

NATIONAL STATE DATA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

Bob Coats (NC), *Chair*
Mary Craigle (MT), *Vice Chair*
Amy Bittner (WY), *Co-Secretary*
Charles Rynerson (OR), *Co-Secretary*

*Representing a Network of 1,800
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates
Nationwide*

Allen Barnes (AZ)
Patty Becker (MI)
Sue Copella (PA)
Todd Graham (MN)
Dan Veroff (WI)

We Bring Value-Added Census Data and Education to the User

State Data Center (SDC) Steering Committee Conference Call Tuesday, March 10, 2015 2:00 pm EDT

Participants:

<i>Steering Committee (SC) including members-elect*:</i>	<i>Customer Liaison and Marketing Services Office (CLMSO):</i>	<i>Special Guests from Census Bureau:</i>	<i>Census Information Centers (CIC) Liason:</i>
Allen Barnes Amy Bittner Bob Coats Charles Rynerson Dan Veroff Mary Craigle Pam Schenker* Patty Becker Sue Copella Suzan Regan* Todd Graham	Tom Edwards Barbara LaFleur Samantha Proctor	None	Not available for this meeting

The meeting started at 2:00 PM EST

Miscellaneous Topics

- CLMSO hopes to send a letter to the Steering Committee (SC) next week about travel to the April meeting.
- There are two conference calls this week about the budget. One is for the media, and one for stakeholders. The stakeholders call occurs 1:30-2:15 pm EDT on Thursday, March 12th, immediately preceding the media call.
- Bob sent the letter to the Census Bureau expressing support for the 3-year ACS product, but has not got any feedback about it yet. It is not known when a decision will be made about the 3-year ACS data product.
- Warren Brown, of APDU, has had conversations with Census Bureau officials including Nancy Potok, on topics including CEDSCI [*Center for Enterprise Dissemination Services and Customer Innovation, a team of census experts working on data dissemination systems*]. He will brief Bob on his conversations later this week.

Census Bureau staff joined the call at 2:15 PM EST

- Bob asked about when the final decision would be made about the 3-year ACS file. Tom responded that he was not sure, but thought it would be pretty quick. The budget concerns necessitate action.

Data Dissemination Tools

- Regarding CEDSCI, a question was raised whether it is a new data tool. The simple clarification was that it is not a tool; it is a committee searching for a new tool. *[follow-up from a document sent after the conference call:*

“Their challenge is to modernize our technology platforms and leverage existing innovations to provide a set of shared dissemination services that enable both Census staff and our data consumers to do more with the massive content we publish year round. Their process will be to rapidly prototype, test and deploy the transition steps necessary to move us from the current architecture to a new permanent model. Their goal is to broaden and enhance the use of existing systems and tools and to build new features that will integrate across programs and surveys.”]

- Bob asked “is there enough info to talk about life after AFF?” Tom replied “I will check in with someone on the committee. I’ll see who might be able to drop in during the Steering Committee meetings.”

Meeting Agendas

- Tom: We tried to incorporate things we heard from the SC as well as things that we thought were important. We have submitted the draft agendas to Kendall, but we thought we should share it with the SC to see if there is anything you feel strongly about.
- Todd: I would have liked to see more on Federal-State partnerships in preparation for 2020.
- Bob: On Tuesday, April 14th at 8:00 am there is a Geography topic that may be a good place to talk about a general time frame for when partnerships might start.
- Barb: Look at Monday afternoon. There is a 2020 topic with Lisa Blumerman and Deirdre Bishop on 2020 Census partnerships
- Barb: In the past things started getting ramped up in the years ending with 7 and 8.
- Pam: We need to prepare budget requests at least a year in advance if there is staff needed for partnerships.
- Dan: Would it be more effective to interact with the partnership people in a face-to-face session with the SC [rather than in a virtual session with the full network]? Because they aren’t going to get feedback in a virtual session. Barb responded that the full network needs to get the information about partnerships.

- Dan: Should we be planning for a parallel track (“plan B”) for all day meetings with the SC? That is, considering the possibility that there may be budget for an in-person network meeting later in spring or summer.
- Tom: I haven’t heard anything definitive about an in-person meeting, but I will check on that.
[follow up: Bob spoke with Tom after the call, and the news is that additional budget cuts have eliminated the possibility of an in-person Annual Meeting this year.]
- There was a question about administrative records. What would this include? The topic seems pretty broad. Maybe the focus is more on the 2020 Census?
- What about the agenda item about Boot Camp discussion? Old Boot Camp items are available on the SDC Clearinghouse website.
- Todd: I’m curious what Jennifer Smits and Virginia Hyer are planning to present *[Todd is on the draft agenda with them, discussing social media]*.
- *[follow up: the day after the conference call, Bob forwarded a revised draft agenda prepared by CLMSO, for meetings with the SC April 13th-15th, all day Monday and Tuesday, and a half day Wednesday. The Annual Meeting will be virtual, and will tentatively occur in May.]*

Miscellaneous Topics

- Can we find out the status of the Governor’s Liaison program? Some SC members have not heard anything about it, others have already been appointed as a liaison.
- Officers will be selected at the SC meeting. Be thinking about what officer role you may want to fill, or that you would accept if offered.
- THANKS TO OUTGOING STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS SUE AND PATTY!!! Please continue to stay involved and contribute your expertise.

The meeting ended at 3:05 PM EDT