

MINUTES OF THE GENI BOARD MEETING
MARCH 3, 2001
HELD AT IUPUI, INDIANAPOLIS

A. Attendance

Board Members in attendance: Rick Bein, Jill Bowman, Karen Grimes Cooper, Linda Curry, Pat Gillogly, Bill Hale, Roger Jenkinson, Tom Jones, Kathy Kozenski, Gloria Massey, Jim Schmidt, Ted Springer, Hilary Steinhardt, and Dave Surina.

Board Members not in attendance: Michele Adams, Lou Camilotto, Dean Cantu, Dorothy Drummond, Theresa Gottbrath, Ruth Johnston, Melissa Martin, Carole Mayrose, Denis Mudderman, Orvil Schlatter, Will Sibley, Kathy Voegel, and Anna Zervos.

B. Introductions were made and all were “welcomed”. Meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

C. Minutes of the December 1-2, 2000 Board Meeting were approved (Tom Jones moved; Roger Jenkinson seconded)

D. Executive Director’s Report

- ⇒ 1. On the June agenda, discussion about the frequency of the GENI Board meetings will occur: possibly three per year or three, two-nights or four, two-nights). This has always been the least attended meeting.
2. **THANK YOU to Lou and Hilary** for attending the National Geographic Society’s Coordinator’s Meeting in Washington, DC.

Report from Hilary about the NGS Coordinator’s Meeting:

- a. Resources from the NGS and other Alliances were shared.
- b. The NGS is offering copies of the Map Pack resources discounted 50%; the

announcement

⇒ will be published in the GENI Newsletter. Discussion regarding possible small grants for for the purchase of said resources will occur at the June meeting.

- c. The main discussions revolved around the NGS funding structure changes.
 - 1. Highlighted were the Grosvenor Grants (available to all state Alliances) with an emphasis on conservation and urban topics and a strong partnership and matching dollars demonstration. Deadline is March 13; if accepted, polish process deadline
 - is
 - April 24.
 - 2. A possible idea for Indiana would be a multi-state approach to Lewis and Clark, which is an idea already in the pipe-line.
 - 3. Teacher Grants were also stressed; Alliances are encouraged to help two Teacher Consultants submit a Teacher Grant Proposal.

- 3. GENI secured a letter, signed by Gilbert Grosvenor, on NGS letterhead, regarding the Indiana Geography Alliance’s endowment; the letter estimates that the Indiana Geography Education Endowment will be approximately \$750,000 in another four years; the letter alludes to the fact that the funds will be open to everyone in the state but that grantee’s must work with GENI. As a Board now, work toward increasing this endowment to one million should begin.
- 4. Present concern for this Board must also address the GENI Endowment of approximately \$150,000, which must be increased to ensure program funds that the NGS Indiana Endowment will not fund. Therefore, a proposal was submitted regarding the development of goals, timelines, brochures, and lists. Discussion

of the proposal was moved and seconded (Bill Hale and Karen G. Cooper respectively). GENI would buy out Roger’s July, 2001 from Taylor University (approximately \$2,500 plus travel expenses, duplicating, and postage). The proposal was unanimously accepted for the 2001-2002 budget year. An update will be

⇒ given at the June meeting.

- 5. Research regarding the status of donations to GENI being tax-free (state tax credit - similar to a tax credit for donations given to post-secondary institutions) will be undertaken by Roger.

E. Financial Reports

1. The **Treasurer's Report** was unanimously approved (Bill Hale moved and Jim Schmidt seconded).
2. An **Investment Report** was distributed in abstentia from Jim Mayrose.

F. GENI Staffing

1. **Evaluations** of both Hilary and Kathy were undertaken by the Executive Committee and both were given very positive remarks. Hilary and Kathy seem to work well together.
2. **Letters of Intent** were submitted by both Hilary and Kathy to continue in their positions for another year (July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002); Hilary's title is "Assistant to the Assistant", and Kathy's title is "Assistant Director of GENI". Hilary will be given a \$1.00 per hour raise beginning July 1, 2001. Kathy will be given the university cost-of-living percentage increase (generally about 2%).
3. Roger Jenkinson motioned and Jill Bowman seconded the acceptance of the positions, the current employees, and the recommended pay increases.

G. Institutes

1. **GIS** - discussion of a second GIS event at IUPUI during the summer of 2001 has been occurring with the 2000 planning team. Dates, approach, requirements, and goals are being determined at this time. Jeff Wilson has agreed to be the Director for a second year, while, many of the 2000 staff will return also.
2. **Exploring and Teaching...Indiana and the Underground Railroad** is definitely in progress: the itinerary is mostly established but still flexible; the National Parks Network to Freedom will, hopefully, recognize the event (a grant is being submitted); and distance learning opportunities via Conner Prairie are being utilized. Dates are July 22-27 with Pat Gillogly and Hilary Steinhardt as Directors; Jim Schmidt, Jim Ketterer (technology expert), and Nikki Taylor (IHS) as support leaders.
3. Another **Indianapolis Urban Institute** will be sponsored by the Indiana Urban Geography Initiative, June 18-22, 2001. Metropolitan area international companies would be the underlying "theme". Jill has developed a list of companies to which she will send a letter inviting participation. (This list may be helpful in the endowment pursuits also.)
- ⇒ 4. A **Basic Institute** will be discussed at the June meeting as summarized by Orvil Schlatter, Bill Hale, and Will Sibley.
5. **NASA-related Opportunities**
 - a. **Space Photography in the Classroom** - a summer institute held in Nebraska by the Nebraska Alliance, will be open to a few out-of-state participants. GENI has already been added to the waiting list for potentially three positions (Orvil Schlatter, Carole Mayrose, and Jim Schmidt have volunteered). GENI will provide the travel funds and the registration fees. June 10-16 are the dates. May 1 is the deadline for registration; lesson plans are due at the end of June. Bill Hale motioned and Kathy Kozenski seconded to provide \$2,500 for event based on interest and per person cost.
 - b. **Mission Geography** - NASA has as one of its areas of focus, Geography. Within the context of NASA missions to space lies a strong education and outreach link to the community; therein exists a series of goals and standards, but the refinement of the geography link is needed, and communication between the NASA staff, the Geography Alliances, Geographers, and Classroom Educators is needed in order to provide better education and community outreach. The Lewis Research Center will host Indiana, June 26 - July 1. The purpose of the event will be to fine-tune the relationship between national geography standards and NASA's geography (education) standards.

G. Workshops

1. **Geofest 2000** received extremely positive comments from those in attendance. **Geofest 2001** is scheduled

for October 12-13 at Pokagon State Park in Angola, Indiana. Jim Mayrose will do orienteering on Saturday

morning again; Lou Camilotto will present an activity on the built environment; the National Geographic Society Geography Awareness Week workshop participant from Indiana will present on the conservation and rivers topics; and Jim Schmidt volunteered to present an activity.

2. **Geofest 2002** will be held in southern Indiana if a site can be secured for the corresponding time.
3. **Weekend Workshop in Geography** at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College will be held March 30-April 1; only five have registered thus far. A mailing was sent and should be received this week, thus, promoting further registrations.
4. **Geography Awareness Week** workshop were held at the Lilly Environment Center in West Lafayette, Falls of the Ohio State Park in Clarksville, IUPUI in Indianapolis and Indiana Dunes State Park in Porter. All were well received, although participation could have been higher in Indianapolis.
- ⇒ 5. The **Interdisciplinary Institute/Workshop** is still a possibility for Taylor University. Keep on the agenda for the June meeting.
6. A biannual conference to which we have been invited is the **Non-Public School Education Conference**. The next event will be held in 2002. Karen Grimes Cooper will keep GENI informed, so that a series of geography presentations may be proposed, as well as a GENI table present in the vendor area. In June.
- ⇒ 7. A proposal from the **Technology Committee Chair** was presented regarding the combining of several “technology” oriented projects: web, CD-ROM’s, atlas, GIS, distance learning,... The idea is to promote a consistent look and language regarding GENI’s technology output. This idea will be discussed at the
- ⇒ June meeting.

H. Lilly Grant Announcement - GENI has been discussing the formal, public announcement of the generous gift given

by the Lilly Endowment. The National Geographic Society has not made an effort to have a “thank you” reception or any such event. The Lilly Endowment, at this point (1.5 years after the gift) also does not deem it important to have such an event. Therefore, the GENI Board will continue to discuss the idea, but talk now supports the idea of no event and saving funds for programs.

I. Evaluation /Testing of Post-Secondary, entry-level Geography students at institutions around the state will take place in a two-pronged approach.

1. Tom Jones, Mike Hawkins, and Rick Bein will coordinate the administration of the National Council for Geographic Education’s geographic literacy test for non-education major students at participating post-secondary institutions around the state. Tom Jones motioned, Jim Schmidt seconded the proposal for entry-level geography students (that is, those students taking a beginning level geography course).
2. Dorothy Drummond will coordinate the administration of the NCGE test for geography teacher training students in similar entry-level courses.

J. Indiana Atlas - Kathy talked with Dorothy (as she was on her way to Portugal) about the project; a meeting of Dorothy, Carole Mayrose, and Jeff Wilson (IUPUI GIS specialist and Geographer) about the atlas was held. Some general parameters were discussed and noted. Dorothy felt that the NGS Grosvenor Grants were not targeted for this

type of project, after careful reading of the request for proposals. Funds will be found elsewhere.

K. Family Geography Challenge - Jill Bowman has lots of resources and supplies for any educator wishing to provide

a FGC workshop for their students and families. Contact her at her home via telephone or e-mail.

L. “Thinking Geographically” - Dorothy is currently updating the “Thinking Geographically” workbook that is distributed to all Weekend Geography Workshop participants. The updated version will be available for anyone to purchase via GENI.

⇒ **M. ICSS/GENI Joint Conference** - To be discussed on June agenda.

N. Uniform Evaluation/Assessment of GENI Programs - A uniform evaluation mechanism has been completed; each

event will have a few changes to the form, but overall data will be collected and will be utilized to provide feedback

to program directors/leaders and to GENI.

O. JASON Project - The JASON Project provides worldwide distance learning/interactive opportunities for students

and educators. This summer, Indiana will send two middle school educators to Alaska (all expenses paid) to participate in the Alaska JASON Project. Ted Springer and Karen G. Cooper volunteered, and both fit the very ⇒ specific requirements for selection. More will be presented at the June meeting.

P. GENI Web Page - Please take time to view the GENI web page; it is quite exciting. We will accept comments, and we are looking for lesson plans following the format used in the latest GENI Newsletters.

Q. Teacher Travel Programs

1. This coming summer, Dorothy will lead a group to China for five weeks. They will go to some exciting and hard-to-gain-access places.
2. In the summer of 2002, Dorothy will lead a group to Tasmania and New Zealand.
3. And in the summer of 2003, Dorothy has secured a guide for a trip to Turkey.

R. Committee Reports - Some Committees have already presented a report and may not be stated below.

1. **Development and Grant Writing** - Dorothy will watch for possible Indiana Atlas grants.
2. **Membership** - A mailing regarding membership was sent in December and lots of responses have been received.
3. **Marketing/Promotions** - Sweatshirts, t-shirts, and pins are still available. We will be using the GENI t-shirts at all summer institutes.
4. **Indiana Geographic Bee** - Scheduled for Friday, April 6 at IUPUI, all are “well come”. The event will be taped for airing in May; staff is secured; and all participants will be notified in the next two weeks.
5. **Indiana Geography Teacher of the Year Awards** - Jim Hausman from Northwest High School in Indianapolis and Ray Rusnak of Tolleston Middle School in Gary were selected as the Indiana Geography Teachers of the Year recipients this year; they will receive their awards at the ICSS luncheon awards banquet on Thursday, March 29 at the St. Vincent Marten House/Lilly Conference Center.

S. Liaison Reports

1. **NCGE** - Vancouver, British Columbia will host the 2001 NCGE, August 2-5. Several from Indiana are planning to attend. If you present, a GENI small grant may be available.
2. **ICSS** - March 28-29 are the dates for the ICSS, which will be held at Indianapolis’ St. Vincent Marten House/Lilly Conference Center on the north side.
3. **IDOE** - Mary Fortney extends her gratitude for all of your hard work and help in getting the revised state Social Studies Standards completed, which is “why” she cannot be at this meeting. She will be “burning the midnight oil” polishing the standards ensuring a uniform appearance and clarity. GENI is in good standing with the IDOE at this time.
4. **NGS** - The NGS has been discussed at length during the meeting. If anyone has questions, contact Roger or Kathy for clarification of NGS funding structure changes.

T. Small Grant

1. **Chinchilla - Amy Deane** - At this time, no action was taken due to the fact that the grant proposal did not involve education as a focus for the project. E-mail communication to the author will be made by Kathy regarding the grant making the following suggestions for a possible resubmission:
 - a. how can the project be utilized by Indiana educators
 - b. work with a Geography Teacher Consultant (Jill Bowman volunteered)
 - c. use data, maps, photos, background information, web
 - d. re-submit via e-mail
 - e. encourage her to work up an idea that she is comfortable with and capable of accomplishing NOT

one that GENI suggests.

U. GENI's next Board Meeting will be held at Taylor University, Friday evening and Saturday, June 1-2. GENI will provide lodging and meals for all Board Members; guests are welcome at a minimum charge.

Keep Charles Ellis (husband of Betty Ellis, Geography Teacher Consultant, Indianapolis) in your prayers. He is extremely ill.

Meeting convened at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Lamb Kozenski on behalf of Carole Mayrose, GENI Board Secretary.

CONGRATULATIONS to John and Anna Zervos on the birth of Alexander in January; to David and Melissa Martin on the birth of Courtney in February; Dawn and Will Sibley on the birth of Lela in March; and Ralph and Ruth Johnston on the birth of Zachary in April !!