

**ESIP Federation  
Executive Committee  
September 13, 2007**

**Attendees: Jeff Arnfield; Sam Bacharach; Karl Benedict; Bruce Caron; Stefan Falke; Kerry Handron; Chuck Hutchinson; Chris Lenhardt; Carol Meyer; Jami Montgomery; Rob Raskin; Dick Wertz; Tom Yunck**

I. Adoption of August Minutes (attached)

A motion to approve the amended minutes (typo corrected) was made by Chris Lenhardt and seconded by Jeff Arnfield. The amended minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

II. Financial Status Report

The NOAA proposal (Cooperative Agreement) is working its way through NOAA's grants management office. NOAA must obligate FY 07 money by September 25 and it is expected that our proposal will be funded by that deadline. There is a backlog of proposals being reviewed. NCDC has been helpful in the process, with no red flags being seen that would halt the progress. If the proposal is not funded or delayed, the financial picture will result in a deferral of operations.

The NASA unsolicited proposal, which was submitted to Data Systems and Applied Sciences, seems to be moving again. Chuck Hutchinson will be at NASA Headquarters on Monday, 9/17 and will try to find out more about its status.

The EPA commitment for FY07 is tied up at NASA, which is handling the pass-through. We are in direct discussion with EPA for FY08 funding.

Comments were made about suspending specific activities (e.g. Strategic Planning) because funding is not in place.

III. Winter Meeting Program Development

Carol Meyer pointed out that no venue has been selected or contracted because of the budget situation. However, she has begun working on a preliminary program in anticipation that the meeting will go forward as planned.

a. Plenary Track – proposed theme would be *The Changing Climate: Making Earth Science Relevant Again in Light of Global Warming*

One suggestion would be to bring in decision makers who have real needs for data and information. (e.g. Weather Channel – Heidi Cullen; local government official using Climate Change Information; involved RISA in the program who can provide non-science end user perspective – contact Josh Foster, Hannah Campbell from NOAA Climate Program Office)

Another possible speaker might be Phil DeCola (formerly at NASA now at OSTP). A speaker from a major foundation (e.g. Pew, Heinz) might be good

to see where there might be synergy. NOAA would be willing to furnish a climate speaker and could also talk on climate data stewardship (technical side). Jim Hansen would be an excellent prospective speaker.

EPA might be good to include as well, given that CO2 is now a deemed a pollutant. Surface modeling and satellite observations linking. Climate literacy should also be a featured talk.

b. Technology Track

The IT&I Committee discussed the possibility that the technical tracks should focus on the technologies that feed the Earth Information Exchange (EIE). Registering services into the GOS, ECHO, GCMD catalogs are critical to allowing content to be picked up by the EIE. Offering a session on better metadata creation is essential for registration of services. Technologies that can enhance the portal capabilities will be coordinated with Rob Raskin and Phil Yang. An additional focus on climate modeling will be offered. Holly Hartmann has a forecast evaluation tool that might be good to feature.

IV. Strategic Planning Progress and Gameplan

Chuck Hutchinson prepared an outline for an approach to the strategic planning exercise and its relationship to being a model cyberinfrastructure. Dick Wertz, Rob Raskin and Chuck Hutchinson will be meeting with Chris Greer in early October to see if this approach is of interest to NSF. The survey team has created a survey instrument that focuses on questions related to the ESIP Federation's mission and vision. The Strategic Planning Working Group will hold a series of meetings this fall with our agency sponsors. The dates will be set once the funding is in place.

V. Other Business

No other business was offered.

Approved: November 8, 2007