

**IRIS Board of Directors Meeting
February 20-21, 2018
Hotel Boulderado
Boulder, CO**

Attendees:

Board Members: D. Wiens (Chair), C. Thurber (Vice Chair), K. Fischer, S. Hansen, K. Koper, Z. Peng, V. Schulte-Pelkum, M. West (D. Shillington via GoToMeeting)

IRIS Staff: R. Detrick (President), T. Ahern, L. Linn, J. Taber, R. Woodward

AGENDA

Tuesday, February 20th

- 8:00-8:30 Breakfast
- 8:30-8:40 Welcome – Chair’s and President’s remarks
- 8:40-8:45 Approval of Consent Agenda
- 8:45-9:30 Management and Program Guidance I
- Transfer of CEUSN and RefNet O&M to USGS (*Woodward*)
 - Alaska TA Demobilization Plans and Budget (*Woodward*)
- 9:30-10:15 Management and Program Guidance I (con’t)
- Central Asia and Caucasus DOS proposal (*Woodward*)
 - Myanmar & Bangladesh USAID proposal (*Woodward*)
 - Mt. Erebus supplement (*Woodward*)
 - Sustained Software Innovation (SSI) Solicitation (*Ahern*)
 - REU and INCLUDES proposals (*Taber*)
- 10:15-10:30 *Break*
- 10:30-11:00 FY2018 Staff Salary Recommendation
- 11:00-12:00 SAGE => N GEO Transition (*Detrick*)
- N GEO Governance and Management Structure
 - N GEO website and social media
 - e-newsletter and publications
 - Community workshops
- 12:00-1:00 *Working Lunch (incl. prep for conference call with NSF and USGS)*
- 1:00-1:30 Conference call with Maggie Benoit (NSF)
- 1:45-2:15 Conference call with Bill Leith, Cecily Wolfe (USGS)
- 2:30-3:00 SAGE => N GEO Transition (*con’t*)
- 3:00-3:15 *Break*
- 3:15-3:30 *Drive to UNAVCO*
- 3:30-4:30 *Tour of UNAVCO*

4:30-5:30 Informal reception with UNAVCO staff

Wednesday, February 21st

8:00-8:30 Breakfast

8:30-10:15 Management and Program Guidance II

- Review of Standing Committee membership
- QAAC membership
- BoD liaisons

10:15-10:30 *Break*

10:30-Noon SAGE => N GEO transition (as needed)

12:00-1:00 *Lunch*

1:00-3:00 Board Executive Session

Adjourn

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Board Chair Doug Wiens about 8:30 am on Feb. 20th, 2018.

1. Consent Agenda

Motion: The Board unanimously approved the following motion (Thurber moves; Peng seconds):
"The Board approves the following Consent Agenda items as presented in the February 15th, 2018 pre-Board webinar with documentation provided and reviewed prior to this Board meeting."

- November Board Meeting Minutes
- GSN Design Goals Working Group charge and membership (v6)
- SAGE Yr. 4 Carryover Funds recommendations
- Renewal of Charles Monfort (Martin Blank & Associates) contract for another year
- Approval of extension of audit contract with Aronson for a 4th year (contingent on receiving a reasonable quote for the FY18 Single Audit and tax filing); RFP audit contract in FY19

2. Transfer of CEUSN and RefNet O&M to USGS

Bob Woodward summarized for the Board plans to transfer O&M for 156 CEUSN (N4) and 19 RefNet stations to the USGS. USGS wants to continue operating 133 of the 156 N4 stations and 12 RefNet stations after September 30, 2018. USGS has also decided to have the USGS Albuquerque Seismic Laboratory (ASL) operate these stations beginning in FY19.

The Board discussed the implications of the USGS decision to have ASL operate N4 on IRIS staffing and the ANF at UCSD. It was also noted that after the demobilization of the TA in Alaska, IRIS will not be operating any kind of "TA-like" network representing a significant loss of capability for the future. The Board suggested IRIS seek USGS financial support from USGS to continue to archive and distribute CEUSN/N4 data from the DMC. Finally, the Board discussed the importance of the equipment from the decommissioned N4 sites to PASSCAL, specifically the sensors and dataloggers. Given that context the Board passed the following motion:

Motion – The IRIS Board approves transfer to USGS of NSF and IRIS-owned hardware at 133 CEUSN N4 stations and 12 RefNet stations for continued operation by USGS and transfer to other entities of the hardware at 7 other RefNet stations. The Board recommends the NSF-owned equipment at the 23 decommissioned CEUSN N4 stations be transferred to the PASSCAL Instrument Center for future community use in NSF-funded experiments (Peng moved; Thurber seconds; approved 8-0; Shillington absent)

3. Alaska TA Demobilization Plans

Bob Woodward described a supplemental funding request for \$14.9M recently submitted to NSF for the completion of the TA experiment in Alaska. The 27 mo. proposal calls for the removal of 177 of the 194 new TA stations installed in Alaska and northwestern Canada – 58 stations in 2019 and 119 stations in 2020. The 17 stations not planned for removal include 8 TA-installed stations left behind at stations permitted by the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) and 9 stations that have been previously adopted or located at permanent research facilities. A subset of the equipment from the decommissioned stations, including about 200 seismometers and dataloggers, will be sent to the PASSCAL Instrument Center (PIC) for equipment evaluation and testing and for potential future use by IRIS in NSF-funded experiments.

This is a “baseline” plan that assumes no adoptions of TA stations beyond those already identified. The Board discussed a number of different options for the future of Alaska TA stations that could extend the operation of some or all of these stations beyond 2020 and significantly increase the scientific return of this major NSF investment. Some of these options could also significantly reduce the cost to NSF of removing the TA stations and will impact the number of sensors and dataloggers returned to the PIC for future use.

The Board discussed these options, recognizing that NSF’s highest priority is minimizing removal costs. Priorities for IRIS are maximizing science return and recapitalizing the aging PASSCAL instrument pool. As a result, the Board would like to see a significant number of relatively new TA sensors and dataloggers now deployed in Alaska (or equivalent funds to purchase replacements) be returned to the PIC for future use leading to passage of the following motion;

Motion – The IRIS Board recommends that the sensors and dataloggers from on order 100 AK-TA stations be returned to the PASSCAL Instrument Center for future use (Thurber moved; Hansen seconds; approved 7-1; Koper opposed; Shillington absent)

4. Management and Program Guidance I

4.1 Central Asia and Caucasus DOS proposal (Woodward)

DOE is planning to invest in network upgrades and improved capabilities in Central Asia and the Caucasus for civilian purposes and improved nuclear test monitoring. IRIS is negotiating with LLNL to obtain a small award (\$75K) in 2018 to provide advice to LLNL on potential network upgrades and new capabilities needed in the region and to provide advice to participating countries on best practices in network operation and data sharing. This is expected to be a multi-year engagement. [BoD reviewers, TBD]

4.2 Myanmar & Bangladesh USAID proposal (Woodward)

The USAID LASER program seeks to leverage and support international university networks, including universities from both the United States and lower-middle income countries. New Mexico State University (Ni and Hearn) and the University of Missouri (Sandoval) have submitted a 5-page

pre-proposal to USAID for a capacity building project focused on characterizing geohazards in Myanmar and Bangladesh (improved seismic and GPS monitoring and improved ground motion prediction models). IRIS' role would be in equipment procurement, station installation and training. *[BoD reviewers, TBD]*

4.3 Mt. Erebus Supplement (Woodward)

NSF has approached IRIS about installing and operating a Mt. Erebus Seismic Observatory. The PASSCAL Instrument Center has developed a preliminary design and budget for this observatory. IRIS is proposing to hold a small community meeting/workshop to present the preliminary design and develop a final design package. This meeting, to be held in the Albuquerque area, would involve 10-15 people for a 1-1½ day meeting. Once designs are finalized a formal supplement request (~\$500K) would be submitted to NSF. Time is getting short for installation in the 2018-2019 Austral summer. *[S. Hansen, BoD reviewer]*

4.4 GLISN Renewal (Woodward)

IRIS is preparing a GLISN renewal proposal. Meetings have been held with the GLISN Science Advisory Committee (SAC) including presentation of a preliminary scope/budget. The SAC is working on the science justification section of the proposal. IRIS hopes to have a copy for Board review by mid-March, aiming for submission to NSF by the end of March. *[S. Hansen and D. Wiens, BoD reviewers]*

4.5 Sustained Software Innovation (SSI) Solicitation (Ahern)

IRIS is working with Princeton (Tromp), Oak Ridge, Rutgers and European collaborators on a proposal for the NSF Sustained Software Innovation (SSI) solicitation. The goal of this proposal is to develop the next stage of the Adaptable Seismic Data Format (ASDF). IRIS' role would be in format evolution, developing a hardened web service stream to ASDF client, and promotion of the format within FDSN. The level of support to IRIS would be about \$200K over 3 years. *[C. Thurber or D. Wiens, BoD reviewer]*

4.6 REU, INCLUDES and IUSE proposals (Taber)

IRIS is planning to submit several EPO-related proposals. In August 2018 IRIS will submit a 5-year REU renewal proposal to provide the primary support for IRIS' summer intern program. The cost is expected to be ~\$125K/yr. *[Z. Peng and C. Thurber, BoD reviewers]*

IRIS is partnering with lead SERC (Carleton College) and other potential partners (e.g. AGU, GLOBE, NAS, SCEC, UNAVCO) on an INCLUDES proposal to NSF to create educational pathways to encourage minority students to engage in geoscience. IRIS will have a small role in this 5-year, \$2M/yr proposal. The submission deadline is 4/18/18. *[V. Schulte-Pelkum, BoD reviewer]*

IRIS will be collaborating with the University of Arizona, UNAVCO and SERC (Carleton College) to submit an NSF IUSE proposal to develop EarthScope-related undergraduate exercises. This will be a 3-year, \$100K/yr proposal to be submitted in the late Spring. *[K. Fischer and K. Koper, BoD reviewers]*

5. 2018/2019 Staff Salary Recommendations

The IRIS SMT proposed to the Board that the staff salary pool be increased by 1.75% for 2018/2019 with an additional \$15,000 for exceptional salary increases/promotions. This translates into an overall increase of about 2%.

Motion (Thurber moves; West seconds; 8-0, Shillington absent): “The Board approves an average salary increase of 1.75% for IRIS staff plus \$15,000 for additional exceptional increases/promotions at the discretion of the President”.

6. NSF Conference Call

The Board had a 30-minute call with Maggie Benoit from NSF. Questions primarily focused on the status of the NCEO proposal review and approval process, the proposed NSF FY18/19 budget, Alaska TA demobilization and the status of the SZ4D and the NSF Director’s initiatives.

7. USGS Conference Call

The Board had a 40-minute call with Bill Leith and Cecily Wolf from USGS. Questions primarily focused on the FY18/19 USGS budget, CEUSN/RefNet, and USGS interest in adoption of TA stations in Alaska. The Board learned:

8. Management and Program Guidance II

8.1 Review of Standing Committee Membership

The Board reviewed standing committee membership. There is one vacancy on the GSN Standing Committee for an early career investigator that needs to be filled, but otherwise all standing committees are fully staffed.

Action Item (1802-01) – The GSN Standing Committee should fill its vacant position with an Early Career Investigator.

8.2 QAAC Membership

The QAAC (Quality Assurance Advisory Committee) is a joint DS/IS Advisory Committee that will be led by IS. The BoD deferred appointing the QAAC membership last November until the Standing Committee membership was finalized. The Board approved the proposed QAAC membership with one exception: Will Yeck was proposed as an alternate for Morgan Moschetti instead of Emily Brodsky.

Motion (Thurber moves; Koper seconds; 8-0, Shillington absent): “The Board approves the proposed QAAC membership with the exception noted in the minutes”.

8.3 BoD liaisons

Motion (Thurber moves; Koper seconds; 8-0, Shillington absent): “The Board approves the following Board liaisons for 2018:

Budget and Finance Committee: Karen Fischer, Zhigang Peng, Samantha Hansen

ISSC Liaison: Mike West

GSN Liaison: Keith Koper

PASC Liaison: Donna Shillington

DS Liaison: Vera Schulte-Pelkum

EPO Liaison: Zhigang Peng

IDS Liaison: Karen Fischer

CoCom: Cliff Thurber, Donna Shillington

9. SAGE => N GEO Transition

The IRIS Board Chair, President and SMT met on Monday afternoon, Feb. 19th with their counterparts at UNAVCO to discuss N GEO transition issues. Building on this fruitful discussion, the IRIS Board spent the morning on Feb. 21 talking about these issues.

Action Item (1802-02) – IRIS senior management is encouraged to continue its discussions with UNAVCO on the transition to N GEO.

10. Board Executive Committee Session

The Board met in Executive Session from about 11:00-2:00 pm. Topics included: FY2018/2019 IRIS staff salary recommendations, transfer of CEUSN/N4 to USGS, demobilization of the TA in Alaska, proposal readers, and IRIS staff changes.

The Board set the following dates for its Fall meeting: **November 14-15th – Salt Lake City**

The next Board meeting is planned for **May 9-10, 2018** in Washington, DC

Meeting adjourned by Board Chair Doug Wiens about 2:00 pm on Feb. 21, 2018.

Action #	Description
1802-01	The GSN Standing Committee should fill its vacant position with an Early Career Investigator.
1802-02	IRIS senior management is encouraged to continue its discussions with UNAVCO on the transition to NCEO.

Assigned to	Due Date	Status
GSN SC	ASAP	Lauren Waszek (NM State) appointed to the GSN
IRIS President, SMT and BoD Chair	ASAP	Detrick met with UNAVCO Board on 3/29; telecon with UNAVCO President, Board Chair and Vice Chair on 4/18