

AWWA IMS Scholarship Committee Meeting

January 12, 2010

Minutes

David conducting the meeting

Those in attendance:

- Alane
- David
- Laurie McNeill
- Eva Nieminski

1. Review Minutes from Webinar- receive feedback. It was discussed that there weren't as many committee members participating as their could have been (about 30 total participants- 37 applications received, so some students and some committee didn't participate. It was discussed that to increase participation with students there could be arrangements made for students to meet in a conference room at the university and have one call in connection for awards. We will discuss this later based on number of applicants for 2010.
2. Discuss dates for the next round of scholarship applications. Submittal and award dates.

There was some discussion about the pros and cons for spring or fall submittal and awards. We had planned to switch to have an award time in the spring, but decided to leave it for fall this year because Sarah's recent baby birth and the full time staff time to be able to get this all done early this spring. There is still an objective to switch to spring, but this will be evaluated and discussed again later this year. There are good things about fall or spring. **It was stressed that if a switch is made, it needs to remain that way and not switch back.** This creates confusion and problems with students knowing what is available and when to apply.

There was a small discussion about coordinating with WEAU (water environment association of Utah, which is the Utah section of the Water Environment Federation WEF).- the waste water people in awarding scholarships. It was mentioned that we should stay focused on drinking water and leave that as a focus. If there is coordination to help and promote other areas of water, that is good, but the scholarships and drawing student attention to drinking water should be our focus. We decided that this year the scholarship submittal deadline will be Tuesday November 9th with the award date of Tuesday December 7th (4:00 pm webinar). We may need to do some breaking up into subcommittee groups to evaluate and make that more efficient.

3. Review and discuss of scholarship application revisions- criteria for submittal and other items.

We discussed and decided that we need to change the application to reflect that the students must submit all their supporting material and application by e-mail and all documents need to be put together into one PDF format. The one exception is for professor letters of recommendation which typically come direct from professors. We want to state that those letters should come also via e-mail in a pdf format.

We discussed broadening the scope of the scholarships to include communications and PR majors, but decided that this would not be feasible unless another category were added and an additional scholarship given out. (can't compare science majors to communications and be successful) There is some effort to bring in endowment funding or other funding for additional scholarship opportunities.

4. Other updates and discussion on USEE partnership and direction and goals for getting more material to younger audience. Refine the real goal and objective then make plans for course to achieve the goal.

It was decided to put this item on hold for a couple of months until further discussion can take place with USEE and we can get a better feel for how they can help us get some water information into the curriculum they are already doing with the public high schools.

5. Web updates and committee information.

There was a brief discussion about the scholarship committee having a webpage on the main intermountain section page. This would include the committee name, purpose or mission, list of members and which organization they work with, the meeting dates and times as well as minutes from prior meetings. We will include the scholarship applications (downloadable) and list the winners and their short bio information. We will also list any other activity information that is relevant.

6. Other items of business or discussion from the committee.

Some discussion again here of presenting something to the board about the need for additional scholarships to be awarded. Eva will work with Alane to try to come up with some areas where funding can be found, as well as find others that would be willing to help in this area.

Next meeting will be held on Feb. 9th 2010 at 10:00 am Same conference call information for that call.

Future meeting dates are as follows: (2nd Tuesday of each month)

Feb. 9 th 2010	June 8 th , 2010	Oct. 12 th 2010
March 9 th 2010	July 13 th 2010	Nov. 9 th (submittal deadline)
April 13 th 2010	Aug. 10 th 2010	Nov- TBD- award selections
May 11, 2010	Sept. 14, 2010	Dec. 7 th 4:00 pm awards webinar