

2011 SOS Submission: Mississippi Incorporating Geographical Interest Groups into Chapter activities and administration

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| Chapter Name | Mississippi Chapter |
| Chapter Number (ex. CH0000) | CH9023 |
| Chapter Location (City, State) | Jackson, MS |
| Chapter Membership Size | Medium (101 - 300) |
| Contact Person for this Submission: | Jan Sims |
| Email Address: | jsims@mississippi.org |
| Phone Number: | (601) - 540 - 8284 |
| Chapter Board Position: | 2010 President |
| Chapter Website URL: | http://www.astdms.org |
| Submission Title: | Incorporating Geographical Interest Groups into Chapter activities and administration |
| Submission Description: | The MS Chapter holds a joint meeting with our GIGs each June. The joint meeting rotates among the Chapter/GIG locations. The Chapter also added to the By-Laws to incorporate GIG administration. Approval of the by-laws concerning financial matters eased Chapter relations with the GIGs. |
| Need Addressed: | CORE need for chapter administration and chapter need for involving GIG members in chapter activities. |
| Does this effort align with your chapter's mission? | - Yes |
| Does this submission align with ASTD's mission? | - Yes |
| Target Audience: | Any chapters interested in forming GIGs as well as those with GIGs who are looking for ways to involve GIG members |
| Costs/Resources Used: (include any funding you were able to get through donations, contributions, barter, etc. and how you went about getting these resources. Also include how much volunteer/board member time this effort took) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The president travels to each GIG once per year and attends one GIG board meeting, either via conference call or in person. The costs associated with this are for mileage and a meal. No overnight stay is required. 2. There were no costs associated with changing the By-laws to include GIG administration. 3. Travel costs for the June meeting vary depending on the location, but the hours allow for travel without an overnight stay. The hosting body is responsible for determining the theme, location, and speakers. Meeting dues have been the same as a monthly chapter meeting (\$15.00) for the past two years. The meeting dues cover food costs. Door prizes are donated. |
| How did you implement: (please give a | The first joint meeting was held in 2009 in Hattiesburg, which was |

brief description)

the halfway point between the Chapter in Jackson and the only 2009 GIG on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. As a result of that meeting, a new GIG was formed in Hattiesburg.

What were the Outcomes: (include financial, membership increases, target audience satisfaction levels, publicity for the chapter, and of the profession)

Our most substantial outcome was the new GIG formed in Hattiesburg as a result of the first joining meeting.

Lessons Learned: (hints and tips for other chapters who may be considering a similar effort)

Financial administration presented the most difficult challenges we faced. The solution was to amend the by-laws to include GIG administration. All members (GIG members included) were allowed to comment on the changes. A vote to approve the by-laws was taken once the GIG and chapter had agreed on the changes specified.

Please list the specific ASTD chapter resources that helped guide you in the process of completing this best practice.

Geoff Woliner, our Chapter Coach, was invaluable. He told us about 2 other chapters with GIGs so we could talk to them about our challenges.

Please attach any documents that help support this submission: (additional documents should be sent to SOS@astd.org)

[MS ASTD By-Laws.doc](#)
