

SETAC NA Membership Committee Annual Report: 2011/2012 Activities and Accomplishments

Submitted by: Doris Vidal-Dorsch and Tom Augspurger Date: November 5, 2012
Council/Board Liaison: Rick Scroggins

Organization

This committee has a total of 18 members with two co-chairs: Tom Augspurger and Doris Vidal-Dorsch and a vice-chair Travis Schmidt.

Activities Summary

- **Contacted lapsed members.** Our contacts in the summer resulted in several renewed memberships. The committee is now getting the lists of lapsed members several times a year, this is an improved system because members are contacted prior to termination so they can still renew on-line.
- **Conducted the Benchmarking Survey.** This survey took place to understand how SETAC benefits stand against other societies. In general, the results showed that our prices and benefits are very comparable to those of other societies with similar characteristics to ours (e.g., similar number of members, society type). The results of this survey are still being processed.
- **Conducted the Membership Satisfaction and Retention Survey.** This was a really interesting effort which resulted on conducting this survey not only at the National level, but also at the international level. As with the previously described survey the results are still being analyzed. But our preliminary analysis of the SNA data yielded that in general our members really value the society because of the networking opportunities and the Society's Journals. It was also really interesting to know that the group with the least amount of representation in our society is the NGOs. Since a lot of data was generated we anticipate that the analysis will continue to take place over the next few quarters.
- **Developed the Senior Resources Group in coordination with the Career Development Committee.** This activity was in development over the last couple of years. This year we coordinated with the Career Development Committee and developed a list of members and potential activities for the group. Two emails have been sent to prospective members of the group and we'll be following-up with those that are interested.
- **Developed a new program to welcome new and international meeting attendees to the SNA Meeting in coordination with the Career Development Committee.** This program has been implemented to make the SNA meetings a more joyful and productive activity for international members and first time attendees. This program had 50 people enrolled for 2012, and we will conduct a survey to determine how productive this activity was for participants.
- **Outreach to Mexico:** SETAC NA Membership Committee members had helped in activities that further integrate the Mexican Chapter to the SNA membership. We coordinated activities to adjust the membership fees for Mexican members, so that they can be both chapter members and SNA members. We have also helped the SETAC Endowment Committee to provide funding for Mexican students and scientist to travel from Mexico to the SNA annual meeting. It is possible that the committee will help to organize a workshop in Mexico in the next couple of years.
- **Article Publication in the SETAC Globe.** At the beginning of this year our committee published an article in the Globe describing the activities and accomplishments of the meeting conducted in Mexico in 2011.

Future Plans

- **Continue our outreach with other committees.** We are planning to continue working closely with the Career Development Committee by attending their regular conference calls and inviting them to ours. And by participating in mutual activities.
- **Continue analyzing the data from the surveys conducted in 2012.** As previously mentioned, the surveys yielded a great amount of data and we would like to use the results of

our analysis to select some of the activities that this committee will conduct in the next couple of years.

- **Continue our outreach to the Mexican chapter.** It is possible that we will assist in the organization of a workshop in Mexico. Some potential funding sources and topics have been identified.
- **Continue our activities to contact lapsed members.**
- **Further promote SETAC benefits among members and prospective members.**
- **Recruiting new members.** This committee is very active and it requires the participation of several active volunteers to complete the activities. The co-chair Tom A. is stepping down to become a member of the BOD. We are hoping that the vice-chair will become a co-chair and to invite another Membership Committee member to occupy the place of the vice-chair. In addition, some very active members have left the committee and need to be replaced.

Business and Planning Meetings

This committee conducts four conference calls a year and one face to face meeting. The calls are planned at the beginning of the year with the consensus of the committee members.

Membership Communications

We have been very fortunate this year because we have received plenty of help from our membership after sending out communications. For example, we sent our electronic messages as well as requested thought he Globe help from the membership for the SRG and the "Buddy" activities and we have a very positive response.

Issues/Problems

NA

Current Steering Committee

Please see Table 1.

No. active members: 17

Total membership: 18

Table 1. Membership Committee Members.

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