SEARCH SSC,

The IPMC met as planned on 18 July, 2012. Agencies with a presence were NSF, NOAA, DOE, ONR, OSTP, USDA and the Arctic Research Commission. We addressed our own agenda:

1. SEARCH vision, mission and goals and how they resonate with the IPMC agencies.
2. SEARCH infrastructure and its support - upcoming opportunities and challenges for agencies.
3. IPMC Issues including membership, composition, Terms of Reference (TOR), and relation to IARPC.

which map well onto the questions the SSC raised. As we only had an hour we did not reach closure on any of the questions raised or our agenda, but we started a process of doing so and did reach some tentative positions.

Your questions:

*1. What is the IPMC/IARPC vision for how the SEARCH agencies will work together to implement the research community's priority science goals?*

What we see emerging is a stronger, more active IARPC, with its own research plan and strategy for federal activity in areas closely related to SEARCH goals. Duplicating this with a parallel IPMC strategy for SEARCH would be counterproductive. The IPMC spent most of its time discussing what its future role might be, given an actively implemented IARPC plan. No final decisions were made, as this will need the full group and the engagement of the IARPC, but tentatively the IPMC sees the IPMC of the future as a flexible crosscutting implementation team for the IARPC plan, focused on SEARCH and its goals and responsive to the SEARCH community.

*2. What structure, processes, and activities would best facilitate successful cooperation between the SSC and the IPMC/IARPC as we move SEARCH forward to a fuller implementation phase? What do we need to do that we aren't doing now? What needs to change?*

This remains to be seen, but it was thought that there was no longer a need for formal agency representation in the IPMC as this is covered in IARPC. Instead the IPMC should become a forum in the federal government for communication with the SEARCH SSC and IARPC about federal activities engaged in SEARCH. A key role of the IPMC and of SEARCH would be linking the academic research community to the federal research community and to IARPC. The IPMC agreed to meet approximately monthly for now in a regularly scheduled teleconference, and will need to engage more actively with IARPC.

*3. What is the IPMC vision of how the IPMC and IARPC might work together with the SSC on SEARCH? What do we need from IARPC in this regard?*

The role of the IPMC should evolve from its original funding-related goal to one of a federal action group or task force that focuses on SEARCH-related activities in the federal government, strives to reach into research in agencies, either by federal scientists or contractors, and engages with the IARPC as needed. This role needs to be further explored in the IPMC and possibly adjusted as IARPC develops its plans for implementation of its research.

*4. How could agencies other than NSF contribute to SEARCH management/office support (whether funding, in-kind support, periodic staff time, etc.)? What structures or mechanisms would facilitate a model of interagency support?*

The upcoming issue of infrastructural support for the academic side of SEARCH was acknowledged but not addressed at this meeting. NSF stated that it was still supportive of SEARCH as long as there was strong interest from the other agencies, but that this would be subject to peer review and that NSF alone was unlikely to be able to support all the infrastructural needs surfacing in SEARCH.

*5. Which of SEARCH’s 5-year goals resonate(s) most within IPMC and IARPC?*

This question was discussed only briefly. A few agencies noted goals that resonated, but the consensus was that the agencies have bought in heavily to the IARPC plan and that draws heavily on past SEARCH documents, and the SEARCH goals do map onto parts of the IARPC pan.

*6. We would appreciate comments from the IPMC on draft reports from the Anchorage Workshop on AON Coordination in March; this meeting generated several recommendations and identified potential showcase projects that are ready for implementation through collaboration between agencies. Here, specific feedback would also help address questions 1-5 in a specific setting. If this is something the IPMC can help with, then we can provide a draft report to the IPMC members.*

The IPMC did not address this question, partly due to lack of time, and because we did not have the draft reports.