

**Minutes of Annual Business Meeting  
AAG Coastal and Marine Specialty Group  
Friday, April 15, 2011**

**Welcome**

**Special thanks**

- Rich Daniels for maintaining the website and adding the link to our new facebook page.
- Thanks to Jenny Rahn (outgoing Chair) and other board members finishing terms (Farrell and Shein)
- Thanks to Chris and Jean Ellis for organizing tribute sessions for Robin Davidson-Arnott (and for strong participation of Canadian geographers and the Canadian Geomorphology Research Group)
- Thanks to Patrick Hesp for organizing the three day field trip of the northern Oregon and Southwest Washington coast prior to the AAG.

**Specialty Group (SG) Chairs' meeting report**

- Annual meeting 7300 attendees; 1300 sessions; 952 organized by SGs
- AAG will do new social networking for SGs
- Resolution on William Cronon issue circulating
- New membership categories likely to be adopted this year- underemployed/unemployed with reduced dues
- New SG officers handbook available

**Coma Stats:** COMA 270 members; Students 131; Non-student 139

- Chris Houser-is our treasurer/secretary
- 19 members present at meeting

**Treasurer's report:** (Chris Houser)

- Balance: starting balance \$3,400 by August approximately

**Ideas:**

- Maybe we can support students more next year by increasing the number of awards (masters award or promote illustrated paper session).
- We have the potential to give other awards based on our by-laws.

### Annual meeting COMA stats:

- 21 COMA sessions
- 100 COMA sponsored papers
- 2 full Psuty paper sessions (10)
- 1 illustrated paper session
- 5 tribute sessions (Robin Davidson-Arnott)
- 2 SLRise
- 1 field trip

### Feedback

- **Illustrated Paper Session:** Enjoyed illustrated paper session & we should continue to emphasize this next year; we should do an illustrated paper award and need a judge (Jennifer Rahn agrees to help coordinate/judge); this award is already in the by-laws; we just need judges and implementation
- **Student paper competition:** Tom asked if the procedure for organizing the student award session worked out OK?; according to students it worked out OK; For some new students didn't receive the information; If you are not a member; Tom will try to figure out if AAG can self identify on the registration process?; Could possibly keep it on the facebook page. Paul-If you are a new member is there a way that you can told or link to the webpage from AAG; Prompt new member to goto website of specialty group. \*\*\*; it will be proposed in the business meeting tomorrow. Next to the name of the specialty group have a hyperlink; can we have a MS and PhD award for physical and human side; in case we don't have enough of each, maybe we can do a second place; there is discretion in the bylaws that we can have an undergraduate award but we don't have it written that we need to do (could be a human/physical or grad/undergrad distinction); many times MS papers are better than Ph.D. so we don't necessarily need to separate them; students need to be students at the time of submission (they could have graduated); Paul-maybe we need to have a certain number and a \$ amount of awards and leave it up to the discretion of the judges to figure it out; we may not have enough student members according to Tom; Tom-lets entertain an amendment to the bylaws next year; Tom-lets keep the status quo for awhile and make a motion later on to distinguish Ph.D. to masters; Could we up the student paper award?; We are going to keep it for now; There is also some concern about not having the student paper = to the formal presentations; Paul, maybe we will name some of the awards after Robin or others?
- **Programmatic scheduling of meeting:** Can we schedule the meeting earlier but not too early.
- **Scheduling of NY meeting:** Since it is much earlier..when will the preliminary program be out

### Psuty Student Merit Award

- **Physical**-Katherine Renken, LSU. Evolution of Transverse Dunes, White Sands National Monument
- **Human**-Brian Marks, U. Arizona. Trajectories of Land use and farming systems change in Coastal Mekong Delta, Vietnam

### RJ Russell Award 2010-2011

- Overview of the award was described and prior awardees.
- Dr. Paul Gares, Department of Geography, East Carolina University, was selected by the Board

- In recognition of his major contributions to the field of coastal and marine geography
- Tom had glowing recommendations from everyone and the students are so impacted by Paul.
- Paul wants to thank all of the previous Russell Award winners. Paul also wants to thank the students because they totally energize you.
- There are always people walking in your footsteps; We elected to close nominations for that award tonight. VC and Board will consider two nominations for 2011.

### **Student winners from the Robin Davidson-Arnott Sessions:**

Papers:

Connie Chapman- University of Victoria (Canadian Geomorphology Research Group, \$100)

Jordan Eamer- University of Victoria (COMA, \$100)

Philip Schmutz- Louisiana State University (Robin Davidson-Arnott, \$100)

COMA prizes were awarded to the students by award reallocation from Robin D-A.

Poster:

Casey O'Laughlin - Saint Mary's University (Canadian Geomorphology Research Group, \$100)

### **By-laws business:**

#### **Vice president**

- Voted and past amendments suggested last year (Note on-line by-laws have been updated).
- 1<sup>st</sup> the vice-chair is expected to assume role of the chair for subsequent 2 year period
- This has always been done but hasn't been in the by-laws; Motion is to add this to the by-laws. motion to approve; majority agreed

#### **Student board member**

- A doctoral student member shall serve for a one year term
- We have a motion; majority agreed

#### **Election**

- Add section E.
- We will send a message about vacant positions one month before AAG
- If someone can't fill a term or is vacant; or if there is no nominee, the board can fill position for that year by appointment until the next business meeting
- Motion to approve and majority approved

#### **Russell Award**

- Article 5C; adding; Nominations for the succeeding year are open through the close of the current year business meeting.
- Motions to approve and majority approved
- Paulg-you are nominated for a 2 year period in some other specialty groups but here we will just keep it broad; no changes to the bylaws necessary.

**Elections** New officers were elected.

- Chair—Tom Allen- motion passed
- Vice-Chair- Karsten Shein –motion passed
- Board member-Harry Williams- motion passed
- Student board member-Bill Herring-motion passed
- Secretary-Treasurer-(newsletter and treasurer)- Chris Houser-board will seek volunteer to assist secretary/treasurer or take over position for this year by appointment. Interested persons contact Chris or Tom Allen.

**Communications**

- Newsletter continues (Houser welcomes help or someone to take over Secy/Treasurer this year)
- Monthly email/lisetserv/blog – Chair will pursue
- Pre annual meeting announcement of vacancies, COMA session listing url very helpful
- Illustrated papers/sess awards should be held in 2012 (VC coordinates, consider awards)
- Highlight sessions (1 day/ 1 overall)
- Honored intl speaker possible invite (will solicit to board and members)

**Goals for coming year-** expand membership, increase visibility and communications, promote students

**Other conferences:**

Promote geography and COMA

- The Coastal Zone 2011 (Chicago)
- The Coastal Society (TCS) mtg (Miami 2012)
- Coastal GeoTools 2013 (w coast)
- AAG NYC February 2012
- We can also highlight conferences on our website

**Other listservs members might wish to join**

- Geomorphology- geomorphlist (contact Chris Houser, moderator)
- The Coastal Society (TCS) sends out a list of jobs weekly. (thecoastalsociety.org)

Thanks to all of the board members that are meeting.

Adjourned 8:20pm

Minutes recorded by Tracy Van Holt.