



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 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](#)