Report from WWF and ICSB Foundation representative

During the meeting in Dublin I intend to speak person-to-person with each WWF who is in attendance. My goal is (a) to provide a succinct update on strategic decisions and directions that the ICSB headquarters has been doing and accomplishing, (b) report on the activities of the ICSB Foundation, and ask if s/he members would like to be more involved with the ICSB Foundation, (c) ask each person what high priorities they would like ICSB to focus on, what they would like from me [WWF Board Representative and President, ICSB Foundation], and what each Board member believes to be the strategic direction of ICSB and the ICSB Foundation. What I hear and see will be summarized and sent to the WWFs and the ICSB Board members.

The ICSB Foundation. I will report [in as much detail as Board members request and time is given] on the activity, learning, and disappointments regarding the ICSB Foundation. If the Board members want more elaboration I am very willing to make time available either in the Board time or as an interested party in a special meeting. For the past 18 months I have spent uncounted hours and days interviewing successful Foundation leaders and in deep study on foundation processes. My personal expenditures have been quite substantial with no money given by other individual ICSB members. My research and many interviews with successful experts helped me know the "territory" quite well. The sudden death of Bruce Enstad led me to discover how minimal was progress with wealthy foundations and individuals. I have real concerns about how and when [if ever] the ICSB Foundation will build a substantive endowment in order to take our place "at the table" to become an important factor in world leadership [or not, but continue increase member and affiliate numbers which is presently the unwritten de facto goal and strategy.] I will argue for doing a rigorous study leading to a written practical strategic direction for both the ICSB Foundation. My strategy for the ICSB Foundation has fallen on deaf ears by our members and staff either due to the topic[s] suggested or a general disinterest in helping build a significant endowment.

In other words, this Board meeting for me is for listening carefully to others' reports and goals. I will ask for post-meeting written suggestions from attending ICSB members. Hopefully we will all present our views with kindness while leaving our "egos at the door."

"Practice deep listening and gentle speech." Dahli Lama

- Submitted by G. Dale Meyer via email - May 22, 2014