Present: Michael Kart, Laura Baker, Tim McGuire, Tina Johnson, Michael Scherger, Bilal Shebero, Anne Marie Eubanks, Kay Kussman, Leslie Fife
Not present: Shyam Karrah, Sunny Choi

Meeting commenced at 3 pm @ St Edward's University, Austin, TX

Marketing, low attendance, and low submissions were discussed. The national level is aware of this and is still looking into this. It was determined that there is not enough student interest for the Student Showcase. A one day conference was agreed upon for Friday, April 8th.

**Paper Selection for April Conference**

9 of the 11 submitted papers were selected for inclusion in the conference – an acceptance rate of 81%.

**Tutorial/Workshop Selection**

2 tutorials and 2 workshops were submitted. Both tutorials and both workshop were accepted, one workshop will have a pre-conference time slot.

**Program**

The selection of workshop, tutorials and paper groupings & time slots was discussed. One concurrent paper session and one concurrent workshop/tutorial session. Each paper will have 15 minute presentation with 5 minute Q&A. Tutorials are an hour, the workshop is 2 hours.

Student posters need to be up by 2 pm, to allow the judges to look at the posters during the day. The session will be 45 minutes. Moderator would be called upon closer to the conference time. Room for the conference will be assigned later. The Steering Committee will meet after the dinner reception.

**Conference Discussion**

Board member terms expiring and need for elections at the Friday Dinner.

Local equipment needs for presenters was discussed, with St. Edward's taking care of this.

Low attendance and low submissions were discussed again, possible solutions were brought up such as: joining the regions back together again and alternating each sub-region hosting the conference, and expanding the email list that invites for the paper submissions. Hosting the conference in a central location will hopefully help with the cuts in travel budgets for the attendees.

Future location desires was discussed; Mike Scherger is looking into hosting the conference at TCU for 2018.
How to reduce the costs was also discussed; national is also looking into this with the possibility of one paper book released for the year from three to four papers from each region. The desire for more marketing and support from sponsors was mentioned.

Budget
No change.

Announcements/Dates
8 April 2016 Conference at St. Edwards.
6 April 2016 Student Poster deadline.
22 Mar 2016 Early Registration ends.
15 Jan 2016 All authors must have papers and forms completed and registration submitted.

Website Configuration
Tim McGuire & Laura Baker
Laura Baker will notify Sunny Choi to change the early registration on the website

Adjourned: 5:36pm. Submitted by Anne Marie Eubanks