Xan Wedel (KS)
Chair
Annette Watters (AL)
Vice-Chair
Pam Harris (MT) and
Pam Schenker (FL)
Secretary

NATIONAL
STATE DATA CENTER
STEERING COMMITTEE

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

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

Julie Hoang (CA)
Barbara Ronningen (MN)
Robert Scardamalia (NY)
Jane Traynham (MD)
Dan Veroff (WI)

State Data Center
Conference Call Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 5, 2008

The conference call meeting commenced at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. All Steering Committee members were in attendance except Xan Wedel and Jane Traynham. CLMSO was represented by David Donovan and Barbara LaFleur.

The agenda items for this conference call were:

- Strategic Planning Session
- ACS User Guides
- Steering Committee Nominations
- ACS August release dates
- Planning Database Status
- Website Redesign Update
- ACS Train the Trainer Planning Update
- Fall Meeting

Strategic Planning Session
The Steering Committee has a separate conference call scheduled on August 20 to discuss a strategic planning process between the data center network and the Census Bureau. The Bureau and the Steering Committee will meet at Bureau headquarters on the day before the Annual Meeting for further discussions and to make plans for cooperative projects between the two organizations.

ACS User Guides
The user guides will be released on a flow basis starting in September and running through December. There will be twelve versions. The first guide will be for the general audience.

Steering Committee Nominations
Dan Veroff announced that the polls are open starting August 6th and will remain open until September 19th. There were five candidates vying for three open seats. The nominees, Bob Coats, Sue Copella, Ron Crouch, Lenny Gaines, and Julie Hoang, have submitted statements about themselves and their views of the Steering Committee's role and work and the information is posted on the SDC/BIDC clearinghouse website at http://www.sdcbidc.iupui.edu/committee/elections.html.

ACS August Release Dates
Donovan reminded the committee that the ACS Income and Poverty release date is August 26th. There will be no embargo for this release. There will be a briefing release conference call with the date and time yet to be determined.

Planning Database Status
The committee reminded CLMSO staff that they still would like to be involved in the enhanced database planning. Frank is working on this project and since he was not on the call, there was no new information to share.

SDC Website Redesign Update
Donovan reported that the redesign of the Bureau's SDC website is continuing. He asked the committee to help with part of the design by forwarding to him, by Friday, a number of images that the committee would like to see on the top right hand side of the page. These images should be indicative of the activities of the Network. There will be 3 total, but he asked us to send more than 3 so that the webmasters would have more to choose from. He also mentioned that there will be tabbed links at the top and that the committee should think about the top five activities/areas of the web site that we would like to see prominently displayed such as a link to the SDC Network where all the names and emails are located, or a link to data that have been or are about to be released. In mid-August CLMSO staff will meet with the designers and will then be able to share more information with the committee on the websites progress.

ACS Train the Trainer Planning Update
Barbara Ronningen reported that the three SDC members, Barbara, Jerry Deichert, and Lenny Gaines, have had two conference calls with Bureau staff (moderated by Pam Klein) to discuss the training for the October meeting. Thursday, the second day of the fall conference, will be devoted to ACS training. There are still some details to work out but the meetings are productive.

Fall Meeting
The committee discussed creating a brochure or publication to announce the fall meeting to the network to remind them to 'save the date' and that it is the 30th anniversary of the program. Also included will be a brief description of the agenda.

Status of the SDC Network Affiliates Policy Discussion
The committee discussed the concept of changing the program to allow states to have more affiliates at the June meeting, but were unsure of the next step. It was suggested that a letter to Dr. Murdock asking about the change with the reasons why would be the appropriate course of action.

Other Items
There were no other items for discussion.

Conference call ended 3:50 pm Eastern Time.