**SFC CESU Executive Committee Meeting**  
10-29-2021

**Agenda**

* **Introductions** – Evelyn Gaiser – 5 min
  + Welcome Smithsonian! (Karen Otiji – Administrative Rep and Scott Miller – Technical Rep)
  + Robert Gutierrez
  + George Gann
  + Deb Epperson– works for Ken Rice
  + Ken Rice – USGS Technical Representative, going to retire and Deb is the recommendation for the next tech rep
  + Laura Brandt – Tech rep for USFW
  + Karen Otiji – Admin rep for Smithsonian
  + Tom Fish – National CESU office in Washington
  + John Baldwin – Florida Atlantic University
  + Jerry Lorenz – Audubon Florida
  + Nikki Fogarty – WNC – North Carolina
  + Helena Solo-Gabriel – U of Miami
  + Dreamal Worthen – Florida A and M University
  + Veronica Delgado – Nova Southeastern
  + Carol Daniels – NPS Rep
  + Ken Meyer – Avian Conservation Research
  + Liz Galli – DoD
  + Gary Zarillo
* **Review minutes from last meeting (attached)** – Paige Kleindl – 5-10 min
  + 2021 Action Plan
  + Website Tutorial
    - http://sfc-cesu.com/
* **National CESU Updates** – Evelyn Gaiser/Tom Fish – 5 min
  + 2 CESU renewals for next year
  + CESU reporting memo and centralized database
    - CESU Project Tracker Database – hosted by NPS
    - Posting a memo about project reporting
      * ID and upload legacy data from older projects
      * Develop a process for rolling project entry – enter on a monthly, quarterly, biyearly etc.
      * Memo is formalizing this process
  + EPA talk about rejoining the council
    - National and regional interests
  + We have done this internally at FIU
  + Two more listening sessions
    - Moderated discussions for future of the CESU – where have we come from, where are we now, where do we want to be in the future
    - Have people participate that have long-term participation in CESU
    - 15th November
  + American Zoos and Aquarium – potential national and regional members
  + Meeting with LTER network
    - Dialog about our workshop at the LTER meeting
  + Using database to access and determine the main project types in the SFC CESU?
    - Reference by sponsoring agency and geographic distribution
  + 2 types of CESU projects
    - Research, outreach, technical
    - Key topics – climate, wildlife, water/hydrology
  + Offline Meeting with Evelyn and Tom Fish
* **Strategic Plan** - Outline – Evelyn Gaiser – 5 min
  + Introduction – Management Committee
    - Scope of SFC CESU
    - Mission statement and vision
    - Timeline and membership
  + Research Direction – All
    - Self-assessment summary
    - Current themes
    - Emerging themes
  + Education and Outreach - All
  + 2021-2026 Goals – All
    - Strategy to meet goals
* **Self-assessment of existing projects to identify areas of synergy and** growth – Evelyn Gaiser – 5 min
  + Need SFC database of existing projects
    - Robert G. collected this for FIU, show example. Could other institutions do the same and send to Paige? ([pklei007@fiu.edu](mailto:pklei007@fiu.edu))
  + Look at projects collected for the 5-year renewal
    - Have a CESU tag assigned to each project to help find one you are looking for
  + We know what is coming through FIU but not through other institutions
  + Qualitative discussion
* **Next SFC Meetings:**
  + **December 2021**: Get to know you workshop (2 hrs)
    - Goal: to identify themes for All Hands Meetings
    - Date and Time: 2nd week of December
    - Agenda:
      * Federal partner introductions (5 min presentation) ~20 min
      * Review self-assessments from non-federal partners (5 min presentation) ~40 min
      * Discussion of common themes ~20-30 min
        + Will be included in Strategic Plan
      * Discussion of breakout groups to ID areas of future growth ~20 min
        + How do we make sure the projects are feeding back to management recommendations?
        + ID areas of need for the agencies and the scientists at institutions
      * Report back ~10 min
      * Determine next steps for Strategic Plan
    - A regional science and capacity meeting
      * Needs and priorities of the agencies and the skills and capabilities of scientists
      * Bring scientist ideas of topics of interests to the federal partners
    - What are the projects and how are the projects answering the needs of the institutions?
      * Linking projects to the bigger questions that the federal agencies have
  + **February 2022**:
    - Complete outline of Strategic Plan and make assignments for completion by the next meeting
    - Plan career panel
  + **April 2022**: Career panel
    - Use template from April 2021 GEER meeting
    - Administrative representatives as panelists – federal and nonfederal
    - All CESU and CESU-related students are invited
      * Need to get an invitation out to all CESUs
  + **June 2022**: Final Strategic Plan and Annual Report
    - Evaluate success of panel and brainstorm more outreach opportunities, plan 2022-2023