UA Diving Control Board Fall 2023 Draft Meeting Agenda

October 16, 2023

2:00pm - 3:00pm (Held over Zoom)

I. **Call to order**

II. **Establishment of Quorum**

a. In attendance:

i. Brenda Konar - **DSO**, *Professor of Marine Biology UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
ii. Joel Markis- **DCB Chair**, *Associate Professor of Applied Fisheries UAS, Sitka*
iii. Amanda Kelley - *Associate Professor of Marine Biology UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
iv. Carter Johnson - *Ph.D. Student in Fisheries UAF CFOS, Juneau*
v. Emily Reiter - *Environmental Health, Safety, and Risk Management UAF, Fairbanks*
vi. Hannah Kepner - *M.S. Student in Biological Oceanography UAF CFOS, Fairbanks (non-voting)*
vii. Katrin Iken - *Professor of Marine Biology UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
viii. Mack Hughes - *M.S. Student in Marine Biology UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
ix. Michael Navarro - *Assoc. Professor of of Marine Fisheries UAS, Juneau (**was not notified**)*
x. Schery Umanzor - *Assistant Professor Mariculture UAF CFOS, Juneau*

III. **Adoption of Agenda**

IV. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** (11.17.22)

V. **Dive Safety Officer Update** - Brenda

- New Dive Logging Portal through AAUS
- streamlining dive physical process at UAF on campus
- Log Dives Before Jan 1!

VI. **Brief Program Updates** -

a. Fairbanks - Dive Class in Spring and Kelp Forest Ecology in May

b. Juneau - 10th annual Pumpkin carving & Possible facilities improvements for dive program at Lena Point

i. Juneau- PE S200 short course in F24 (Labor Day weekend) and S25 (Winter-mester)-

c. Sitka - Full Fall Open Water Class and students in Planned Spring AK Dive Smeester

VII. **Old Business**

a. Dive Scholarship Update

i. Increase diversity in Diving Scholarship
- one-time funding going away this year)

ii. Blue Economy Center / Mariculture Funding?

b. Dive Manual Updates

i. Board Members, gear maintenance (Fit / Function), Cold Water Regs

c. Approval of Depth Certification Reauthorization Procedures
   - Joel & Brenda will work to get updates out to DCB for review in the next few weeks

VIII. New Business

a. Dive Program Advocacy
   i. Create Annual 1-Pager highlighting dive statistics for all of UA
      1. Highlight this as Did You Know
         - There may be implications to highlighting a system wide dive program (UAF may see reduced funding or be asked to only oversee UAF diving)
         - A discussion developed on the current structure of the UA dive program (functionally based ay UAF but overseeing diving for UA) and some of the historic challenges to this situation
         - Discussion about possible transition Plan as Brenda thinks about life after DSO
         - former DSO was given 6 mo salary, then 4, then no additional funding
         - UAF bears a heavier burden of DSO & DCB responsibility
         - Decision where DCB is housed (an academic program vs. health & Safety) may not be up to DCB at some point
   ii. Create a List of Projects using Diving as a tool to Conduct Research
   iii. Possible Advocating for Dive Science presentation at AAUS

b. Approval of Dive Plans
   i. Discussion regarding authorized personnel to approve or deny dive plans in absence of DSO
      - tabled until full DCB can discuss (a couple folks had to leave after 3:000pm)
      - Brenda will get information on additional user access to AAUS dive logging portal

IX. Action Items

X. Resources

a. UA Scientific Diving Website
b. Scientific Diving Safety Manual (PDF)
c. American Academy of Underwater Sciences