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Pressing Issue: 2009 Conference Pre-Proposal Review

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Jim Lyneis - 06-6-28 at 04:46 PM

Documents describing two pre-proposals for 2009 are attached.

The proposal for Albuquerque is based on a conference at a major hotel, as described in the document "ISDC 2009 Albuquerque." Similarly, the proposal for Portland, Maine is based on a conference at a major hotel (Holiday Inn by the Bay).

The spreadsheet "JML Conference Proposal Comparison NA 2009" provides a side-by-side comparison of the major points from the two proposals. Because we are at the pre-proposal stage, the spreadsheet still has some missing or uncertain items. This spreadsheet will serve as the basis for discussion of the two pre-proposals after short presentations from each at the Policy Council meeting. We will then be able to ask questions and provide feedback on the pre-proposals with the intent of receiving revisions and taking a vote at the Winter 2007 Policy Council meeting.

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Jim Lyneis - 06-6-28 at 04:48 PM

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Bob Eberlein - 06-7-4 at 12:35 PM

This is great - you are so well organized.

A comment, if I understand the Portland pricing there is a \$36/person/day charge for breaks and lunch. So the total would be more than that Albuquerque proposal if this was added in (adds about \$60,000 right) but lunch would be included?

The more substantive question for the proposers or anyone who knows is on the meeting room capacity. All of the hotels mentioned seem small. The Seaport has 400 some sleeping rooms and seems has just enough meeting space. I am concerned that we may find ourselves quite crowded.

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Jim Lyneis - 06-7-5 at 03:41 PM

Bob,

These are good questions that I have posed to the prospective hosts.

I'm waiting to hear back from John Voyer on the \$36/day charge -- specifically, what the room rental rates would be without the food offset -- but if we opt for teh \$36/day then it does include lunch and the \$15 on line 29 of the spreadsheet would be \$0.

I'll query the proposes on the adequacy of meeting room space. I already have on sleeping room space (which is low as you note). In both locations, there are other hotels nearby and we would have to negotiate sleeping space with them. The proposers have lists and maps to show at the PC meeting.

Jim

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Jim Lyneis - 06-7-5 at 03:51 PM

A clarification on the student cost for sleeping rooms:

The Rio Grande Inn would charge \$118 per room, not per student. There can be up to 4 students in a room (\$29.50/student/night). I only indicated that on the 'SleepingRooms' tab of the spreadsheet we sent back. We also may have access to University of New Mexico dormitory space for \$19/student/night and use public transport to the Hotel Albuquerque (\$2). There are also several lower cost hotels nearby.

Also the local transportation per person on line 31 should be \$0, as this is airport transportation and is included earlier. I have updated the summary spreadsheet but will not repost for a week or so.

Jim

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LMalczynski - 06-7-6 at 03:11 PM

The Hotel Albuquerque has recently expanded its conference space. The whole area including rooms A through H is new. This is why there is an imbalance between conference room space and guest room space. Don't worry about guest room space either. There are a number of hotels, motels and B&Bs in the area. We'll work with a number of them to provide lodging suitable to every taste and budget, all within a short walking distance.)

Pages 10-11 of the ISDC2009Albuquerque.pdf explain the conference hotel meeting space and page 15 describes the nearest overflow hotel (0.3 miles away). The main hotel's meeting planner 2 page document is attached.

The Hotel Albuquerque rooms D&E should be sufficient for plenary meetings (672 people theatre style)

The Banquet can be outside in the Pavilion and gardens (weather permitting), or in rooms D&E (560 people banquet style). Additionally Grand Ballroom holds 1,100 in banquet mode if needed.

There are 10 other breakout rooms for parallel sessions and workshops

... A, B, C, F, G, and H

... Franciscan Ballroom

... Turquoise, Weavers, and Potters

... Fireplace room

These rooms range in capacity from 50 to 350 people theatre style, or 40 to 225 people classroom style.

There's ample room in the North, East and South Atriums for posters, etc.

Please let us know if you have any other concerns.

Len and Aldo

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LMalczynski - 06-7-6 at 03:17 PM

It seems the 7 MB attachment did not attach!

Here is the Hotel Albuquerque url. Please see the MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS & EVENTS link.

[http://www.buynewmexico.com/HERITAGEHOTELS/hotelabq/hotelabq\\_home.html](http://www.buynewmexico.com/HERITAGEHOTELS/hotelabq/hotelabq_home.html)

Len

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Bob Eberlein - 06-7-6 at 07:17 PM

Thanks Len - there is a 1 megabyte limit on attachment sizes - your description was much more concise in any case. Looking over the rooms it seems pretty similar in meeting space to the Seaport hotel, which sounds good.

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Jim Lyneis - 06-7-14 at 04:33 PM

Located in Portland's arts district, the Holiday Inn by the Bay is in an ideal location to enjoy Portland. Conference attendees will not need a car while staying with us. The hotel is within an easy walk of the world-class Portland Museum of Art, the public market, the USM campus, the bustling harbor and numerous other attractions. Portland's famous Old Port area with its cobblestoned streets and handsome 19th century buildings are a few blocks away. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow described Portland as "a jewel by the sea" and that is still true today. Portland is one of the most vibrant and inviting small cities in the region.

1/29/2007

An intense revitalization effort began years ago in Portland's cobbled Old Port area, transforming it into a clutch of galleries, microbreweries, and stylish boutiques. Today, it seems like every corner of Portland is being rehabbed. Inventive chefs in search of ultrafresh seafood and produce are hanging out shingles like mad. The result is that Portland has more restaurants per capita than any other U.S. city except San Francisco, and many serve a lot more than just lobster rolls and a good bowl of "chowdah."

For more information about the Holiday Inn by the Bay, visit their website at [www.innbythebay.com](http://www.innbythebay.com) More information on Portland can be found linked from the Convention and Visitors Center at [www.visitportland.com](http://www.visitportland.com).

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Jim Lyneis - 06-7-14 at 04:34 PM

A word of caution in looking at the spreadsheets: please do not focus strictly on the bottom line registration fee and cost comparisons; as you will see in the spreadsheets, and we will discuss in the PC meeting, the proposals contain somewhat different program features (e.g., inclusion of a banquet or not) and assumptions (e.g., student room options and meal costs). While I have tried to make the proposal summaries as comparable as possible, there will be differences that we will want to discuss.

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