

# Minutes

DCB Meeting 11/28/2018

All present and accounted for

Approve the minutes of the April 2018 meeting (I think we can all agree, they were not complete)

Approve the agenda

## Topics:

- 1) DSO update (Brenda)
  - a. Update dive manual (attached documents include summary and highlighted document).  
Brenda has updated ours to match AAUS format. We will discuss highlighted items.  
Input required prior to Spring semester because at
    - i. 2019 Summer for deadline for changes to AAUS manual. Using our manual, Brenda highlighted in yellow what she wanted feedback on.
    - ii. We can delete sections of the AAUS manual to customize our UA needs. For example we do not conduct research cave dives. Or we can recognize that UA does not support such activities and note this above relevant sections of the manual. In this way we would not have to delete sections that may be relevant to future divers. We agreed that this is the way to proceed.
    - iii. Everyone should send Brenda comments concerning the manual via email.
    - iv. The large scale summary of changes to the AAUS manual were sent out as an attachment.
  - b. Dive statistics due January 1, 2019
    - i. All divers need to submit their complete dive logs ASAP. There are still Juneau divers that are completing their dives for the year. Brenda will send out a reminder and all dives need to be logged by January 1, 2019
  - c. New Website for AAUS
    - i. Check it out. More user friendly. Great for posting jobs.
  - d. New logging system for AAUS
    - i. THIS ROCKS!!!! Supplied to OM divers. Cannot delete dives. Brenda saw presentation at AAUS. All certifications will be kept up to date in a more

automated manner. Great for DSO. May be available in the next couple of months.

- ii. Can we log non-AAUS dives and not screw up Brenda's life (not known)
  - e. Increased AAUS dues. Were \$175 and now are \$675
    - i. Smaller dive groups should pay less bigger places pay more
    - ii. CFOS pays this now. K-bay pays for some diving. Course fees at UAS pays for dive related stuff.
  - f. There is a scientific boating safety group who presented at the AAUS meeting. Do we want to join? SEE: <http://scientificboating.org/>
    - i. Just an FYI. Not all boating people are AAUS members (divers) so it might not be practical for AAUS divers to maintain this resource
    - ii. Katrin feels not needed to have more administration
    - iii. Ginny says that a boat safety manual was established through SFOS-Fisheries in 2011. Are we already doing this? If joining this group doesn't allow customization then GE not that excited about joining this.
    - iv. JW only supportive since he used NOAA/UFF&W skiffs and had to obtain additional training beyond his UA training. Would not accept the UA boating safety that JW had. If this program allowed for this he is very supportive. Could be good for reciprocity
    - v. RB: Alaska's Boaters cert available. Customization is important as per users skillset.
    - vi. TM: seems like group has a lot of resources. USFW has lots of different training needs. We are not just CFOS/Fisheries we have a lot of different avenues out of UAF.(IAB for example). Tracy will look into other program's interest
    - vii. Who would lead and organize this effort? How would boat safety training be funded? A UAS instructor trains students who take this class for credit. Training requirement might be more rigorous.
    - viii. Fee is fairly inexpensive for what you have access to.
    - ix. How do we move forward: Let's all look at the website. JW can look into this as far as how it could work for his experiences.
- 2) Reviewing how students who do not live in Fairbanks can get AAUS certification as an open water or advanced diver (Sherry).
- a. Brenda's class: how is this going to work?
    - i. There already exists topics in Subtidal studies class that Juneau students have taken but this does not yield Scientific Diving.
    - ii. Scientific Diving class...VCON portions of the class to Juneau students. There are 4 students interested (2 graduate students and 2 undergraduates students)

There is no cap on the class. Students will need a dive physical and through the course will obtain O2, CPR, First Aid. Students will need to complete pool sessions in Juneau prior to traveling to K-Bay. Brenda sent Sherry the pool skills that need to be covered. Sherry will commit to the pool work this spring but in the future this will change. Sherry will encourage students to bring their own masks and suits. If flights are coordinated with UAF, our Juneau students can coordinate travel to Homer.

- iii. Does the instructor need to be a Diving Instructor. Consensus is NO but Brenda will look into this.
  - b. Check out dives: what we are doing with Ashley. Is this OK for others? This is a Board decision. And currently our Board is OK with 12 training dives as long as the dives are with a DCB member.
  - c. Reid's class: Spring break quick class not going to happen. Maymester class will not work due to workload issues with faculty. It could be possible to have a Fall class. This could include some distance delivered open water course, 4 days of pool and 4 days of ocean dives in Sitka. Lots of equipment available. Could work for graduate students but not so convenient for undergraduates. RB does AAUS class in the spring. Scientific Diver class is the AAUS training, research training and PADI Rescue Diver course. Course lasts 6 weeks and includes 5 pool sessions and 15 ocean dives.
- 3) Sitka diving update
- i. All set for second annual spring dive semester. 15 students (3 from AK). 13 females 2 males. 7 person wait list. 8-10 will come potentially next year. Recently acquired a couple of boats (Jeff Minucci) 6 person dive aluminum skiff. NSF grant funded a 19 foot Achilles and DIPAC 19 foot Achilles. Great for use in Research rescue classes and MTR (boating) classes. Also used for internships.
  - ii. Research projects: exposed vs protected areas. Comparing inverts/algae. GIS map produced. This year working with ADFG on abalone and cucumber study and Smithsonian on invasive tunicate study.
  - iii. Guest instructors were a nice addition. Consider coming to Sitka for a talk. Cool to meet other people. Need divers? There will be more AAUS students in AK that could volunteer for graduate work. Students are eager to continue AK diving.

- b. Life after Reid leaves: Status quo. Joel is an instructor and he will continue the program. Another instructor will be needed for diving to continue. Reid and Joel have done this as a 2 man team and this year they will have past students help out. For AAUS diving the instructors need to be AAUS divers. Teacher to student ratio is important only when students are in the water.
  - c. BK: So have heard from 2 different people in 2 different areas that the course poses safety issues. RB is glad this was brought up and went over all of the safety precautions that are ongoing during the class. Not sure where these comments were from.
- 4) Juneau diving update
- a. October Halloween Pumpkin dives
    - i. Just for the record...Diving started in Unalaska with Reid
  - b. UAF dives mostly Jared in the Pribs
- 5) Grad student DCB member update
- a. More dives by the end of the year.
  - b. 3 days of bottom time
- 6) Good of the order
- a. Mike Navarro on the DCB. Joel Markis should be invited as well. Sherry will submit letters of invitation

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 (or so)