Sessional Committee on International Relations

**Function:** To investigate and develop the International ambitions of the society.

**Size of Committee:** The committee is chaired by one person. Members include one other SPNHC member and 10 external contributors.

**Major tasks:** Gather information about the perception and need of the society from a wider audience and present finding to the Council. Produce a report on findings and an action plan in line with the current strategy of the Society.

Among the activities identified for the sessional committee:

**Short term:**
- Produce plan for international outreach. Consider other models for international organizations, e.g. ICOM.
- Assess demand for resources in languages other than English.
- Develop strategy to maximize recruitment opportunities at SPNHC meetings outside North America.
- Consider the specific issue of international retention post meeting sign-up and develop a strategy for improved retention rates.

**Medium term:**
- Explore the potential for regional meetings at all levels (nationally, internationally).
- Build international partnerships with other organizations.
- Review opportunities for bundled membership packages or reciprocal membership with international organizations.

**Calendar items:**

**Annual Meeting:**
- Present report on findings at annual meeting.
- June 2014: Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between SPNHC, NatSCA (Natural Sciences Collections Association), and GCG (Geological Curators Group) both UK groups having similar focus and aims to SPNHC.
- Submit reports to Fall and Spring Newsletters, as deemed necessary.

Submitted by Suzanne Ryder, March 2014
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