

**ESIP Federation
Executive Committee
November 9, 2006**

Participants: Sam Bacharach; Karl Benedict; Howard Burrows; Charles Hutchinson; Bruce Caron; Tamara Ledley; Chris Lenhardt; Carol Meyer; Dick Wertz, Tom Yunck

I. Adoption of Minutes

Tom Yunck made a motion to adopt the minutes as drafted. (seconded by Tamara Ledley)
Minutes were adopted unanimously.

II. China Trip Briefing

President Hutchinson gave an overview of the China trip that he, Tom Yunck, John Townshend and Dick Wertz participated in. The goal of the trip was to discuss the possibility that China would set up a parallel ESIP-like Federation with representatives from Beijing Normal University and the Ministry of Science and Technology. The Chinese have a very active remote sensing program, including several satellite launches coming up.

John Townshend and one of the Chinese delegates are drafting a paper that highlights the understanding between the Chinese and US Federation. This likely will result in the Chinese creating an ESIP Federation-like entity.

The youth of the Chinese delegation's leadership was noted, including their interest in collaborations outside of China. The Chinese are facing issues of information sharing within their country. The door appears to be open to discuss open access to data.

III. Outreach Activities

a. NOAA, EPA, NASA, NSF, USGS

Chuck Hutchinson reported that Bruce Jones (formerly of EPA) has been named to be chief scientist in the Geography division of USGS. Bruce Jones and Barb Ryan (Associate Director of Geography) was introduced to the ESIP Federation and explored the possibility that USGS would become a strategic partner.

Dick Wertz reported that he and Carol Meyer met with a group of 17 EPA projects that were funded to link up with USGEO. These projects are funded out of Gary Foley's office. The projects have been invited to attend the meeting. At least one of the legal hurdles to EPA becoming a strategic partner has been crossed.

The second year of the NOAA contract is due to begin March 15. Greg Withee of NOAA has resigned, thus, beginning the 2nd year process earlier than anticipated. Tom Karl and Bruce Barkstrom are spearheading the effort on our behalf.

Dick, Chuck and Carol are meeting with NASA Applications, Martha Maiden and Frank Lindsay next week to discuss a new cooperative agreement.

b. Winter Meeting Invited Delegations

Successful grantees from the EPA Advanced Monitoring Initiative and NASA's Decisions program have been invited to attend the January meeting.

c. AGU Meeting in San Francisco, 2nd Week of December

Abstract for a session on the Earth Information Exchange was proposed by Danny Hardin and accepted.

IV. Nov. 13 meeting of Technical/Cluster Teams

This combined meeting is a briefing and demo of the Air Quality portlet that has been created by the NASA Geospatial Interoperability Office, based on the Earth Science Gateway platform. In addition, representatives from the Portal Working Group will discuss the strategy for moving the portal activity ahead. Further, the Issue Area Clusters will be linked to ESIP Federation technology providers to identify subjects for a demo.

V. Other Business

Bruce Caron suggested that it might be good to examine the registration fee for partners that send multiple staff. Sam Bacharach suggested that the meeting fee might need to be re-categorized into something other than a meeting fee. The Executive Committee will consider this at a future meeting (February 2007), once the January meeting expenses/revenues are known.

Paul Houser's Water Management work is being paired with Jim Shuttleworth's activities at the University of Arizona to develop a demo project.

Next meeting will be December 14, 2006.