



THE UPAC NEWS

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Richard Thompson, President
Georgia B. Thompson, Editor

UPAC Slates Meeting for July 13 - 14

UPAC members will meet for their summer meeting in San Juan County, July 13 - 14 in the Monticello area. Chas Cartwright has been making arrangements.

The agenda will be as follows:

Friday, July 13

2 - 5 p.m. Workshop on State Research Design

5 to 7 p.m. Dinner

7 to ? Informal Current Research Reports

Saturday, July 14

9 - 10 Business Meeting (nominate Vice President/Research Design, fellows, etc.)

10 to noon Continuation of Workshop on Research Design

Chas indicates that the Blue Mountain Ski area will be the place for camping for the meeting. There is no power nor water there, so come prepared. The area is reached by taking Second South, west off main street in Monticello. Drive west about 4 miles, turn left toward the ski area, drive about 1 mile to the camp. At the camp there is one chalet-type facility which could be used for meeting. If any presenter needs a projector, or power, let Chas know so that arrangements can be made to meet in the BLM facilities in Monticello. Call him at 587-2860 (home), or 587-2201 at work. Otherwise, plan first to meet at the ski area between 1 and 2 p.m. on Friday.

At the December UPAC meeting, the membership indicated a desire to begin to develop a state-wide research design for archeology. With this in mind, Dave Madsen has agreed to chair the workshop time during the summer meeting to begin to share information and input on such a design. (Dave volunteered to take this position when LaMar Lindsey, Vice President for Research Design found it necessary to resign earlier this year.)

Regional approaches or designs might be the first step in preparation of a state-wide plan, so members are encouraged to bring ideas, questions, problems which could be discussed and then some steps taken to formalize the design. Members might want to look at the UPAC NEWS, Vol. 1, No. 1, page 6 for an article by Joel Janetski and Rick Holmer on A Suggested Structure for Regional Research Designs. This might suggest some avenues for examination at the workshop session(s).

If you have specific questions or problems which you think ought to be raised, this can be addressed in the workshop period.

During the business meeting, nominations need to be made for a replacement for LaMar Lindsey as Vice President of Research Design, ideas on 1984 Fellow nominees could also be submitted to the membership committee. Other items include a date for the winter meeting.

Member Responds To Editorial

Dear UPAC President:

As a member of UPAC and a frequent participant on Technical Proposal Evaluation Committees, I would like to comment on the editorial in Vol. 2, No. 2 concerning BLM's contracting procedures. I take issue with the allegation "...that cost information is being leaked to favored archeologists..." and the contention that proposals have been evaluated on the basis on cost alone rather than on the merits of design. A brief explanation of the Bureau's contracting process should serve to resolve what appears to be more of a misunderstanding than a problem.

- Given a set amount of funding Bureau archeologists develop a statement of work to respond to C.R.M. responsibilities - often in a very short period of time.
- An attempt is made to ensure that the work requirements are in line with the funds available.
- The work requirements are set down in the request for proposal (RFP) which is distributed to potential contractors.
- The response by the contractors to the RFP, termed a technical proposal, is reviewed by the Technical Proposal Evaluation Committee (TPEC). This group is generally made up of 3 to 5 BLM archeologists. Each proposal is evaluated according to criteria set forth in the RFP without regard to bids. The contractors cost proposal is a separate document which is not reviewed until each proposal is scored and a range of technical acceptability is established. It is not uncommon for a relatively weak proposal to be dropped at this point.
- Technical scores are then considered with the bids. Best and Final Offers (BFO) are then solicited from the acceptable group.
- Upon receipt of the BFO, technical scores are changed to reflect proposal modifications, and final costs are considered.

- The contract is awarded based on consensus and the reasons for acceptance/rejection are written up for all proposals.

In my experience, it is usually the proposal with the highest technical capability which receives the contract. Low bids are usually tied to weak proposals.

To address the question of TPEC members "leaking" funds available information: this is illegal, unethical, a punishable offense and an allegation not taken lightly. Whether the proper disclosure of funds available would be beneficial is a moot point. What is more important is that all contractor costs are reviewed with respect to the proposal-underpricing is scrutinized as much as inflated costs are. In the end, a good proposal must be both technically and fiscally sound.

As for "returning to the evaluation of proposals based on the merits of design", I don't know when in the merky past they were done better than at present. I do not claim there is not room for improvement, certainly the evaluation/award factors section of the RFP could be revised, as well as others; however, I believe UPAC would do well to direct its efforts towards the shaping of government sponsored research designs rather than attempting to alter their bureaucratic structures.

Doug McFadden
Kanab Resource Area Archeologist

New Permit Regulations Cause Wide Concern

New Permit Regulations for the 1979 Archeological Resource Protection Act have several UPAC members concerned about a possible "bottleneck" in the permitting process which could affect small archeological CRM contractors.

The regulations say that as of September 30, 1984, every blanket consulting permit for work on federal lands in the United States will be terminated--no matter when the original expiration date was.

All future permits would have to be project-specific with the applications being filed with the federal agency under whose jurisdiction the project area would come.

Officials in each agency would then review the permit prior to it being forwarded to Washington. The minimum turn around time would be about 45 days. Emergency permits would only be reserved for instances where sites were found after a construction project was underway.

If you are concerned about how this new permitting system could become so unwieldy, write first to Bennie C. Keel, Departmental Consulting Archeologists, National Park Service, Dept. of the Interior, Washington D. C. 20240. Also write to the Congressmen James V. Hansen, Dan Marriot or Howard Nielson, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. 20515 (that address will work for all 3). Write Senators Jake Garn and Orrin Hatch, U. S. Senate, Washington D. C. 20510. Congressman Hansen and Senator Hatch also have 800 numbers which can be utilized. (Hatch: 800-662-4300; Hansen 800-662-2523). If you live in the Salt Lake or Ogden area, offices of each of these men could be reached by phone.

State Antiquities Update.

The Utah State Division of History has also issued new regulations which have been adopted by the State Board of History to implement the various Antiquities Acts of the State of Utah.

All UPAC members holding Antiquities permits with the state of Utah should have received a copy of these from Dave Madsen, State Archeologist. If there are questions, or if a permit holder has not received these regulations, he or she should get in touch with Dave's office at 300 Rio Grande, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101.

The State Legislature in 1983 passed an antiquities act similar to that of 1953 except that the responsible state agency has become the Division of State History rather than the Division of Parks and Recreation. Thus it is important that Permit holders or individuals interested in making Permit applications have the information from Madsen's office.

Research standards, curation requirements, types of permits and how they can be applied for by qualified persons are detailed in the information.

\$ DUES \$

If you have been receiving the UPAC NEWS but have not paid your dues for this year, please send a check to Lorraine Dobra right away. Student members are still \$15; others \$30.

Also, if you are not a member, but feel that you would qualify, or you know someone whom you feel qualifies, get in touch with Bill Davis who will be the new Vice President for Membership/Ethics at P. O. Box 57, Bluff UT 84512. Do it today!!!