

The RAC Region 1 Business meeting was held on Thursday Wednesday **07/17/13** during the AASHTO RAC/TRB Representatives Meeting in Baton Rouge, LA. The following individuals participated.

Camille Crichton-Sumners (Chair)	New Jersey DOT
Allison Hardt (Vice-Chair)	Maryland DOT
Mike Bonini	Penn DOT
James Fallon	Conn DOT
Soumya Dey	District of Columbia DOT
Stephanie Dock	District of Columbia DOT
Glenn Roberts	NH DOT
Ann Scholz	NH DOT
Steve Pepin	Mass DOT
Martin Pietrucha	Penn State
Barbara Harder	B. T. Harder, Inc.
Danena Gaines	Cambridge Systematics

Minutes from 5/2/13 RAC 1 call were approved.

Old Business:

No significant new information from the last SCOR/RAC leadership call. Submittals for NCHRP problem statements are due Sept 16.

It was raised that during the conference, the first half of the SHRP 2 overview on the research aspect of the program was unnecessary. The upcoming solicitations were considered the most useful part. Allison will raise this at the next leadership call

New Business:

Mentorship program

Starting next month, Allison will be mentoring Michael Kirkpatrick from Delaware, though he may not be an actual full RAC member.

There was discussion of who is on RAC from Region 1. Allison will check with Chris Jenks about who is on the RAC list. Delaware, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont are all in question. Gary Frederick from New York has been reappointed to the RAC, but may not be involved heavily based on an email to Camille. George Colgrove's role (Vermont) is still in flux.

Task Force membership updates

The region is encouraged to have involvement in all the Task Forces. We have someone on each one currently. James Fallon has joined Value of Research in Dale's place.

Regional accomplishments and goals

The region will be reporting out our accomplishments on Thursday morning at the meeting. Mike compiled the list of accomplishments based on the ensuing discussion. Accomplishments raised included:

-DDOT held its peer exchange this year

-New Hires this year

- NJ hired two new hires
- NH hired Ann last October
- MD hired someone
- MA hired someone starting this month

-6 NE states -NETC - Got the program moving forward, then had a 2 day retreat to do an overall program assessment

-Events

- NJ had her annual research showcase combined with the TRB state visit
- MA had an in-house research forum
- PA had an equipment showcase at the maintenance staff annual meeting
- PA is managing the STIC as part of EDC
 - 4 of the state Research Managers are involved in EDC
 - 3 of the states are coordinating the EDC exchanges
- MA coordinated a 2-day innovation conference for their highway division administrator, over 200 people attended

-Plans and Manuals

- DDOT has a draft strategic plan
- PA has a strategic plan and their conduct of research manual is 95% updated

-NJ initiating a revised reporting system - moving online, interactive, remote access so FHWA can approve, reports can be generated automatically. Will be able to hopefully report out next year.

-NH has been talking to UNH and they are changing to a deliverable-based invoicing system.

-NJ reissued their quick turnaround research contract RFP, 3-year contract awarded to Cambridge Systematics. Has attracted a whole new customer base for her program, including the commissioner's office. Good for policy research, but multidisciplinary contract.

-MA increased attendance at TRB Annual Meeting.

- On that note, RAC members should go back and measure increased agency participation in AASHTO, TRB, etc. for future reporting.

-Steve Pepin (MA) is our new member on SCOR

-NH had 22 problem statement submittals for its Research Advisory Council meeting in April

New Officer Installation

The region all thanks Camille for her two years of excellent service. Welcome Allison as the new chair and Mike as the new vice chair

Other Issues

To raise to TRB leadership:

Mike raised it to Chris Hedges that it would be good if the research managers could be informed when panel members are selected in their state. Suggested that TRB state rep be copied when invites are sent to panel members.

AASHTO issues to be raised

1. NH has ongoing issues with how the AASHTO technical services program is run - costs should be proportionate.

-Daniel Yeh in WI is hosting a peer exchange this year on participation in national programs- this is one of the issues being discussed

-Steve suggested that the core programs people use be rolled into the annual money.

2. Steve also has issues with the invoicing by AASHTO

Meeting adjourned

Next conference call: August 1, 2013