

ESIP Federation
Executive Committee
April 9, 2009

Participants: Karl Benedict; Steve Berrick; Stefan Falke (guest); Jim Frew; Michael Goodman; Danny Hardin; Chris Lenhardt; Marilyn Kaminski; Carol Meyer; Brian Rogan

1. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes for February and March were presented. Karl Benedict made a motion to adopt both sets of minutes, with the motion seconded by Chris Lenhardt. There was no discussion and the minutes passed by acclamation.

2. Summer Meeting Update

Carol Meyer noted that registration for the summer meeting is open and registrations are trickling in as usual. The agenda is really coming together, with many technical sessions already scheduled, teacher workshops scheduled (Margaret Mooney shared the current schedule in an email to the Executive Committee) and the overall program developing nicely. Jim Frew has some invitations out for plenary speakers and is awaiting responses.

Karl Benedict noted that the Technical Workshops are well ahead of schedule for this meeting. Many workshop topics are slotted for July 7, with only 1 slot left. There is growing interest in the Technology Showcase, with much discussion about what might fill the remaining open slots.

Carol Meyer asked all committee chairs who want to hold meetings during the summer gathering to schedule them on Friday morning. Time has been blocked off for that purpose.

3. Air Quality Working Group Request for Collaboration

Stefan Falke, Chair of the Air Quality Working Group, inquired about the ESIP Federation/Foundation for Earth Science serving as PI on a NASA ACCESS proposal. The proposal would be to develop a community catalog for the Health and Air Quality Societal Benefit Area for GEOSS. The Air Quality Working Group has piloted its ideas throughout the past few years and is eager to make a sustained effort at producing a component for GEOSS. Members of the Committee were supportive of the ESIP Federation's participation in the proposal but were concerned about the potential conflicts of interest and competition with partners.

The Air Quality Working Group was to re-think its approach to the proposal it is submitting and will prepare a clarifying description for the Executive Committee. One possibility would be for the ESIP Federation to be the venue under which the work takes place but where the ESIP Federation/Foundation for Earth Science receives no budget. Another approach would be for the ESIP Federation/Foundation for Earth Science to be a co-I on the proposal, but not the lead organization. More communication with the ACCESS Program Manager (Steve Berrick) will take place to try to clarify the best approach.

4. Strategic Planning – Metrics for Sponsors

Carol Meyer noted that the strategic planning implementation would be an on-going activity of the Executive Committee. The first item for discussion, would be related to metrics for our sponsors (Goal 4 from Strategic Plan). She pointed out that we often hear good things about the ESIP

Federation and how it has helped an organization but we don't do a good job of tracking these 'successes'. A system for reporting and gathering metrics is the biggest challenge.

Brian Rogan framed the discussion from his point of view as Partnership and Outreach Coordinator. He noted that he was beginning to make personal phone calls to all partners and would try to tease out why groups participate and the benefit they get from participating in the ESIP Federation. The Executive Committee concurred that this approach was the most realistic to be effective in achieving specific impacts that could be developed into stories. Several story ideas were floated:

- Upcoming teacher workshops (i.e. users) might be good to hear from. A special workshop evaluation will be developed to better understand how partner products are viewed and used by teachers.
- Air Quality Working Group's story as a model for other communities of practice.
- FUNding Friday projects.
- NOAA's Margarita Gregg's initial interactions with the ESIP Federation and how it informed NODC's strategic planning.

Marilyn Kaminski and others suggested that the DAAC Yearbook might be a good model to follow, albeit a simplified version.

5. Other Business

GEO Call for Decision Support in the Developing World – convening a group related to water