

**MINUTES OF USUCGER BOARD MEETING
CONFERENCE CALL
FEBRUARY 1, 2007**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Burns-President, Jim Hanson-Treasurer, Russell Green-Secretary, Anand Puppala, Steve Dickenson, and Ali Maher

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: none

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS: Matt Evans-Webmaster

MEETING COMMENCED AT 2:00 P.M. EST.

1. AWARD NOMINATIONS

Board Members Anand Puppala and Steve Dickenson gave updates on the nominations for the Distinguished Service and Research Investment Awards, respectively. The Distinguished Service Award Committee is comprised of Anand Puppala – Chair, Patricia Culligan (Columbia University), and Pedro Arduino (University of Washington). To date, there have been 5 to 6 email nominations for the Distinguished Service Award, with one nominee being a current UBoard Member. However, the eligibility criteria for all USUCGER awards excludes current Board Members from consideration; the USUCGER webpage need to be updated to reflect this.

Board Member Steven Dickenson, Chair of the Research Investment Award Committee, stated that he received two e-mail nominations. He will contact the nominators to request formal letters of nomination and a brief write-up about the nominees and their deservedness for the award. Also, Steve is going to contact Jimmy Martin (Virginia Tech) and Scott Ashford (UC San Diego) to see if they will serve on the award selection committee.

President Susan Burns plans to present both awards at the upcoming G-I meeting in Denver later this month.

2. RESEARCH INITIATIVE

UBoard Member Ali Maher sent a draft RFP for the Research Initiative to the UBoard prior to the teleconference. UBoard Member Jim Hanson sent a similar RPF to President Susan Burns for the Educational Initiative. Susan will reformat Ali's RFP to be similar to Jim's.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

UBoard Member Jim Hanson (Treasurer) reported that the USUCGER account (\$36,322) was successfully transferred to a regional bank near him. Also, he reported that he was making progress working with Authorize.net to setup a system to allow USUCGER members to pay their annual dues using a credit card. The final issue that Jim mentioned

was the idea putting portions of the USUCGER funds in 6 month certificate of deposits (CD) that mature at staggered times. This would allow the money to gain interest, yet would minimize any accessibility issues. The UBoard agreed to this and Jim will put \$10k in a CD.

4. WEBSITE

Webmaster Matt Evens stated that the website is updated and working fine. He is making it so annual dues can be paid on-line using a credit card; the security for this portion of site will be handled by Authorize.net and will not be the responsibility of USUCGER. Also, Matt requested geotech related photographs to be put on the webpage.

5. MISCELLANEOUS

The next UBoard conference call will be in March and will focus on the USUCGER workshop to be held in March 2008 in New Orleans, held in conjunction with the G-I meeting. President Susan Burns will contact Carol Bowers to discuss coordination of the workshop with the G-I meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT APPROXIMATELY 2:27 P.M. EST