

Marine Science Consortium Summit Meeting Highlights
Joint Meeting between newly formed Administrative Board (Presidents of the 5 Full-Member Universities) and the newly created Academic Advisory Council, Shippensburg University

October 19-20, 2006

OCTOBER 19

Voting Directors to Administrative Board (Usually Presidents of the 5 Full Member Universities)

(Note: Kutztown President and Millersville Presidents represented in absentia*):

- Dr. Bob Dillman (President, East Stroudsburg University) *** President of Admin Board
- Dr. Jody Harpster (President, Shippensburg University)
- Dr. Bob Smith (President, Slippery Rock University)
- Dr. Carlos Vargas (Provost & VP for Acad. Affairs, Kutztown University) *
- Dr. Vilas Prabhu (Provost & VP for Acad. Affairs, Millersville University)*

- Dr. Jessica Kozloff (President, Bloomsburg University- Associate Member)
- Dr. John Callander, (Executive Director & CEO of the MSC (newly hired))
 - ~25 years experience in academic administration
 - Old Dominion University, Director of Regional Programs among others
 - Wallops Branch Campus, Community Colleges etc.
 - many administrative strengths: managing large budgets, planning, funding, design/planning/construction etc.
 - Is now in place and working to develop MSC, its infrastructure and its resources for the future.

Introductory Remarks

Dr. Bob Smith (SRU):

- 5 Presidents committed to make MSC WORK FOR US ... Faculty
- commitment to make sizeable commitment to MSC
 - Financial
 - Administrative (established new bylaws and 2 board system)
- Improve Research Opportunities
 - Faculty
 - Students
 - Joint options
- Provide Opportunities for Teaching & Scholarship
- MSC needs considerable demolition, renovation to ensure quality operation in the future; driven by:
 - Research/teaching experiences for full/associate members are in jeopardy
 - need to return the lucrative revenue stream to keep costs down for member institutions
- Revenue Stream for MSC historically
 - Elder Hostel Program
 - Pre-College (middle-high school programs)
- Encouragement from NASA
 - Front door to NASA Wallops Island not so pretty
 - Opportunities for relationships with NASA and Students
- Broaden the Base of MSC
 - Math, Chemistry, Biology/Medical, Physics, Computer Science, Engineering, Business, etc.
- Need is \$8 million

- Desire is nothing more than to meet original mission of MSC.
- Administrative Board
 - manage, maintain, and grow facilities and revenue
- Academic Board
 - our control: teaching, research, etc.
- Plan:
 - by next summer (2007) expectations to see tangible results at MSC in terms of operation, and facilities
- Goal of Presidents:
 - make the job easier for faculty to do what faculty do best
 - Presidents are committed to MSC on all fronts: Budget, Facilities, Future
 - expecting a commitment to teaching courses/research on part of faculty
 - Budget is in place but hard to swallow
 - no other program receives this \$/student equivalence
 - explore interaction with NASA?
 - “POTENTIAL IS PHENOMENAL”
 - associate members: needed as partners in all respects

Status of Facilities/Revenues

Dr. John Callandar, Dr. Albert Answini (Kutztown University-outgoing President and CEO)

- MSC History
 - built as part of naval facility housing WWII
 - converted to Community College Branch Campus for some time in late 60's to 70's
 - MSC established in late 70's at the facility
- Facilities
 - 79,000 square feet (includes 5 abandoned buildings)
 - 59,000 square feet (working labs, dorms, facilities management)
 - major decay/destruction during last 5 years: storm damage, and aging – buildings not intended for this long use
 - 5 abandoned buildings must come down – condemned – 3 of them are immediate
- Financial
 - large enrollment drops in all programs immediately in response to deterioration of facilities
 - ~100,000 people have used MSC facilities in the 20 years since it opened at Wallops
 - old teachers/faculty still come & utilize facilities
 - no new programs, no new teachers or faculty – hard to sustain positive budget with declining numbers
 - Revenue:
 - ~1.3 million per year during peak operation ~5,000 students pre-college
 - expenses per year = ~\$900,000
 - till 2004 excess revenue of ~\$2,000,000
 - dollars went back to infrastructure repairs/renovation needed
 - elder hostel program = ~\$300,000 per year with major drop after 2004
 - college program has never generated much revenue - \$ go to individual universities for credit hour costs with only minor \$ going to cover faculty contract and living expenses at MSC- highly subsidized by other 2 programs
 - Full and Associate Member Dues per anum – amount not given but of 14 Universities the number of students participating has been dropping.
 - last 2 years 04-05 and 05-06: MSC operating in deficit spending to about \$125,000 + interest

- new cafeteria paid mostly by full members dues and some money from associate members but still needs some dollars to pay off the construction
 - end result: MSC is ~\$375,000 deficit – Presidents are in support of covering this deficit and adding monies to renovate.
- Immediate Issues
 - Pre-College Dorm: in design with planning and construction to start asap
 - need to return the major \$\$\$ to the budget through enhancing this program
 - dorm does not meet code currently so has to be new one asap
 - to be done by end of 2007
 - current capacity is 400 beds, with ~ 3000 students per year attending even now
 - new capacity will be 264 beds
 - College Dorm & 4 New Laboratories
 - looking to be done by end of 2007 as well
 - looking to add 116 beds
 - Pre-College and College Dorms are used during summer for College Summer Program
 - Goal: to bring summer program back to about 300 students per summer
 - Goal: Explore options with NASA
 - Goal: Building and Marketing MSC
 - Goal: Potential for Weather Program?
 - Research Facility at Greenbackville
 - not ours fully until 2027
 - needs to be utilized better
 - Maintenance Facility
 - required move to metal building: inexpensive but required to be built
 - Other Facilities (time frame still being worked on)
 - update Fish Lab
 - Aqua Lab
 - Other priorities
 - Administrative Facilities – not immediate
 - Learning Center – Good Shape with at least 5-6 years or more before it should be looked at again.
 - Elder Hostel Dorm: needs to be worked on – but can't manage it now – in the future?
 - Boats/Boat Basin Issues
 - Monitors and Parkers are an issue – boats are serviceable for short term only
 - Need to be replaced and preventative maintenance done in a major way
 - Endowments are being sought to cover costs associated with these expenses for the future
 - Boat Basin – launch on Wallops is an issue due to siltation and in need of dredging – not our property and large issues with permitting and spoil removal. This needs to be investigated through other sources - NASA and Commercial Fisherman take this one on
 - Boat access from Chincoteague – still available
 - Joint Research Park
 - Accomack County, Va, NASA, and MSC
 - to be located in space between MSC and NASA
 - \$850,000 has been designated by Accomack County already for development and infrastructure water/sewer.
 - Gov. of Virginia has pledged dollars for education center in the Research Park

- Potential to design MSC and Joint Research Park as one campus – thus reducing the cost to MSC for design/planning – looking into it
- Internet/Technology
 - currently using T-1 line from NASA with free tech support – not stable contract
 - MD- broadband is now available outside of MSC
 - VA- broadband service is being installed in future to MSC area as well
 - Cell Phones:
 - some problems with some companies because NASA jams some frequencies
 - safety issues: always someone on call and Verizon Cell Phones do work

Faculty Feedback Issues

- Diversity of Disciplines? What are some options?
 - GIS, LAND USE/Planning etc?
- Teaching Teacher Options at MSC?
 - JR STEWART- extended studies course for biology teachers to be a pilot project to see this off its feet
- President support for curriculum choices to make this feasible?
 - all faculty admit they would teach more/use MSC more if they had some flexibility in their teaching loads – hard to do it with rigor now established
 - ANSWER WAS: Presidents are committed
- Summer and Academic Year Opportunities?
 - What are the courses that use the facilities?
- Tracking Assessment of past MSC students? Where have they gone and what have they done?
- 501 C3 status being explored, right now we are classified as a 7501 (Entity outside of PA, MD, VA rules)
- Grant Dollars from NSF for Science Education? REU opportunities?
- Joint advisor program for students exploring independent research?
- NOAA Grant dollars? Sea Grant – all of it in Virginia currently goes to UVA and VIMS can MSC get some of these dollars?
- Money through Foundation?

OCTOBER 20

Academic Advisory Board Meeting

- What academic disciplines are working at Wallops and what are interested in doing so?
 - Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography/GIS, Psychology, Business, Ecology, Marine Science, Geology, Biology, Oceanography, Climatology, Painting, History, Writing/English
- College Summer Program
 - Schedule established (see attachment)
 - 4 summer terms
 - term 1: May 14 to June 1
 - term 2: June 4 to June 22
 - term 3: June 25 to July 13
 - term 4: July 16 to Aug. 3
 - Summer fees
 - tuition arranged through home institution (can this be changed?)
 - fees \$650/course for room/board/consumables
 - Pre-College fees

- \$260/day/student
 - Issues:
 - need a regular and rotating schedule of classes not just whatever each summer
 - need a longer term plan!
 - enrollments: promote schedule, increase diversity of students receiving credits for MSC related options toward their major
 - marketing issues: brochure updates, webpage, other universities/colleges outside of MSC 14.
 - 1 week courses for students who can't afford to take longer bits out of their summer work schedule? GIS, Entomology, Teacher Ed, Continuing ed, Kayaking/Outing courses for schools still requiring physical education credit
 - money available for research?
 - Research proposals
- Academic Council Meeting
 - Spring 2007
 - Agenda: retirement of Dr. Answini and appoint new board leadership
 - Other items?

NASA Presentation

- Wallops Island Flight Facility
 - Introductions by Dr. Al Answini – MSC
 - Facility Director- Dr. John Campbell
 - Assistant Facility Director- Ms. Caroline Massey
 - Public Affairs Specialist – Mr. Keith Koler
 - Research Scientist and Oceanographer – Dr. John Moisson
 - Dr. Campbell
 - covered Mission and Details of WIFF
 - 3 areas
 - 6000 acres on mainland
 - 1900 acres main base
 - 3000 acres on Wallops Island
 - Facility was Langley Airforce NACA flight test site for aerodynamic research (1945)
 - 16,000 rocket launches to date
 - flight program management
 - technology development
 - scientific research
 - works with the following organizations (housed/interacting at Wallops)
 - NAVY Surface Combat System Center
 - Naval Airwarfare Center
 - NOAA (Geosynchronous satellites)
 - Virginia Commonwealth Space Flight Authority
 - Coast Guard
 - Marine Science Consortium
 - MSC sits in the neck surrounded by NASA, NOAA, Coast Guard facilities.
 - NASA Employs 1174 at Wallops: 280 Civil Service and 914 Contractors
 - Engineering Laboratories – Extensive Resources
 - Sounding Rocket Program – Extensive Resources

- University Level Education – Hoping to exploit this opportunity through MSC
 - NASA offers: low cost access to space/labs (lowest cost that exists for access to this technology and resources)
 - possibility of short-term opportunities
 - consistent with academic environments
 - internships/research opportunities on short term
 - program philosophy is consistent with “hands-on” opportunities for students
 - students can participate in all phases of mission development and deployment
- Ms. Massey
 - covered Pathway to Collaboration – complicated graphic but 5 classes discussed
 - Cat I – Informal collaboration (quick phone call easy connections), NO \$\$\$ available
 - Cat II – Formal collaboration
 - internships, focused work, ugrad to grad, NO \$\$\$ available
 - Cat III – NASA-Wide WFF specific coops
 - longer-term commitment to a program with ugrad coops.
 - participants selected and reviewed by NASA
 - \$\$\$ would be available
 - Cat IV – Support Research opportunities for faculty, \$\$\$ could be available
 - Cat V – Collaborate on Research with existing scientists and projects or work on new items. \$\$\$ could be available
 - covered a number of current projects for student work
 - Wallops (& Goddard Space Center) Discipline areas
 - Suborbital and Special Orbital Project Directorate
 - Aerospace/Engineering
 - Business Management
 - Math
 - Computer Science
 - Systems Safety
 - Project Management
 - Electronic Technicians
 - Data Analysts
 - Meteorologists/climatologists
 - Environmental Engineering
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Software/Systems/Missions Operations
 - Management Operations Directorate
 - Architecture
 - Chemistry
 - Civil Network
 - Environmental
 - Telecommunications
 - GIS
 - Physical IT
 - Security

- Dr. Moissan
 - talked about Marine, Atmospheric, and Remote Sensing Projects developed and deployed as well as other potential projects
 - CODAR surface measuring system is going off Wallops: Current monitoring and research
 - COBY'S – Coastal Bio-optical Buoys (temp, salinity, current speed, wind speed, bloom detection, etc..)
 - OASIS Development (autonomous, satellite controlled boats to travel oceans for various purposes)
 - Phytoplankton Analysis and climate/nutrient studies
 - Educational Accomplishments
 - some curriculum developments
 - low cost radiometer for use in class and field
 - Funded with NSF and NOAA on many projects