

**MINUTES OF USUCGER BOARD MEETING  
CONFERENCE CALL  
AUGUST 12, 2009**

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anand Puppala-President, Ali Maher-President Elect, Jim Hanson-Treasurer, Chris Baxter-Secretary, Amy Cerato, Marte Gutierrez, Ken Stokoe

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS:** Matt Evans-Webmaster

**MEETING COMMENCED AT 3:00 P.M. EDT.**

**AGENDA:**

1. Update on Faculty and Student Travel Initiatives
2. Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting
3. GeoCoalition Meeting Update - Ali Maher
4. Transition Information - President and Treasurer
5. Finances and NSF Report Update (Jim)
6. USUCGER Web Matters (Matt)
7. Any Other Items?

**1. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On behalf of the USUCGER Board and its members, President Anand Puppala congratulated Amy Cerato for receiving the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE).

**2. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Anand solicited votes from the UBoard for the Student Travel Award and the Faculty Travel Award. Both awards were approved. Webmaster Matt Evans will prepare an announcement for the Student Travel Award and Secretary Chris Baxter will prepare an announcement for the Faculty Travel Award for distribution to the membership.
- The Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) has agreed to provide one complimentary registration to a Uboard member to attend the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual DFI conference on October 20-23, 2009.
- Shamsher Prakash agreed to provide one complimentary registration for the “Fifth International Conference on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics and Symposium in Honor of Professor I. M. Idriss” to a USUCGER member appointed by the UBoard.

**3. GEO-COALITION MEETING UPDATE**

President-Elect Ali Maher made a presentation about USUCGER at the GeoInstitute’s Geo-Coalition meeting in May. USUCGER was awarded full membership in the Geo-

Coalition, and possible initiatives (internships, work study opportunities, etc.) with the Geo-Coalition will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **4. TRANSITION INFORMATION – PRESIDENT AND TREASURER**

This is Anand's last meeting as President of the Uboard, and details of the transition to Ali's Presidency were discussed. Anand mentioned that the Uboard should have meetings approximately 5 times/year (by tele-conference or in person) and that the annual awards need to be managed and awarded. He stressed that the Uboard elections need to be held on time at the end of the year.

Treasurer Jim Hanson's term is also ending and there was considerable discussion about the transition to a new Treasurer. Uboard member Marte Gutierrez agreed to become Treasurer in February 2010, and Jim will begin the transition with Marte over the next few months.

The next due's cycle for the membership is this Fall. Jim mentioned that keeping track of the membership (status of the membership, contact information, etc.) is more work than maintaining the funds, and Jim recommended that a student or professional be hired to do some web development. It was also suggested that the dues cycle this year be postponed to the end of the year.

There is approximately \$37,000 in the USUCGER checking account and an additional \$10,000 in a savings bond. These funds will need to be moved to a bank in Colorado when Marte becomes Treasurer.

#### **5. FINANCES AND NSF REPORT UPDATE**

Jim presented the findings of the 2008 USUCGER workshop to the NSF CMMI conference in Hawaii as part of the reporting requirements for the grant. An annual report was submitted and was approved by NSF and Jim will submit a final report by the end of the year.

#### **6. USUCGER WEB MATTERS (MATT)**

None

#### **7. ANY OTHER ITEMS**

The committee unanimously thanked Anand for his service as President.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 4:00 P.M. E.D.T.**