Minutes: SSRIC Meeting, April 28, 1995

Present:

Elliot Barkan Colin Campbell
Don Carder
Rich Deleon
Jon Ebeling
Jae Emenhiser
Jim Gerber
Larry Giventer Frank Gossette John Korey
Ed Nelson
Jim Ross
Rich Taketa
Gene Turner
Frank Young

CSU San Bernardino

SSDBA

SSDBA

San Francisco State

CSU Chico

CSU Humboldt

San Diego State

CSU Stanislaus

CSU Long Beach

CSU Los Angeles

CSU Fresno

CSU Bakersfield

San Jose State

CSU Northridge

Chancellor's Office

Introductions

Jim Gerber was sitting for Doug Coe (SDSU) who was not able to attend the meeting.

Frank Young was introduced as the new representative from the Chancellor's Office. Frank is responsible for Information Technology Policy and Analysis. His telephone is (310) 985-9137 and email address is frankyoung@QM.calstate.edu.

Meetings for 1995-96

The meeting sites for 1995-96:

Fall Chico October 5 & 6

Winter Long Beach Dates to be determined

Spring Bakersfield Dates to be determined

SSDBA

Don Carder announced the appointment of Ken Louw as the new Unix systems administrator. Don also announced the appointment of Stuart Wugalter as analyst replacing Dona Bailey. Stuart has a background in advanced statistical analysis, with experience in SPSS and some SAS experience.

Don also announced some personnel shifts. Janet Valade will be transitioned to another project. He is planning to put more technical people onto SSDBA development. Some considerations include possibly moving SSDBA from INGRES to Sybase some time in the future. Don would like to bring an additional person on for client-server support. Don currently as a requisition out for a World-Wide Web developer position.

Don made the following software related announcements:

1. He indicated that he would like to increase the number of passwords to the Dow Jones News Retrieval service.
2. He was planning to run Legislate as a gopher server through SSDBA.
3. ICPSR data would be available to SSDBA CD-ROM. Some considerations included making the CDs available on a lending library basis or to develop a CD-ROM master to duplicate the CDs for distribution.
4. He may be able to support a Web page for SSRIC (given that he is able to fill the WWW developer position above). CalState LA currently has pages for faculty members with links to any publications or files they wish to make accessible.

Larry Giventer asked for a Friday Workshop on Hypertext Markup Language (HTML). The Winter 1996 meeting was the best candidate. Don will be teaching a class on document management using HTML, so he felt he could prepare such a workshop.

ICPSR

1. Budget Support for ICPSR

Frank Young indicated that budget support for ICPSR was becoming a problem. Tony Moy is the only one who knows how this works. ICPSR allocations are special cased each year, based on the efforts of specific individuals in the Chancellor's Office. This makes funding in the future uncertain, particularly due to changes in personnel. The proposal is to have the Chancellor's Office provide funds for the 1995-96 year, and then to return to a regular subscription process.

The support for the Field Poll is a separate item (combined with Roper).

Discussion revolved around efforts to make clear the value of ICPSR to the instructional process. A subcommittee made up of John Korey (convener), Ed Nelson, Jim Ross, and Don Carder would address this issue for early July.

Rich Deleon asked council members to look at their respective campuses to establish anecdotal information. John Korey commented that the SSRIC was established because of ICPSR, and that other programs and projects have spun off from this.

2. ICPSR Summer Workshops

Jon Ebeling moved that the council allocate $2000 to support Barbara Owen's (CSU Chico) and $333 to the three student applicants for attendance at the workshop. Jon indicated that Barbara might be able to obtain additional grant funds from the Justice Department. Rich Deleon asked that the council find some funds to support two SFSU students at least partially so that he might seek matching funds from SFSU. Elliot Barkan proposed an amendment to the original motion such that $1500 be allocated to Barbara Owen and $500 be allocated to the students contingent on Barbara being awarded additional grant funds. The amendment passed and the amended motion were passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Field Poll

1. Field Internships

The field student intern for Summer 1995 will be Mark Latner (CSU Chico). The Fall internship remains open, and one student from CSU Humboldt has applied for the Winter internship.

1. Question credits for 1995

Elliot Barkan's questions on affirmative action are currently in process. The target is currently August.

Jon Ebeling indicated that one of his faculty colleagues wished to submit questions on capital punishment. Recommendation was that the questions be sent to the Field committee to consider for the 1995-96 year.

1. Disseminating Field announcements

Ed Nelson will look into announcing the Field Fellowships,
internships, and question RFPs through Stateline and the
CFA.

1. Faculty Fellowship

Elliot Barkan announced that Elizabeth Nelson (CSU Fresno) would be the 1995-96 Field Fellow. She will be updating her earlier study on the status and roles of women.

SSIMS

Elliot Barkan gave a brief history of SSIMS for Frank Young's and Jim Gerber's benefit. Elliot then went on to describe the possible arrangements he was discussing with SAGE.

Alternatives for delivery include providing data and command files for SPSS (mainframe) or a complete package including statistical software. The data could be for California only or could be customized for other states. John Korey indicated at the California data for the original SSIMS modules was based on existing ICPSR setups and was no longer an issue.

Discussion of the software issue did not achieve a resolution The council will wait to pursue this until after discussions with SAGE have advanced further.

The organization of the modules into a set of core and application modules was discussed. The core modules would be shared among the different application modules, and would cover common topics such as cross-tabs and regression. This would eliminate the need to develop a discussion of these topics for each application module.

The council reviewed a letter Elliot had drafted to pursue the discussions with SAGE. No objections were raised to Elliot sending the letter.

AIRC Workshop Proposals

Two workshop proposals were submitted: a GIS workshop organized by Gene Turner and Rich Taketa, and an SPSS for Windows workshop proposed by Ed Nelson, John Korey, and Jim Ross. After some discussion on whether the council could forward two proposals, Frank Gossette offered to submit the GIS proposal through the Geography Discipline Council. Gene withdrew his proposal.

Ed Nelson indicated that the AIRC Executive Committee (of which he is a member) will be meeting in Fresno on May 19 to review proposals.

Other Business

John Korey moved that the Field Internship be named after Penny Crane. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of those present.

John also moved that $125 from SSIMS module sales be allocated to cover gifts for Penny Crane (for which John had already paid from personal funds). The motion was passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Those present unanimously approved a motion to thank Jae for his leadership during the 1994-95 year.