

**Gulf of Mexico Alliance  
Environmental Education Network  
Steering Committee Conference Call  
Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Steering Committee Attendees**

1. Diane Lindstedt: LSU-Louisiana Sea Grant
2. Valerie Kleinschmidt: GOMA/DISL
3. Ericka McCauley: Galveston Bay Estuary Program
4. Tara Schultz: Texas State Aquarium
5. Tabitha Stadler: Rookery Bay NERR
6. Lee Yokel: GOMA/DISL

**Acronyms**

ACT= Alliance Coordination Team  
CHOW= Capitol Hill Ocean's Week  
DISL= Dauphin Island Sea Lab  
GOMA= Gulf of Mexico Alliance  
PIT= Priority Issue Team

**Agenda General Notes**

- I. Lee waited until 10:08 am CST to begin updates. ACTION PLAN II—TIER II
  - a. Tier I is ready for the printers and hard copies will be available at CHOW.
  - b. Lee and Valerie will be working on the EE chapter for Tier II to match the format of Tier I. They will go through previous drafts to pull important details into the document. Also, they will be addressing the public input comments and inserting commitments. When the document is near completion we will send it out to the EEN for editing and additions.
- II. CHOW
  - a. June 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> will be Ocean's week. The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is coordinating CHOW. (<http://nmsfocean.org/capitol-hill-ocean-week-2009> GOMA is listed on the "Sponsors" page under "Conservationist" groups.) Dianne mentioned talking to Terry Teague from LA Sea Grant since she is actively involved with CHOW in order to find out the details. She is out sick, but will return in a couple of days and Lee will talk with her then.
  - b. LaKeshia asked for successes, photos, and other information that would be useful for the EEN slideshow. Each PIT will receive two panels and a 10-slide show to highlight the work the Alliance accomplishes. Dianne mentioned the EE panels were complete; "they are well-done and stand out."
  - c. As we receive details we will be sure to share with the rest of the group.

### III. GOMA All Hands Meeting

- a. The All Hands Meeting is scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> in Mobile, AL at the Battlehouse Hotel. If anyone needs financial assistance for travel, please let Lee know since our NOAA grant may be used for that purpose.
- b. The ACT has asked all PITs to provide a year work plan. This can be developed at the meeting, but Lee recommended the EEN prepare a work plan before the meeting in order to use time for other opportunities. Those on the call felt this was a good idea. The work plan will range from June to June in order to line up with state's fiscal year. (Also, work plans help to keep PITs on track. Tara mentioned, perhaps the purpose has to do with making groups accountable for their grants.) We will be meeting with GCOOS during the All Hands and it's important for us to devote our time wisely.

### IV. GOMAEEN Website

- a. Anything PITs would like to send for their digital library page then please e-mail Lee or Valerie. Or if anyone has any state/regional cool projects please send information, e-mail contact and photo to Valerie.
- b. The CHOW slide-show for EEN will hopefully have the website on it. We are forming a Public Relations group and will discuss strategies for promotion of the site, including a formal launch.
- c. We have hired an intern, Samantha, to develop the "Educator Resource" section of the site and she will be working on that this summer.
- d. If there are ever any errors on the website please e-mail [goma@disl.org](mailto:goma@disl.org)

### V. Quarterly Call on 5-4

- a. Karla Klay from Artist Boat was our guest speaker. Texas schools are now back in session after the swine flu incident so hopefully Artist Boat has their programs up and running again. State leads and liaisons gave their updates as well. The call ran about an hour and fifteen minutes and flowed well. Valerie will be cleaning up notes and sending them out to everyone. If there are any recommendations for improvement please e-mail Valerie.

### VI. Gulf Guardian Awards-Nominations

- a. Dianne sent out an e-mail about the "Gulf Guardian Awards" so if anyone has ideas for good candidates then be sure to nominate them. Dianne encouraged nominating youth programs like girl scouts, youth groups, after school programs, etc.

### VII. Other Announcements for ACT or to send through listserv?

- a. Tabitha mentioned that David Kennedy visited the Rookery Bay Reserve and she got the chance to meet with him and mention GOMA & the work we do. He had

heard of GOMA before, but hadn't heard any recent news about us so Tabitha was able to catch him up.

VIII. Next Call- Tuesday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 am CST

- a. Lee may be on travel, but she will keep everyone updated.