UA Diving Control Board Spring 2025 Meeting Minutes

Apr 2, 2025
2:00pm - 3:00pm (Held over Zoom)
Join Zoom Meeting

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 (absent)*
   iv. Carter Johnson - *Ph.D. Student in Fisheries UAF CFOS, Juneau (absent)*
   v. Emily Reiter - *Environmental Health, Safety, and Risk Management UAF, Fairbanks*
   vi. Katrin Iken - *Professor of Marine Biology UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
   vii. ***Vacant*** *- UAF CFOS, Fairbanks*
   viii. Michael Navarro - *Associate Professor of of Marine Fisheries UAS, Juneau*
   ix. Schery Umanzor - *Assistant Professor Mariculture UAF CFOS, Juneau (absent)*

III. **Adoption of Agenda -** Brenda Motioned - None Opposed

IV. **Approval of previous meeting minutes** (10.24.25) **-** Brenda Motioned - None Opposed

V. **Dive Safety Officer Update** - Brenda
   a. Working on updating UA Scientific Diving website
      i. Made Log dives button bigger
      ii. Planning to take off word dive plan template so that folks are only pointed to AAUS Dive Planning Feature (note: we access this through our current dive logging platform).
      iii. Recommendation of adding Dive Planning Instructions to website as well
   b. Revised Dive Safety Manual approved by AAUS and now Posted on Scientific Diving Website
   c. Brenda Submitted Annual Dive Statistics and they are posted on the website.

VI. **Brief Program Updates** -

a. Fairbanks - Spring Scientific Diving class had 16 students. I had two diving students in the Nearshore Ecology class

b. Juneau - CFOS - a dozen divers came to Sitka in March to dive and explore Sitka.

c. Juneau, UAS (Mike Navarro)- In Jan/Feb, we helped with swim and SCUBA skills pool work for 3 JNU students enrolled in Brenda's class. UAS-JNU offers small-

enrollment courses, 2-3 students. Spring - 2 OW/drysuit courses; one over Spring break, possibly/likely one more at the end of the semester. Summer, 1 OW/drysuit course-end of May, and 1 scientific diving course is planned several weeks in July/early Aug (~3 or 4 divers). I will be attending and presenting at the AAUS conference next week and participating in the DSO orientation meeting along with Joel.

d. Sitka - Spring Dive Semester has 13 students, working on vessel training now. Facilitated Juneau divers (UAS & UAS) trip to Sitka in Feb, may consider a spring break course / dive proficiency opportunity for Juneau divers in the future. Conducting numerous occupational dive training courses (Sitka Dive Rescue Team, Aquaculture Associations, ADF&G, USFS)

VII. Old Business

a. Dive Manual Updates - Brenda / Joel - Complete and posted online!
b. Solicit UAF - Student Representative (possible Chelsie Kov... UAA Lives in Anc)
    i. Update: Chelsea Campbell has agreed to serv as students rep.

VIII. New Business

a. Use of UA Active Diver Spreadsheet? - Katrin will revisit after using new dive planning platform
b. UAS intending to petition separate AAUS organizational membership
a. Fall DCB Meeting **October 15th @ 2:00pm?**

IX. Action Items

a. UAS will solicit independent organizational Membership into AAUS

X. Resources

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