

IRIS Board of Directors Meeting
April 7-8, 2022 (In-Person/Virtual)
Meeting Summary

Thursday, April 7, 2022 (8:30am-4:30pm MDT)

In Attendance:

IRIS Board Members: Rick Aster (Chair), Victor Tsai, Brandon Schmandt, Jackie Caplan-Auerbach, Lara Wagner, Jeff Freymueller, Sarah Kruse, Anne Tréhu (by Zoom), Phil Wannamaker,

IRIS Staff Members: Bob Woodward, John Taber, Candy Shin. By Zoom: Chad Trabant, Molly Staats (scribe), Justin Sweet (scribe), Katrin Hafner, Kent Anderson, Rob Casey, Bob Busby, Jerry Carter

Additional Attendees: By Zoom: Colleen Dalton (GSNSC Chair), Sam Hansen (PASC Chair), Suzan van der Lee (DSSC Chair)

Welcome and Review of Agenda, Past Minutes

The meeting commenced with a welcome to all the attendees and a review of the meeting agenda. The minutes from the March 2, 2022, meeting were reviewed.

Kruse moved to approve the March 2, 2022 Board minutes. Caplan-Auerbach seconds. The minutes were unanimously approved.

The items on the consent agenda were discussed. The Board reviewed suggested updates to the charges for the International Development Seismology (IDS) and Electromagnetic Advisory Committee (EMAC) committees.

Tsai moved to approve the updates to the IDS and EMAC committee charges. Schmandt seconds. The committee charges were unanimously approved.

Board Membership - Roles and Responsibilities

Directors have two primary obligations: (i) Duty of Care and (ii) Duty of Loyalty. Board members also must declare any conflicts of interest. Within the governance structure there are different roles to fill (e.g., Board Member, Director, Executive, etc.). It was suggested that training for individuals in all Board and Committee roles be more specific, with clearly defined expectations and responsibilities. This training will better equip Board members with the knowledge and resources needed to fulfill their duties.

Overview and Updates (Woodward briefs)

Woodward briefed the Board on overall staffing matters and current leases.

There is an upcoming NSF external panel review of the SAGE & GAGE EPO groups scheduled for September 2022. Upon completion, NSF will have reviewed all major program elements.

Morning Session - Part 2: Session with Program Managers and Standing Committee Chairs

Program Briefings from Program Managers

Data Services (Carter/Trabant/Casey brief)

Up-time for Data Services has been near 100%. Data Services has been focused on migrating all capabilities to the cloud.

The interim Identity Management implementation will require users to log-in to access data, which will meet the charge outlined in NSF's review of Instrumentation Services in 2019. The creation of a single-sign-on gateway for raw data allows for easy access, meeting FDSN standards, without creating a large engineering endeavor.

Simple IP-address-based user statistics (from the existing system) have been developed and were discussed. These statistics answer who is using the data by identifying the IP addresses of the requests (tells you #users and rough locations). Data requests have been parsed by short-, intermediate-, and long-period class of data.

It was noted that there is a proposed workshop, to include publishers, to discuss strategies and next steps for citation.

EPO (Taber briefs)

Taber noted that his staff are starting to transition back to the office and attend in-person meetings. An update was given on the following initiatives and workshops: REU Program (Summer 2022 – in person); Skills Building Workshop (new geodetic module); Diversity Initiative (3 intro undergrad modules released, career modules nearing completion); HBCU Collaboration; Alaska Professional Development Course (online). Taber also noted there has been wide use of the various EPO web/video/social media/mobile resources and new modules/software have been developed. The IRIS/SSA Distinguished Lecturers is in its final year. The Simpson Fund projects are all underway (AK Education, Raspberry Shake Network ROSES, International Internship).

GSN (Hafner briefs)

Hafner provided an update on several projects. NSF approved reallocating Y3 positive variance and there was continued follow-up on MOUs and subaward transition. A scientific highlight noted that the Hunga eruptions were recorded on GSN stations. Data availability was above the NSF performance threshold. There is focus on upgrading VBB borehole stations, 50 stations over 5 years. The plan going forward is to upgrade vault stations.

PASSCAL, PASSCAL MT, Polar (Anderson briefs)

PASSCAL has been busy with continuing experiments and newly funded experiments. DoS travel advisories have impacted some experiments. Broadband usage is still high, above current availability. New instruments have been purchased to replace older equipment. Nodes usage is based on availability. There is a need to increase the equipment pool. PASSCAL is working with the community to determine equipment needs.

MT has recognized increasing requests for the new and growing equipment pool. There is an expectation for additional long-period and wide-band systems. MT is hoping for a centralized facility/standardization. Advertisement of an MT short course (Fall 2022) is forthcoming. MT noted

current challenges: the recruitment of a new MT Specialist; export licensing requiring legal consultation; LEMI model sourced from Ukraine, unlikely to get additional source at this time.

TA closed as of March 31, 2022. The field activities and data delivery completed in the Fall 2021. The completed budget was \$64.4M (since 2013) (includes some L48 removals). Inventory reconciliation near completion (transfers of equipment, vehicles, etc.). ~60% of TA-installed station continue to operate in AK and Canada (AVO, AEC, CHIS).

Afternoon Session - Part 1 - Session with SC Chairs and PMs (1:00pm - 3:30pm)

CoCom Report (Schmandt briefs)

Various topics were discussed during this session (which included): Identity Management (DS, PASSCAL), SPW Active Source Software (PASSCAL, EPO), IGUaNA Equipment (PASSCAL, EPO), and shipping costs.

Schmandt highlighted discussion topics for the Board. Creative strategies are needed to engage a broader set of governance participants (and to engage the community more generally to help with governance). There were concerns about CCP implementation and the risks to current facility models and cost implications/hazards.

SAGE-II Y5 AP&B (Shin briefs)

GSN management labor has been reallocated to address Hafner's resignation. The new hire, Senior Project Associate, has been added to the management budget. Due to the impact of COVID, there have been changes to the participant support budgets.

Merger Status Update

The Governance Workshop will focus on diversifying governance, broadening participation, CoCom feedback, etc. ESCO will have three programmatic divisions: Data, Instrumentation, and Education. There will also be an administrative division: Financial Services and Human Resources. The VP of Administration will help with Financial Services and Human Resources planning. NSF is requiring documentation for approvals.

Afternoon Session - Part 2 (4:00pm - 5:30pm)

EarthScope Board Nominating Committee

There will be a total of eight people on the Nominating Committee. IRIS will appoint four people and UNAVCO will use its existing (elected) four-person nominating committee. The Board election will take place in August 2022. The group discussed various ways we could enhance the breadth of Board membership (e.g., define roles/perspectives, collaborating across boundaries (including seismology/geodesy), early career, underrepresented communities (not just women), familiarity of emerging directions, etc.).

The EarthScope bylaws will need to be reviewed regarding the ESCO elections as there are a lot of details that the Nominating Committee will have to sort through.

Board Outreach Efforts

Wagner briefed the outreach efforts. There was 50/50 IRIS and UNAVCO representation on the calls. We still need to parse other demographics (EC, R1 vs other, etc.). The survey responses were mainly R1 represented and more heavily weighted by IRIS representation.

Day 1 Meeting Adjourns

Friday, April 8, 2022 (8:30am-12:30pm MDT)

In Attendance:

IRIS Board Members: Rick Aster (Chair), Jeff Freymueller, Sarah Kruse, Jackie Caplan-Auerbach, Brandon Schmandt, Victor Tsai, Lara Wagner, Anne Tréhu,

IRIS Staff Members: Bob Woodward, Jerry Carter (virtual), Chad Trabant (virtual), Candy Shin, Justin Sweet (scribe, virtual), John Taber, Bob Busby (virtual), Molly Staats (scribe, virtual)

Additional Attendees: none

CCP Update (Carter and DS Team brief)

CCP is a joint IRIS/UNAVCO Data Services (DS) project. The motivation is to build a new integrated and cloud-based data services system. The cloud-based system outputs free & open data access, same or improved interfaces and in-cloud access to HPC, HTC. The benefits are scalability, faster/robust services and proximity to HPC & AI). The ultimate goals of the project and security levels were discussed.

Community Activities Updates

SAGE/GAGE Workshop

The Board members provided suggestions for the various discussions to take place at the SAGE-GAGE workshop. Schmandt thinks it will be a good idea to provide updates on high-profile activities (SZ4D), career panel, etc.

Budget and Finance Committee Report (Shin briefs)

Status Report from Budget & Finance Committee

Shin provided updates regarding the audits. Regarding the FY21 Single Audit, the pending Form 990 filing is due 5/16/22. The indirect rates reviews were previously completed. The outstanding item is the development of a FY23 EarthScope rate proposal. Regarding the NSF OIG Audit, the Cotton & Co auditors are actively reviewing tested transactions and sending questions weekly during this survey phase. The Form 990 filing with IRS was reviewed with the Budget and Finance Committee.

Segment on Merger Cost Planning

Shin reported on the unrestricted funds/investments, unallowable expenses and cumulative merger costs.

Executive Session

See executive session addendum for detailed minutes. The executive session is summarized here.

- Salaries for IRIS fiscal year 2023: Approved motion
- Staffing: Discussed future staffing issues
- SAGE-II Yr5 Annual Budget: Approved motion
- Two Board Members for EarthScope Board: Discussed but not decided
- Outlook on current and future awards

Adjourned at 12:33 PM