

AMS Committee on Environmental Responsibility Conference Call

3 February, 2014

Meeting Notes

Attendees: In attendance (in person): Rich Clark, Eugene Cordero, Claudia Gorski, Rebecca Haacker-Santos, Dominic Cammaroto, Ana Ordonez, Laura Allen, Tim Minor (guest). Phone attendees: Kathy Schreiber, Dian Seidel, Caroline Normile

Notes: Laura Allen (UCAR)

Rebecca welcomed the group, reviewed the agenda, introduced the new chair, Kathy, and the group went around and introduced themselves.

Updates on Work Plan Activities and Reports on CER activities at AMS Atlanta:

Volunteer Activity: no CER participation in Jennifer's activities but there were student volunteers. The committee will hear more about this later.

Townhall: Cancelled due to low bandwidth and moved to next year's AMS in Phoenix.

Banner: Rebecca produced the banner to increase awareness about CER and it is placed in the AMS Resource Center.

Awards banquet: Eugene reported that there will be a menu change (chicken instead of beef, locally sourced). There will also be a message about the change at the banquet.

Student Engagement: Rich reported that they weren't sure how to implement the awards in an equitable way. They did become members of the President Climate Commitment that involves a huge sustainability event campus wide. Eugene also mentioned the 350 Campaign where universities divest from fossil fuel companies. Rich offered the idea to invite university president, John Anderson, to the townhall in Phoenix. Caroline reported that she would like to stay on this activity and suggested sharing chapter info on social media including Instagram. Rich said there is difficulty keeping the website updated and relevant. There needs to be new content and ability to send people to it through social media.

Weatherfest: Eugene reported that the event was very popular and numbers were doubled to tripled from last year. The CER booth conducted food carbon activities that were very popular. Eugene said the CER name was a big draw for the public. Rich suggested that CER has a presence at the Student Conference next year in Phoenix.

Committee Membership: Increasing membership continues to be a goal to keep on the Work Plan. There is also a need for committee record keeping and website updates which Kathy will figure out.

Volunteer Activities for Phoenix: Ana reported that Bill may have new ideas to engage the public in Phoenix community activities. She is in contact with Hands on Phoenix and has requested cost projections for them to organize community activities in Phoenix. Kathy suggests that the committee should also start working on this activity for 2016 and that this depends heavily on the AMS program chair.

CER Exhibit in exhibit hall: Rebecca reported that she will communicate with Brenda to arrange the CER in the exhibit hall in 2015 and will supply talking points for the staff to communicate to exhibit attendees.

Awards Banquet: the committee discussed that changing the menu shouldn't have to depend on who is AMS president. If the committee presents it to council the fear is that the outcome will depend on who the council members are. Kathy will look into this. Claudia also reported that she will talk to AMS about the possibility of having the default meal vegetarian with a secondary meat option or two options either vegetarian or meat that attendees select when registering.

Student Engagement: Rich, Caroline, Eugene all agreed to stay involved in this goal. Rebecca offered to connect the committee to the student conference organizers for Phoenix.

Weatherfest: Eugene agrees to present CER activities at next year's event. Rebecca will share the sign up form with the committee.

Green meetings: The committee discussed the possibility of having some presentations online especially for one day attendees. Rebecca mentioned AGU's virtual presentations and Claudia said that effort carries a very high price tag and that one day registration numbers are low, probably around 40-50. Rich shared that he really enjoys the human interaction at AMS because so much is electronic and online. But maybe certain things could be offered online as appropriate.

Publications: offering the program as an app worked great this year. Next year, attendees should be able to choose a printed program or electronic version at registration in hopes of reducing printing. Attendees should also be able to indicate whether they still want the reusable bag as well.

New business: Tim Minor introduced himself and his initiative of Eco ministers and asked whether CER would be the appropriate home for the initiative. Kathy suggests the committee discuss it. Dominic questioned whether or not this was a good fit for both groups. Eugene pointed out that the CER is an AMS committee so they need to weigh in on the discussion. Claudia will bring Keith into the discussion.

Claudia answered questions the committee had before she was able to join us and then the meeting was adjourned.