

**IRIS Board of Directors Meeting
September 1, 2021 (virtual)
Meeting Summary**

September 1, 2021 (3:00PM-4:30PM ET)

In Attendance

IRIS Board Members: Richard Aster (chair), Jackie Caplan-Auerbach, Victor Tsai, Brandon Schmandt, Lara Wagner, Sarah Kruse, Phil Wannamaker, Charles Ammon

IRIS Staff Members: Katrin Hafner, Kent Anderson, Bob Woodward, Candy Shin, John Taber, Jerry Carter, Kasey Aderhold (scribe)

Additional Attendees: None

Welcome and Review of the Agenda

- Introductions
- Meeting Minutes
- Nominating Committee Update (Schmandt)
 - Meetings were conducted with committee members (Thurber, Schwartz, Pankow, Bezada)
 - A meeting will be scheduled with the UNAVCO Nominating Committee once they have their initial meeting.

Brief Program Highlights / Updates

- Highlights
 - The scheduling of MT instruments, both long-period and wide-band, have begun. The following PASSCAL magnetotelluric projects have been scheduled.
 - October 2021-December 2021 - New Madrid (WB)
 - November 2021-March 2022 - Amphibious Tehuantepec (LP)
 - April 2022-June 2022 – Bangladesh (LP)
 - The MT session at GAGE/SAGE Workshop was well-attended with active participation.
- NSF Management Review Panel (September 27-30, 2021)
 - SAGE and GAGE will be reviewed.
 - Instrumentation Services Review, similar slides may be added to this presentation.
 - Aster will attend the review to answer governance related questions.
- NSF Guidance for Department of State (DoS) Level 3 and Level 4 countries
 - NSF approval required for PASSCAL experiment equipment shipments to DoD Level 3 and 4 countries.
 - The link below, taken from the State Department’s website, was suggested to help explain the different travel advisory categories and to view the full list of travel advisories.
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>
 - Discussion: The levels tend to go upwards rapidly, then downwards much slower. PASSCAL is keeping track of this with 6 months lead time internally. This process is just beginning so the communication paths are being established, working on getting shipping date lead times and “go, no-go” deadlines established with NSF.

- NSF will not be creating a “Dear Colleague Letter” covering this topic but is willing to discuss this in an online forum.
 - AI (Woodward/Bendick): IRIS and UNAVCO should distribute the information and potential impact of the Department State Level 3 and Level 4 guidance from NSF via the IRIS and UNAVCO bulkmail system.
- Feedback on the GAGE-SAGE Workshop
 - Positive feedback was received from the community. Plenary sessions were rated the most valuable. Poster sessions/e-Lightning sessions were not rated as high.
 - Difficult to reproduce the “experience” of the poster sessions through an online format
 - More work needs to be done with the seismic/geodetic sessions, particularly in finding methods talks that are of broad interest.
 - Improvements for future workshops was discussed.
- Seismic Source Facility Plans and Evolution
 - This is an area of ongoing discussions with NSF. NCEO proposal had description of seismic source facility support modeled on PASSCAL Polar experiment support, which is a change from previous model. The BoD previously endorsed this model at the Spring 2019 meeting.
 - Two-year extension of SAGE-II may present an opportunity to revisit the change to the Seismic Source Facility model and set a precedent that is endorsed and wanted by the community.

PASSCAL Recapitalization Briefing – Kent Anderson presented slides.

- Reinvestment in systems (not just sensors) - total of ~\$41.4M and addresses points from the portfolio review
- Portfolio Review – identified some equipment in the category of “retain existing equipment, no recapitalization or maintenance”
- Potential reinvestment opportunity w/ NSF using end-of-year funds

Update on Activities of Steering Committee

- As a result of the BoD’s guidance/feedback, an improved communications plan has been created.
 - Newsletter on merger was sent out
 - A total of ~12 newsletters are planned for lead-up to merger
 - Town Hall is scheduled for tomorrow (September 2nd at 1pm ET)
- Programmatic Planning Team’s work is complete – 1st Phase
 - The Programmatic Planning Team is now working to organize the staffing model.
- There needs to be a focus on making sure the members of the community are heard and the feedback is properly communicated back to the joint BoDs, steering committees, and planning teams.

Guidance for Upcoming Standing Committee Meetings

- Identify plans for additional two years of SAGE-II
- Identify considerations, suggestions, or concerns for future management and governance structures, to assist Steering Committee and ESCO Board planning.
 - Note that changes in governance of SAGE/GAGE will require NSF approval – early planning is suggested
- Continue to update the lists of carryover priorities

- Think about Y5 transition to combined ESCO operations and potential impacts
- Membership rotations
 - Note that new members may end up serving for just one year (until transition to ESCO governance)

Change in the time of monthly BoD calls

- There was a consensus of participating Board members that the first Wednesday of the month is still a good day of the week to have the BoD call.
- A poll will be distributed that will include various time slots on Wednesday.

Meeting adjourned