



## June 2011 – ESIP Federation Strategic Planning Retreat

Midway through the ESIP Federation's current strategic plan and with a number of new opportunities sitting before it, members of the ESIP Federation's leadership team along with other ESIP partners representing various constituencies, gathered to assess the state of the ESIP Federation, to identify opportunities to strengthen the organization and to develop a series of action steps to move the organization forward. During the June 2011 retreat, participants worked with a professional facilitator who led the team through visioning and planning activities. The activities focused on 10-year (vision pillars) and 1-year (strategic actions) time horizons. The end product is a more clearly articulated future for the ESIP Federation that gives reason for optimism and excitement. A summary of the retreat's outcome follows below.

### 2020 Vision Pillars

- *ESIP provides the Earth science informatics intellectual commons to drive innovation.*

The ESIP Federation represents a dynamic community of expertise, whose collective wisdom will drive the future of Earth science data access, distribution and usability. In order to capture the collective knowledge and to facilitate knowledge transfer from the community to others who can benefit from it, the ESIP Federation will curate the contributions made by its committees, working groups, clusters and from semi-annual meeting sessions in an online repository. Extending the commons approach to intellectual contributions reflects the the ESIP Federation's ethos of open, expert knowledge exchange that fosters collegiality, collaboration and trusted relationships among partners who work at the forefront of innovating data science.

- *ESIP is the trusted community authority that supports the integration of science and data into mainstream use.*

The ESIP Federation's diverse community of experts representing data providers, data managers, researchers, technology and application developers, educators and users provides a unique network for collaboration across science, application and technology domains. The evolving network results from the ESIP Federation's position of neutrality, developed during more than a decade. With a community approach for confronting technical problems common to many, the ESIP Federation connects practitioners from across federal agencies, academic and private sector organizations to achieve important linkages among data, systems, people and organizations. The common denominator of ESIP Federation activities is data and information technology and information science with a broad focus on improving data access, distribution and usability for consumers, no matter where they are on the data value chain.

- *ESIP leads the development science data information professionals to:*
  - *provide a means to develop data management as a recognized profession;*
  - *provide opportunities for continued professional development; and*
  - *entrain the next generation of science data information professionals.*

As a society for data management professionals, the ESIP Federation recognizes that many who find themselves being data managers often do so without formal training. In response to this and with the growing requirements for data management under funded research, the ESIP Federation will develop a training course for scientists and data managers on the basics data management. The course will be discipline independent and will represent the collective intelligence of the ESIP community.

- *ESIP achieves sustainability through diversification, global partnerships and partner recognition.*

The ESIP Federation continues to grow and thrive because of the on-going investments made by members and strategic partners. As the organization continues to mature, it will be necessary to diversify funding sources to support the growing organization and the diversity of interests the new partnerships represent.

During the retreat, a number of “Vision Pillars” were identified for what the ESIP Federation might look like in 2020. In addition, the retreat provided an opportunity to identify actionable steps to take to work toward achieving the 2020 Vision. The following matrix highlights these.

<b>Vision Pillars</b> <b>Strategic Actions</b>	Earth Science Informatics Commons – Intellectual, Information & Knowledge Network and Exchange	ESIP Is Trusted Authority for Earth Science Data Access, Delivery and Mainstream of Use	Professional Development Opportunities for Community	Sustainability
Develop Key Messages				
Develop Collaboration Platform for Knowledge Exchange, Preservation and Reuse				
Re-Energize & Expand Membership Strategically				
Develop Data Management Training Course				
Diversify Revenue Streams				
ESIP Organizational Development				

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