

SRSF Steering Committee Meeting MINUTES May 18th, 2001

Agenda

Nicholson Hall Room 606, 1:30pm

Present: Tony Davis, Monica Diochon, Lynn Paterson, Kay Wallace, Pat Rhynold, Christie Dyer, Kerry Prosper

Regrets: Tony Charles, Richard Apostle, Sandy Benoit, John Wagner, Jessica Paterson

Chair: Tony Davis

Minutes: Christie Dyer

Approval of Minutes

- Monica Diochon moved to accept April minutes. Kay Wallace seconded. All in favour.
- Minutes pass, no changes.

Director's Report

- GCIFA data entry is going well. Will have two comparable data sets soon, including the previous St. Georges Bay data.
- ISAR / SRSF has had only one HRDC summer funding application of seven accepted. It was decided that this money would go to support a non-SRSF student in the ISAR program. An ISAR student working on a forestry project with Pictou Landing Band will be given the HRDC funding.
- SRSF has received two DFO Science Horizon placements. This will contribute a total of \$23,500 to the SRSF account. 70% of the funding is received now and 30% at the end of the work terms. DFO Science Horizon funding is a good possibility for all partner organizations – Tony will circulate the information about these placements.
- The SRSF website will soon have both the GCIFA and MFWC background papers up on it. Papers from last summer's interns, Tanya Baker and Kirk Mattie will also be going up on the website.
- This summer's interns have all been hired and all partners report that things are going well. SRSF may be able to provide extra support to interns who are required to do extensive travel through the extra dollar that is budgeted per hour in each intern's wage.
- The CURA project officer for the SRSF project, Alan Middleborough and the SSHERC Director, Eve Monteau would like to participate in the SRSF project evaluation in November. They are enthusiastic about the prospect of taking part in the evaluation.

Research Effort

- GCIFA surveying going well. Data is being entered at StFX.

SRSF needs a policy – protocol about Traditional Ecological Knowledge regarding proprietorship and dissemination. SRSF needs to discuss this, university staff may have to meet with organizations and organizations should have discussions within themselves.

Workshops – Mi'Kmaq Research Protocol and SPSS

The SPSS workshop will be on June 6 and 7. Victor Thiessen from Dalhousie will be the instructor. The first day will be an introduction to SPSS and on day two preliminary data analysis will take place. The workshop is for all CRCs and interns if the partner organizations feel this would be valuable to them. SRSF will look at the cost of acquiring SPSS software for all partners' computers. Another SPSS workshop will take place later on in the summer.

The Mi'Kmaq research protocol workshop will hopefully take place at the end of this month. Kerry, Mary Jane, Krista, Harold, John Wagner, Christie and Jessica had a meeting with the Tribal Council to discuss the Council's involvement in a protocol workshop. Kerry is working on setting a date for this.

Tony suggested that we should have a workshop on text-based data software. As one interview can take between 20-40 typed pages it would be valuable to have a text management software which could be easily searched. NUDIST was thought to be the best software currently available.

The possibility of doing a mapping workshop was discussed. Monica will check to see if StFX has any expertise in this area. SRSF could look at the possibility of having a workshop at Lawrencetown.

Funding

It was motioned that the CRCs receive a \$5,000 increase in their current salaries as of May 1, 2001. This money would come from the funds that have been reserved for an additional CRC. It was decided that the current CRCs would reach out to other organizations, encourage partnership with them and thereby take on additional responsibilities and that SRSF would seek to incorporate other community partners in this way. Kay is already forming partnerships with the other seven fisheries organizations in the Gulf. Kerry will be reaching out to other Bands, particularly in this geographical area - Pictou Landing and Lennox Island in PEI. Ginny and GCIFA have established more formal relations with the Richmond County and Eastern Shore harvester associations through the Fish Harvesters' Ecological Knowledge Study and will continue to do so as the study progresses. Pat moved the motion and Monica seconded.

Website

Tony is looking at moving the SRSF website to its own server or to have the university host it at a different location where his name will not be a part of the address.

CURA Project Funding

The CURA Project has been suspended by SSHERC. SSHERC has a priority to fund 'scholarly' research and there is concern that this is not being done in the CURA projects. Advocates of CURA around the country have initiated a letter writing campaign. SRSF and partners may want to participate in this.

There may be an opportunity for SRSF to apply for the 'new CURA' program which is based on the 'new economy' and learning. There will be an opportunity for SRSF to send in a proposal together with ISAR and the Aquatic Marketing Centre. For further information please check the SSHERC website.

Information Dissemination

- If SRSF has contributed concretely in some way to the production of documents there should be an acknowledgement of SRSF and SSHERC somewhere in the document.

Media Outreach

- News releases have gone out today on the two DFO Science Horizon placements for Christie and Jessica.
- All partners will think of doing news releases on their student interns.
- SRSF is at a stage now where we can be thinking about how to present our work. CRCs should consider writing pieces for public release. GCIFA could do a series of write-ups about the interview data. More could be done with the information previously collected from the St. Georges Bay Ecosystem Project.

Look at community newspapers, Coastal Community Network (CNN) newsletter. It was motioned that SRSF should formally join the CNN. Kay motioned and Kerry seconded.

Round Table Initiative

The meetings are going well. The last meeting had 70-80 people and was held at Afton. Tony is working on a briefing sheet about the Marshall decision that could go into community newsletters. SRSF will help when possible and take direction from the partners. No committee has been formed yet of native and non-native harvesters. Kay has been trying to contact Chief Julien and pursue this further.

The next steering committee meeting is scheduled for July 6, Friday, 10:30am.

Pat motioned to adjourn the meeting.