Developing Research Partnerships – Challenges with Multi-University Consortia

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March 14, 2010
Mechanics of NGI Multi-Institutional Regional Collaborations

- Sources of Northern Gulf Regional Collaborations
- NGI Project Development and Management Processes
- NGI Performance Metrics
- Summary
## Northern Gulf Institute Advisory Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization/Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russ Beard</td>
<td>NOAA National Coastal Data Dev Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miles Croom</td>
<td>NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Davison</td>
<td>NOAA Gulf Coast Services Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Fletcher</td>
<td>Coastal States Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryon Griffith</td>
<td>EPA Gulf of Mexico Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Havens</td>
<td>FL Sea Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Lavoie</td>
<td>USGS Gulf Coast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Austill Lott</td>
<td>The Nature Conservancy</td>
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<td>Larry McKinney</td>
<td>Harte Research Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen O’Neal</td>
<td>NOAA National Data Buoy Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Reed</td>
<td>NOAA National Weather Service LMRFC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Peak</td>
<td>NASA Stennis Applied Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Romkins</td>
<td>USDA National Sedimentation Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Ruple</td>
<td>Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Segura</td>
<td>National Park Service Gulf Coast Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buck Sutter</td>
<td>NOAA GoM Regional Collaboration Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaDon Swann</td>
<td>MS/AL Sea Grant Consortium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Walker</td>
<td>MS Department of Marine Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Waters</td>
<td>US Army Corps of Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Wilson</td>
<td>LA Sea Grant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sources of Regional Collaborations
- NOAA
- USGS
- EPA
- NASA
- USDA
- NASA
- MS/AL Sea Grant Consortium
NGI Partners and Regional Collaborations

NOAA
- OAR, CSC
- NCDDC, GCSC
- GoMRCT, NMFS
- NDBC, NWS, AOML

NGI CORE

Other Government
- NASA, EPA (GOMP)
- USGS, USACE
- USDA/NSL, NPS
- NRL, NAVOCEANO
- MDMR, MDEQ

Consortiums & Associations
- GOMA, Sea Grant
- NERRs, GCOOS, SURA
- NASA GoMRC
- DHS SERRUCARRI
- Other CIs

NGOs
- Nature Conservancy
- Coastal States Org

Associated Universities
- Harte RI, JSU
- LUMCOM, Millisaps
- UNC-CH, UM
- USF
Sources of Regional Collaborations

Geographic Distribution of the 5 Partner Institutions

Location, location, location, location, location
NGI Project Development and Management Processes

Year 1-3 Initiatives and Year 4 Work Plan

• Base funded annual work plan and proposal

• Individually funded grants

• Enhancing the partnerships with NOAA and between NGI academic member institutions
NGI Project Development and Management Processes

Approaches to Increase Regional Collaborations
Key to NOAA Missions in the Northern Gulf of Mexico

• Favored in project selection
• Opening communications channels
• Annual NGI conferences
• Hosting regional workshops
• NOAA OAR – NSF – USGS – EPA – DOD connections
• Executive and Advisory Councils’ contributions
NGI Project Development and Management Processes

Multi-Institutional Collaboration Issues

• Proposal Development
  • Leadership
  • Writing and Reviewing

• Funds management decisions
  • Early involvement of NGI Program Office, VPs for research and Sponsored Programs Administrations
    • Overhead decisions
    • Memorandums of Agreement Facilitate Collaboration
  • Decision on mechanics of distribution of funds
  • Agreement on overhead issues
  • Involvement of NOAA scientists where appropriate

• NGI Program Office involvement tracking and metrics
NGI Project Development Processes

### Annual Base Funding
- NOAA notifies NGI of the annual funding level available
- NGI calls for proposals and selects projects
- Program Office prepares proposal and workplan for annual funding and submits to MSU Grants Admin
- MSU Grants Admin enters proposal into grants.gov
- MSU’s Sponsored Program Administration office completes proposal submission
- SPA notifies NGI of submission by providing confirmation e-mails
- NGI receives award for yearly increment
- MSU Grants Admin distributes funds to NGI institutions via subgrant, task order, or MSU child account

### Individual Grants
- NOAA and NGI identify individual grant research opportunities
- NGI works with NOAA to develop SOW, cover letter, budget, and justification
- Program Office submits individual SOW to MSU Grants Admin
- MSU Grants Admin enters proposal into grants.gov
- MSU’s Sponsored Program Administration office completes submission process
- SPA informs Program Office of submission by providing confirmation e-mails
- MSU Grants Admin distributes funds to NGI institutions via subgrant, task order, or MSU child account
NGI Year 4 Collaborations
NGI Individual Grant Collaborations

FY09
NGI Performance Metrics

- Metrics established and tracked from NGI inception
- Tied to NOAA Goals and NGI themes, goals & strategies
- Project level and program level analysis
- Responsive to Executive Council and Advisory Council
- Integrated
- Evolving
NGI Performance Metrics

- Measurable by design
- Progress Report
- Benefits to NOAA
- Benefits to Region
### NGI Performance Metrics

**GOAL 2: Develop high-impact regional education and outreach programs within the four NGI themes.**

**Strategies & Objectives:**
- Adapt and implement funding criteria to emphasize student involvement in projects.
- Involve students in the NOAA and Minority Fellowship programs.
  - All funded projects will involve students.
- Percent of Projects involving students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over the three to five year period:
- 150 students will be funded by NGI.
- 25 NOAA students hired into NOAA.
- 25 NOAA Internships awarded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150 students funded by NGI</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 NOAA students hired into NOAA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 NOAA Internships awarded</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Develop funding criteria to emphasize outreach activities for each project.
- All funded projects will include an outreach component or activity.
- Percent of Projects including an outreach component/activity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
<th>Year 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>67.6%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Goals Metric: 3 of 10
NGI Performance Metrics

Northern Gulf Institute: Goals Progress Overview

Goals
1. Develop high-impact regional research programs within the four NGI themes.
2. Develop high-impact regional education and outreach programs within the four NGI themes.
3. Create strategic partnerships with other organizations to enhance northern Gulf regional research and educational efforts.
4. Transition research into new or enhanced products and operations.
5. Communicate NGI research, activities, and opportunities through traditional and non-traditional channels.
6. Build and maintain a NGI framework and culture that fosters collaboration and maximizes human potential.
Multi-Institutional Collaboration Issues Summary

- Multi-Institutional Collaborations are in the best interest of our organizations
- Much more complex than single institution proposals
- Take more time (often when it is not available)
- Established relationships (formal or informal) help
  - Builds trust
  - Eases funding mechanism decisions
- There is a reason for “overhead”
- Need to strike a balance between necessary overhead and realistic expectations.
NGI Multi-institutional Regional Collaborations

NGI Performance Metrics

### Northern Gulf Institute -- Goals and Strategies Matrix

**GOAL 1: Develop high-impact regional research programs within the four NGI themes.**

**Objectives:**

- Develop high-impact regional research programs within the four NGI themes.
  - Over the three to five year period, produce a major research finding in each of four themes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Hazards &amp; Resilience</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem Management</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geospatial Data &amp; Visualization</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change Impacts</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Develop Annual Science Plans that identify core regional issues framed by the four NGI themes that will guide allocation of research funding:
  - NGI Science Plan developed and adopted by Research Fellows and accepted by NOAA.
  - NGI Science Plan reviewed annually and adopted by Research Fellows and accepted by NOAA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science Plan Developed</td>
<td>Jan 07</td>
<td>Jan 08</td>
<td>Jan 09</td>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>Jan 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Plan Reviewed</td>
<td>May 07</td>
<td>May 08</td>
<td>May 09</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>May 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Establish and implement funding criteria to emphasize multi-organizational collaboration of projects.
  - All funded projects will be multi-organizational collaborations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Projects with Multi-Organizational Collaborations</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>88.1%</td>
<td>94.5%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Establish and implement funding criteria to emphasize regional impact of projects.
  - All projects will include an assessment of regional impacts, transferability, and potential to increase in scope.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Projects including full assessments</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>82.4%</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

5/13/2009

Goals Metric: 1 of 10