



## **MLML Governing Board Meeting**

### **4 December 2015**

# **MINUTES**

#### **Governing Board Members Attendees:**

Jim Harvey (MLML, Director)  
James Lindholm (CSUMB, MLML Governing Board chair)  
Marsha Moroh (CSUMB)  
Ivano Aiello (MLML, Chair, Geological Oceanography)  
Scott Hamilton (MLML, Ichthyology)  
Nick Welschmeyer (MLML, Biological Oceanography)  
Manny Gabet (SJSU)  
Michael Parrish (SJSU)  
Keith Bowman (San Francisco State)  
Karina Nielsen (San Francisco State)  
Michael Lee (CSU East Bay)  
Mathieu Richard (CSU Fresno)  
Patrick Kelly (CSU Stanislaus)

#### **Additional Attendees:**

Kathleen Donahue (MLML, Assistant to the Director)  
Terra Eggink (MLML, Graduate Program Coordinator)  
Gitte McDonald (MLML, Vertebrate Ecology)  
Tom Connolly (MLML, Physical Oceanography)  
Colleen Durkin (MLML, Research Faculty)  
Jocelyn Douglas (MLML, Health & Safety Officer)  
Jane Schuytema (MLML, SJSU State)  
Jeff Arlt (MLML, IT department)  
Corey Garza (CSUMB, MLML Visiting Scientist)  
Kam Lam (SJSU Research Foundation)  
Stephanie Flora (MOBY)  
Jackson Winn (MLML Small Boats)

John Douglas (MLML Small Boats)  
Jason Adelaars (MOBY, CCWG)  
Justin Cordova (MLML student)  
Alex Olson (MLML student)

Start time: 9:34am

**Minutes:** Heather Kramp (MLML, Student Assistant)

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**James Lindholm:**

Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting; minutes approved.

**Message from MLML Director:**

Thanks to everyone for coming.

*Summary of happenings at the lab - Personnel changes*

Joan Parker (MLML Librarian) is retiring, the faculty recruitment is underway and candidates have visited MLML, MBARI and SJSU Dr. Tom Connolly is MLML's new physical oceanographer replacing Dr. Erika McPhee-Shaw. He is starting his first semester this fall, 2015 and Dr. Colleen Durkin is a new research faculty member in biological oceanography beginning the fall, 2015. Kathleen Donahue is the new Assistant to the Director and has been at MLML for 6 months now. Terra Eggink is MLML's new Graduate Program Coordinator, at MLML 4 months now. MLML is presently running a search for a new Marine Operations Manager to fill the gap left when the Pt. Sur was retired and the Marine Superintendant and staff were let go. MLML needs an additional permanent position in marine operations to fill in this gap and maintain the marine operations and small boats program. Paul Klepac, MLML's web manager, is retiring. The IT department may go through some restructuring as the IT department before a new individual is hired. Corey Garza, CSUMB, is MLML's current visiting scientist. Michael Lee, from CSU East Bay, will be MLML's Visiting Scientist during AY17-18.

Thanks to Marsha Moroh for her dedication to the Governing Board for the past 18 years.

**MLML Graduate Program**

*Terra Eggink, MLML Graduate Program Coordinator provides comments*

*Statistics for 2015-2016 AY*

There are currently 72 graduate students enrolled at MLML. This number is down from 85-90 graduate students, which, has been the average in the past. This may be attributed to changes in faculty over the past few years with older faculty leaving, not taking on students, and newer faculty joining MLML. Sixteen new students enrolled this AY. Enrollment has been steady over

the past few years. Seven students are graduating this fall. Graduation time at MLML is improving over past years. The average time for graduation is about four years. SJSU accounts for 39% of FTE students. CSUMB accounts for 58% of FTEs. Two current students are enrolled through SFSU. Fall 2014 was the last time a student from another consortium campus enrolled (CSU East Bay). On average, about 100 students apply to the MLML Master's program each year and roughly 25% of those applicants are accepted. MLML is offering nine this semester. Students are also competitive in obtaining funding from scholarships and they are listed in the Governing Board meeting packet.

### **2014-2015 MLML Annual Report**

MLML was required to prepare an annual report per Executive Order 1103 issued by the CSU Chancellor's Office. The Chancellor's Office has been asking questions about multi-campus research groups associated with the CSU, especially those they are not familiar with. MLML produced an 82-page report that covered MLML activities between 2012 and 2015. The report covered MLML governance, the graduate program, accomplishments, finances and included a draft Strategic Plan. The whole report is available on the Governing Board shared drive for members to view. The Chancellor's Office has received and reviewed the report. Feedback to date has asked what MLML's budget is based on. The report includes a draft MLML Strategic Plan that Dr. Harvey has been working on. Though the plan was included in the report, it is still a work in progress and has not been vetted. There may be a review of the program required by the Chancellor's Office every 5 years, which, may or may not include an annual report similar to the one drafted.

### **MLML Aquaculture Facility update**

A number of years ago, Dr. Kenneth Coale (MLML) received a Packard grant to rebuild MLML after the earthquake. Some of those funds were used to build the current Aquaculture Facility where the previous shore lab was located. The vision of the Aquaculture Facility is for it to be used as a facility for the entire CSU, not just MLML - a CSU Center for Aquaculture. The concept for the Aquaculture Center is for its capabilities and mission to broad and incorporate education, research and policy. MLML acquired additional funds from CSU COAST and California Sea Grant to further develop the facility.

In January 2016, representatives from all CSU campuses have been invited to a two day event to discuss supporting this aquaculture facility concept. Day one of the meeting will be with CSU campus representatives only, and day two will include stakeholders, politicians, policy makers, agencies and a variety of people from the Aquaculture industry. The event will focus on discussions between CSU reps, stakeholders, policymakers and industry groups. Potential classes being considered would include, initially, MLML faculty and then CSU faculty curriculum resulting in certification or potentially a MS degree. The research portion would include developing skills and collaborating with industry groups. The policy position would focus on sustainability and best practices, environmental issues, as well as education outreach. This focus will consider marine and freshwater aquaculture, aquaponics, etc.

## **MLML 2016 Open House**

The students have tentatively scheduled the Open House for April 30th and May 1st, 2016. The Open House theme will be MLML's 50th Anniversary.

## **MLML 50th Anniversary**

In 2016 MLML will be 50 years old. A large event is planned for August of 2016. On Friday evening there will be an exclusive party for the Chancellor, Governor, CSU Presidents, MLML Governing Board and potential high level donors. Saturday will have a mini-Open House for alumni, former and current faculty and staff to attend. On Saturday evening there will be a large party in the field at the bottom of the hill. MLML has been producing a 50th Anniversary blog on the MLML website (front page). The weekly blog posts are fun and insightful into the history of the labs. Governing Board members are encouraged to read them.

## **SJSU-CSUMB discussion**

### *Discussion history between the CSU Chancellor and SJSU and CSUMB Presidents*

In fall 2014 CSUMB's President, Eduardo Ochoa, and SJSU's President, Mo Qayoumi, interacted with the CSU Chancellor behind closed doors to discuss MLML. The understanding is that SJSU had concerns about operating costs of MLML and CSUMB would like to utilize MLML facilities. CSUMB President Ochoa declared his desire to take over administration of MLML.<sup>[CSUMB1]</sup> MLML's operating cost is about \$3.2 million per year. About \$1.6 mil is funded through SJSU and \$1.6 mil comes directly from the CSU. SJSU endures a large financial responsibility to run MLML compared with other consortium campuses.

Dean Parrish confirmed that funding for SJSU's new Science Building has been completely decoupled from the MLML administrative campus discussion.

CSUMB has a large number of students enrolled at MLML and they contribute \$50k per year, although between 1995 and 2012 they contributed \$100k per year. After the Chancellor and the Presidents' meeting, the Chancellor asked the Presidents to meet with the Provosts, Deans and Financial Officers of each campus, the Director of MLML, and others to come up with a plan for the future of MLML. Jim Harvey asked if the consortium would be involved and the answer back was no. The expectation was to develop a report for the Chancellor's Office, which, was never completed. A financial report was generated, though, on the historical funding of MLML per CSUMB's request.

In summer 2015, the Presidents met again with the Chancellor behind closed doors. SJSU President Qayoumi announced his resignation. It is believed a decision was made that MLML would administratively move to CSUMB in that meeting; however, that is unclear now. Discussion with the SJSU Provost is that any move or next steps are now on hold, perhaps indefinitely, until the SJSU President position is resolved. There is a general consensus that the

new SJSU President will not be addressing this issue for some time as they have many other issues at SJSU to resolve first.

Congressman Sam Farr has told the Chancellor and publicly declared that he wants MLML to move to CSUMB before he leaves office. Dean Moroh stated that President Ochoa is ready with the strong case for the benefits of the geographic location of CSUMB to MLML and has regularly stated that Marine Science is the start of CSUMB. Further, CSUMB has outgrown its Marine Science space and will need berth for a research vessel.

Dr. Harvey described how this issue makes strategic planning a challenge given he cannot think ahead without knowing who the parent campus will be and what resources are available or could be available depending on which campus will administer MLML..

*MLML and Governing Board involvement in an administrative change decision*

The MLML Governing Board has the authority per the MLML Rules of Operation (1<sup>st</sup> paragraph) to make recommendations to the Chancellor's Office for changing administration of MLML to a different CSU campus. However, the Governing Board has not been directly included in discussions of moving MLML administratively. *Note: SJSU has always been the operating administrator of MLML since its foundation.* Dr. Harvey finds it frustrating that all of the consortium campuses are not part of the discussion about what happens administratively with CSUMB. SJSU finds it frustrating as well but believes any future decision regarding MLML is likely to happen once the SJSU presidency has been resolved. There is a general dismay that the MLML Governing Board authority and Rules of Operation have been ignored and usurped by the higher authority of the Chancellor and Presidents. Jim Harvey reported that he asked if President Qayoumi knew whether the other consortium campuses should be included in the discussion and the President responded no. President Ochoa seems to believe the process is moving along. CSUMB has outgrown its campus resources and would benefit from use of MLML. The MLML Faculty, in general, is all on board with an administrative move to CSUMB.

There needs to be a process that involves all stakeholders, not just the Presidents but the Department Chairs and Deans as well. There needs to be a statement about the pros and cons and a funding model needs to be rendered and considered. Discussion proceeded about a letter that should be sent to serve as a reminder to the Chancellor that there are seven campuses represented by a Governing Board at MLML who are all stakeholders in the decisions concerning MLML's parent campus and are granted authority to vote on a decision according to the MLML By laws and Rules of Operation. The letter should request that there be an informed plan that is advantageous to MLML, open exploration of the issues, and that the process be open and transparent.

Jim requested that all Governing Board members return to their CSU campus and be a conduit by sharing this information because that is the only way a consortium like this works.

*Motion:* The Governing Board will draft a letter to the Chancellor requesting a timely resolution. The letter should articulate a desire for involvement in the process per the MLML By Laws and Rules of Operation that gives the MLML Governing Board authority to vote on a matter such as this and for more information. The letter will request that there be an open and transparent process to make the decision, reiterate that all seven campuses should be involved, and to express general feelings on the matter. In addition, the letter will include MLML faculty's general attitude and open interest on moving administratively to CSUMB depending on the terms and conditions. Jim Harvey, Ivano Aiello, and James Lindholm will meet to discuss the letter and then send it to the Board for review.

### **2014-2015 MLML budget review**

The MLML budget has about \$3.5 million from the State. It includes a budget from the state provided through SJSU and an indirect budget from grants and contracts brought in by MLML to SJSU and then a percentage is returned to MLML.

#### *State budget:*

A large portion of this budget goes toward Faculty and staff salaries and benefits. A little money funds the visiting scientist. Each consortium member pays in \$4,400 which goes to funding the visiting scientist. CSUMB pays \$50,000 for additional use of MLML. This budget also encompasses faculty start ups, administration, instructional supplies, science diving program, health and safety, facilities, IT services, marine operations, utilities, and library services. Only half the library costs are represented here. MBARI funds the additional half (approximately \$100,000). Additional projects funded by this budget include remodeling of the "Think Tank" room at MLML into a smart classroom. For the 50th Anniversary, MLML is also producing a book which will utilize some of these funds.

#### *Indirect budget from grants and activity:*

All grant money awarded to MLML goes through the SJSU Research Foundation. MLML produces about one-third of the contracts and grant activity at SJSU (\$15-17 million). This money generates about \$500,000-600,000 in funds returned to MLML annually. This budget mainly funds salaries, including some IT department and facilities employees, at MLML as well as library, IT, and diving services and lab maintenance. In addition, 10% is returned to PIs, 10% is saved in a reserve to weather financially difficult years, and 10% is used to pay back a SJSU Research Foundation debt for the purchasing of some MLML properties.

Break for lunch: 12:10pm

Return: 12:45pm

### **Curriculum**

#### *Update on MLML's curriculum plan*

MLML has been attempting to develop an integrated oceanography class with faculty from different oceanography labs and analytical skills. The class would ideally be a year long course

covering fall and spring semester. MLML has been developing this idea for a few years now; however, it has not reached fruition. Functionally, dividing course credit between faculty and other administrative issues have not been resolved. MLML is still pressing forward with this idea but it is back in initial development.

*MLML courses on consortium campuses*

Distance has always been a factor impacting consortium campus students' ability to attend MLML classes. To circumnavigate distance issues, MLML is considering online classes. MLML would like to know if there is interest in online classes from MLML and what is needed or what process is the best for setting up online classes. CSUMB and SJSU have well developed online learning components/classes that MLML could utilize.

Meeting adjourned: 1:38pm