

**TCS Board Meeting
December 19, 2005
2:00 PM ET**

Attendance: President Paul Ticco; President-Elect Kristen Fletcher; Past President John Duff; Directors Tom Bigford, Rick Burroughs, Gib Chase, Ruth Kelty, Chad Nelsen; Chapter President/Liaison: Colleen Kennedy (Duke), Valerie Grussing (ECU), Jessica Quinn (UW).

Paul Ticco thanked the NOAA MPA Center for sponsoring the conference call.

I. Secretary's Report

The minutes from the July 20, 2005 Board Meeting were approved as presented by **UNANIMOUS VOTE**.

Two electronic votes were reported:

1. The Executive Committee **voted unanimously** to approve payment of a \$2500 deposit to Sierra Bay to open the conference online abstract acceptance system.
2. The Board **voted unanimously** to approve the slate of candidates for election to the TCS Board as presented by the Nominating Committee.

II. Nominations Committee

Committee Chair Duff reported the results of the election as a seconded motion to accept the results by which Patrick Christie, Ariel Cuschnir and Laurie Jodice were elected for a three-year term to the TCS Board of Directors. **Motion carried**.

Ticco appointed Gib Chase to an ex-officio position on the Board for a two-year term from 1/1/2006 – 12/31/2007. Chase will work with the Membership Committee.

Ticco has extended to Kimberly Lellis an invitation to serve in an ex-officio position on the Board for a two-year term from 1/1/2006 – 12/31/2007. Lellis would work with the Special Projects Committee.

III. Development Committee

Committee Chair John Duff reported that efforts continued ahead of the TCS 19 pace (started sooner and asked for higher amounts from prior sponsors), but that the current Federal budget constraints were slowing the receipt of confirmed bankable dollar amounts.

He restated his request for a conference budget and TCS biennial budget which would be used to provide information to potential and committed sponsors. He urged the TCS Board to consider including in the conference budget any conference-related activity occurring in the year prior and the post-conference time periods such as topic surveys and Bulletin issues.

ACTION: Board members are urged to recruit sponsorships from their employers, colleagues and other organizational contacts. Contact information to be sent to Duff for follow-up.

IV. Treasurer's Report

No report available. Executive Director Tucker reported that amounts in the checking account and investment account were normal for the end of a non-conference year.

ACTION: Finance Committee to present a draft conference budget and draft biennial budget by January 15, 2006.

V. Membership Committee

Committee Chair Tom Bigford submitted a written report prior to the meeting in which he outlined membership activity during the last six months, and requested assistance in setting priorities from among the many points in the TCS Membership Plan. Prioritization will allow limited volunteer time to be put to best use, and to accomplish the most important tasks.

ACTION: Board to pick priority areas in membership action plan listed in memo from Bigford by January 3, 2006.

ACTION: Board to review two membership handouts and sample recruitment letter, and send comments to Bigford by January 3, 2006. Final versions to be put up on web site.

ACTION: Goodwin to recruit members from local shoreline and coastal planners groups, and to assist Cascadia Chapter in strengthening each of its member states/provinces.

ACTION: Student Chapters to recruit membership from outside the marine affairs department.

ACTION: Board members are challenged to expand the TCS Internship Program into other Federal agencies or organizations such as Surfrider chapters. NOAA NMFS model or Surfrider model may be used. Potential opportunities to be reported to Bigford by March.

VI. Communications Committee

A. Bulletin

Ticco reported for Fullenkamp that per terms in our contracts with Ellen Gordon, editor, and Urban Harbors Institute (UHI), production, the TCS Board must review performance and may offer to extend the contracts for a second year. Discussion of performance was favorable. Both Gordon and UHI sent letters expressing their interest in extending the contracts.

ACTION: Communications Committee to put forth a seconded motion to extend the contracts as soon as possible.

Gordon offered to contract for publication of a fifth issue as a summary report of TCS 20. Gordon would write most of the content with assistance from others in covering concurrent sessions. Publication might involve UHI.

ACTION: Fullenkamp to investigate options for publication and costs.

B. Web site

Ticco reported for Jodice that UHI was doing a very good job in maintaining the TCS and TCS 20 web sites. A new section of the TCS 20 site for the Planning Committee's documents will be established soon, and the URL will be distributed to the Board.

VII. Special Projects Committee

A. Student Chapters Activity at TCS 20

Kristen Fletcher reported that the chapter presidents had participated in a conference call to plan a workshop on Sunday prior to the conference. The workshop will include a section to discuss careers and recommended course of study, and a section for chapters to compare chapter organizational issues.

B. Katrina Benefit Activities

Fletcher reported that several options for raising funds to benefit restoration activities were being planned in conjunction with TCS 20. One option would be to sell an origami kit of the sailboat featured on the Call for Solutions. Another would be to collect tax-deductible donations to TCS as a charitable organization and award them at TCS 20.

C. Conference Manual

Fletcher is working with the conference chairs and Tucker to further develop a planning manual for future TCS conferences which will put in one place the notes previously kept by individuals working on separate aspects of the conference.

VIII. Education Committee

A. Funding for Student Travel to TCS 20

Rick Burroughs reported that the committee had decided to award the travel funds immediately after the conference because the sponsorship money comes in well after the abstract acceptance period. The committee recommends following the decision process for making awards used previously, by which the available funds are spread among all applicants according to need, travel distance, other funding available to the student, and whether a presentation or poster is being made.

ACTION: Board to send comments on procedure to be used to Burroughs.

TCS Chapters were urged to investigate other university related programs for funding travel.

B. Funding of Future Student Travel

Funding options can be pursued as part of the overall TCS development plan. One suggestion given was to promote a student scholarship program on the TCS web site for travel to TCS conferences and to other educational meetings.

IX. Chapter Reports

A. Cascadia Region

Bob Goodwin reported that the chapter is still considering whether to continue in its current geographic scope or to split into two chapters. They also need to find new leadership.

- B. East Carolina University
Valerie Grussing reported that TCS co-sponsored and Bigford attended an event in December where a student from each of the four emphasis fields made presentations and 15 posters were displayed.
 - C. Duke University
Colleen Kenney reported that the chapter is planning a dune restoration project in the spring, and is recruiting first-year students on the main campus in Durham.
 - D. University of Washington
Jessica Quinn reported that the chapter is hosting discussions with local leaders in the field, hosting Blue Drinks where students and professionals gather to network on ocean issues, and planning a restoration project in the spring.
 - E. University of Hawaii
Ticco reported that a student chapter is forming proceeding through the steps for affiliation with TCS.
 - F. Other Potential Chapters
Ticco reported that the DC-VA-MD area has hosted networking events and seminars, but may be too large a geographic area for a chapter. Maryland Sea Grant College Program has suggested that the University of Maryland might be a center for a chapter.
- X. Coastal Manager Certification
Goodwin presented a framework for assessing the need and value of a coastal manager certification. The Board is to consider whether the field is well enough defined after 30+ years so that a certified coastal manager designation would be meaningful, or whether a definition of the core skills needed as a competent coastal manager would be more useful. **ACTION:** Board to comment on the framework document to Goodwin.
- XI. TCS 20 Conference
Fletcher reported:
1. the draft of the concurrent session schedule will be out mid-January
 2. a waiting list for concurrent session presenters has been formed due to the record number of submissions
 3. former Senator Bob Graham has been invited as the opening plenary speaker
 4. the moderator and 2 of the 3 speakers have been confirmed for the closing plenary on Energy
 5. space is available for other groups to meet before and after the conference
 6. Michael Henderson, Mike Wascom and Kate Killerlain-Morrison are to be recognized for their hard work on planning the program and activities.

Goodwin commented that the demand for a web cast of the conference did not seem to be nearly as great as at TCS 19 when the breaking news was the two ocean commission reports. Fletcher suggested that alternative ways could be employed to capture the sessions, and to distribute the information beyond the conference.

XII. Roles and Responsibilities of the Executive Director Position

Ticco reported that he and Fletcher, Fullenkamp, Bigford and Tucker had recently reviewed the position, and that he would have a proposal for new and enhanced responsibilities to send to the Board.

XIII. Development of a Long-Term Strategic Plan for TCS

Ticco will send out to the Board his ideas for a strategic plan to begin in the second year of his term as President and extend beyond. The Board will be asked to respond.

MOTION to adjourn was **passed unanimously**. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM ET.