

To All:

I have been trying to digest all of the thoughts, ideas, concepts, suggestions, etc., which have been forthcoming since our conference ended.

Many excellent “proposals” have been put forth by Alan (starting with his grand proposal), Steve, Tony, and Mike (I have attached the relevant e-mails; even included a few thoughts of my own.). I apologize for the many attachments, and for others I may have missed, but I felt it necessary to ensure I captured all the relevant discussion.

Based on my ruminations (“digestion”), I have one overarching recommendation – we need to develop an organized approach to whatever it is we hope to achieve. I believe any meaningful action(s) on our part will require a multi-year effort. Without a well-organized, directed approach, we could well expend much time and energy for little gain.

I strongly recommend that before we (individually or collectively) start to take action(s) we meet to develop specific objectives (i.e., a “mission statement”), goals [i.e., necessary steps, e.g., scientific/technical, public trust/education, institutional issues, to achieve our objective(s)], and how we plan to meet these objectives and goals (i.e., a strategic plan). This strategic plan must address all aspects, e.g., financial, communications/media, of meeting these objective(s) and goals, as well as, the specific who\what\when\how we will proceed. As a multi-year effort, I believe our strategic plan should include both short-term, e.g., < 1 year, and long-term, e.g., 3-5 year, plans.

As a couple of examples:

- A survey of all conference participants has been suggested. There have been many suggestions for the content of this survey. I volunteered to revise the survey, but before doing so, I would recommend we determine how this survey and its content/results fit within the hierarchy of our objectives/goals/strategic plans.
- Steve is doing excellent work in developing our website, but again, how does/will this website and its contents fit into our objectives/goals/strategic plans.

Full disclosure – I am not privy what was said/decided in the Thursday meeting. Perhaps much of this has already been determined. Perhaps some of this seems like an overreach, but speaking personally, I view this as likely my last (only?) chance to make a truly meaningful contribution to the field of radiation protection. I would not fail because I set my sights too low, or believed my efforts would not be meaningful.

Thanks for letting me pontificate – slings and arrows cheerfully received, and

HAVE A GREAT DAY!

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