

## May – June email discussions as a replacement for the Conference Call.

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The call could not occur due to time conflicts. However, members sent their feedback on each item via emails which can be seen below; some items require members' feedback and vote:

1. GC legal matters:
  - Follow-up on the Volunteer Release Form (Chris). Chris said that URISA lawyer has reviewed the Release Form and commented that the form looks perfectly adequate and that he doesn't recommend any additional changes.
2. Projects:
  - SeedsIndia & MapAction: (Juna & Shoreh): Beni, Juna and I had a conference call last week and discussed the project. The decision was to send an email to both entities and see if they would be interested in continuing the work with GC volunteers. Beni sent them an email and both of them indicated that they are interested and that they would send more details which they did. I will contact their director who is coming to ESRI UC and see if we can meet and discuss both the current and possibly future projects. We also talked about some volunteers' lack of effort and agreed that they should not get any credit for this project. But we also concluded that we need to discuss this matter further and devise a policy in this regard.
  - Afghanistan (Shoreh): I have already written some about the experience in a few emails and have sent a report to AIMS (and to all of you) and am now waiting on AIMS feedback and prioritization of their projects so we can get started with the screening process. I am also working on an article and hopefully will be able to send a draft to Wendy in a week.
  - Other projects:
    - GSDI follow-up (Juna): They are going very slow, but seem definitely on board into incorporating us into their program.
    - FGDC Grant follow-up (Juna): Juna has spent time coordinating with Jenny Rechel (one of our vols. with one of the best resumes) on having her write the FGDC grant for this year's cycle. It was for 20k this year, and for institutional building. A week ago, she announced that she couldn't meet the deadline, since she was overwhelmed with other work. So we lost that opportunity. We will meet her at ESRI for the first time and Juna will host her in my room.
3. Financial related activities
  - Expenses and donations to-date. Chris emailed the financial report which reflects a total expenditure of: \$5,711.72 and total donations of \$17,569.51 resulting in a balance of \$12,357.79. These figures are current as of June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005.
4. ESRI Conferences activities (presentations, Map gallery, disaster management exhibit, dinner for deployed volunteers)
  - Disaster Management Exhibit: Juna provided ESRI with various files and screenshots

- Map Gallery: Shoreh has submitted a request for three panels. We will have four maps. Paul McKnight will prepare one for VVAF team, Frank for his project, and Shoreh will put two together for Seeds and Kabul project
- Presentations: I have power point files from all teams and will combine and select a few for each project and will then seek your input. The final file will be used for two demos; One of them will be on Tuesday morning and the other at the Senior executive Seminar on Sunday afternoon.
- Dinner for deployed volunteers: Seems like we will approximately have 12 people; Four from VVAF, three from Seeds, and four from CC/HQ (Juna, Shoreh, Martha, Wendy – please verify), and one from the Board (Dianne emailed me and said that she'll be happy to come and personally thank the volunteers) at the dinner. We have tentatively selected Wednesday night but the place has not been determined yet. This is a non-alcoholic dinner and the cost will not exceed \$500. this expenditure was approved by an email vote.

#### 5. CC Organizational:

- GC's By-Laws (Ed and Martha): Ed has emailed a draft to everyone and also posted it on the wiki site. We will meet on this topic on July 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6. Other

- Moving the web site to URISA server & creating an FTP site (Juna): At the Board meeting in Chicago, Shoreh asked the web site committee if GC's web site could move to URISA's server. They indicated that since they are in the process of re-vamping the web site, right now may not be the best time to do that. However, this would be possible in the near future. Since that's the case, we should look for another provider in the short run. Juna has researched this matter and has come up with the following: "...we should be able to migrate our site to a Service Provider for a very low monthly fee. I did some initial searching and it seems that for ~\$8/month we can get them to cover PHP, mySQL, to cover email service, to provide for an ftp site, stats, security etc. etc. I am including here for your review a site in which I stumbled upon as an example of what we need vs. price. We should be good with their Silver plan: <http://www.canaca.com/virtual.html>  
We could perhaps find even something cheaper, or why should we not use the same provider that URISA has? Our site has been designed to be entirely independent and stand alone, meaning that it can be hosted by the same provider as URISA's, without being affected by URISA's site make up. But they can perhaps give us a better deal?" At a later email, Wendy said that we should be able to move our web site to URISA's before the annual conference.
- GISCorps Shop: Shoreh has been paying for the site since the beginning (over a year now). No one but ourselves has purchased items from the site and therefore, the question is: should we continue the \$6.95 per month subscription (+/- \$85 a year)? Everyone voted by email to discontinue this subscription.
- Volunteers' credits for GISP purposes. We have to come up with criteria and communicate that with GISCI and then post the result on our web site so our volunteers know what kind of credit they will get for their service. This item will be discussed at the next conference call.

- URISA Annual Conference activities (presentations, printed material, awards, etc.). We can discuss this item at the next conference call. We still have time.
- New item: Allen Ibaugh, one of our board members offered his company's assistance in producing a movie/video/promotional document and I need your Ok to proceed. Are you all in agreement that we should pursue this matter and spend some money for incidental charges (to be determined) to have them create a professional level PR document for us? Everyone voted to explore this matter further and find out about other possible expenditures before committing to it.

Next meeting Tuesday July 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM EST