the KML. The College of Marine Science will be offering the Marine Ecology Field Methods course at the KML for three weeks as a winter course. Other institutions are encourage to participate. Council members suggest for FIO to look at common dates to ensure other institutions with difference schedule will have an opportunity to participate. If schedule can’t be changed, maybe the course could consider be repeated at a different time.

- F. FIO Website Update: FIO Webmaster, Tamara Taylor
FIO is redesigning our website to provide room for growth. Council member propose an online cruise plan to allow data to be readily available for report. FIO is currently working on a new cruise plan to approach this goal.

V. Summer Course Update –Heather Judkins

This summer the course consisted of 2 cohorts, 27 students and 2 teacher assistants. Some changes were suggested for the introduction week of the course. The first 2.5 days could be an online/background reading/instruction video with a short bio to help student with the class. Student generated around \$20K for the course. The University that is running the course are funding supplies for the course. There are lots of good feedback from students for the summer course.

VI. GOMURC Update – Andy Sheperd

There are currently enough funding for GOMURC to continue the program through 2017. Chris D’Elia will become the board chair until September 2017. GOMURC vision and mission has changed. A strategic action plan was proposed to accomplish the changes.

VII. Ad- hoc Committee Appointments

Peter Ortner term will end on September 2016 as the Executive Committee member. Nomination are Valerie Paul, Sandra Gilchrist, and David Hastings. Wade nominate Valerie Paul, Jim second and Jackie approved. Jackie will approach Sandra Gilchrist and David Hastings to sit on nomination committee.

VIII. New Business

- A. Ocean’s Day will be March 15 – March 16, 2017 in Tallahassee.
- B. The Guy Harvey Fisheries Symposium will be in October 2017
- C. The St. Pete Science Festival/Marine Quest will be on October 20 – October 22, 2017. October 20 – 21 will be open to the public.

Jackie motion for meeting to be adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 4:02 PM.