**SEARCH SSC Teleconference**

**12 February 2015**

**Helen’s summary notes & Action Items**

Present on call: Hajo Eicken, Olivia Lee, George Kling, Steve Vavrus, Dave McGuire, Breck Bowden, Bob Bindschadler, Uma Bhatt, Helen Wiggins

**Action Items from call:**

* **ACTION** **(Hajo & Helen):** For next iteration of new SSC candidates, Helen and Hajo will compile an updated ranking and top picks based on the straw poll, this discussion, and any additional feedback we get via email, and circulate this back out to SSC
* **ACTION (Hajo):** Hajo will informally have conversations with some of the potential top-picks for SSC members and chair in the next few weeks, to gauge interest and availability.
* **ACTION (Helen)**: Helen will draft an announcement for an open call of SSC member nominations and send to Hajo; will announce next week with about a 2-week turnaround
* **ACTION (ED search committee)**: For the SEARCH ED interviews and selection, in early March we will need to draft a process for how to include SSC and Action Team leads (and appropriate agency reps)
* **ACTION** **(SSC Members**): For scheduling the AON Open Science Meeting (in Seattle area), SSC members should let Helen know of any major conflicts for the week of November 9, 2015 (or) the week of November 16, 2015.
* **ACTION (Helen, SSC Members)**: Helen email the whole SSC to see if anyone is, or can attend with travel support, the March 4 Arctic policy meeting in DC (<http://policy.oceanleadership.org/events/public-policy-forum/2015-public-policy-forum/>)
* **ACTION (Helen/ARCUS)**: ARCUS start polling SSC, Action Team, OCP members for possible timeframes for the next in-person SEARCH SSC meeting

Administrative: ARCUS will schedule an SSC+Action Team Lead+OCP teleconference for early March.

Ongoing: Helen to continue work on Terms of Reference, specifically the IARPC language in collaboration with Neil, and iterate a next full draft with the SSC.

**Summary of discussions:**

**1. Any additions/changes to agenda**

* None

**2. SSC membership rotation**

* Straw poll was very helpful and there were a handful of ‘top picks’ that seemed to emerge
* SSC discussed various individual candidates and pros/cons
  + A few candidates that don’t get chosen or accept SSC membership might be appropriate for an Action Team
  + Having one or two early-career researchers on either SSC or Action Teams is important
  + We’ll have 4 to replace in the short-term, with another 4 or more later on.
  + A reminder that we can also go up to a total of 14 members if the SSC wishes (per our last SSC telecon).
* **ACTION**: Helen and Hajo will compile an updated ranking and top picks based on the straw poll, this discussion, and any additional feedback we get via email, and circulate this back out to SSC
* Helen suggested that the SSC also look at a more overall balance of disciplines, such as moving to a relatively even distribution of physical, natural, and social sciences, rather than a 1:1 replacement of current slots (with a majority of members in physical sciences)
* Regarding open call for nominations:
  + We will go forward on this
  + We will not specify particular qualifications (eg X number of years of experience), but we will specifically encourage those in particular social sciences, science-policy linkages
  + **ACTION**: Helen will draft an announcement and send to Hajo; will announce next week with about a 2-week turnaround
* SSC chair position:
  + This is trickier. There was a top candidate that emerged from the straw poll and discussion on this candidate.
  + A few members think it would still be better if a current SSC member served as new Chair, even if for a shortened term as a type of transition chair.
* **ACTION:** Hajo will informally have conversations with some of the potential top-picks for SSC members and chairs in the next few weeks, to gauge interest and availability.
* Past-chair position
  + Hajo is willing to serve as past chair if the SSC agrees he should, but would not want to serve more than 6 months (or essentially past the end of this calendar year)
  + All SSC members who spoke up were in strong favor of Hajo staying on as past-chair.
  + Hajo will think a bit more about it, then we can have a vote of the SSC (excluding Hajo)
  + **ACTION**: Follow up on this decision and move to an SSC vote

**3. Update on open SEARCH positions**

* Helen summarized ARCUS and Rutgers open positions; information on both can be found on the ARCUS website at: <http://www.arcus.org/arcus/jobs>
* Hajo – SEARCH ED position is out; pretty optimistic based on discussions and inquiries so far. No one will be able to see any applications until the review date passes, but he will try to get a sense of the volume of applications from UAF HR.
* Reminder that the ED search committee is: Hajo, Uma, Steve, and Helen.
* The general timeline is that review of applications can begin on 16 March; the search committee will then scan and remove those that don’t meet the basic criteria, then phone interviews, selection of finalists, then in-person interviews. The review process by UAF HR is very quick for these stages. In theory we could have a decision late May/early June.
* Need to decide on how to involve the full SSC as well as the Action Team leads; e.g., phone or video/teleconferences?
  + **ACTION**: We can draft a process for including SSC and Action Team leads (and appropriate agency reps) in early March.

**4. Action Team updates**

* Helen gave sea ice update: Hajo and Helen met with Henry Huntington in Anchorage a couple weeks ago. A few key outcomes was discussion of a focus for the Sea Ice AT on diminishing sea ice and links to marine mammals; an alternate structure for that Action Team where besides Action Team members, they would ask high-level stakeholders to act as short term advisors; and the AT’s staff position of communicator/facilitator wouldn’t be a traditional ‘writer’ kind of person, but rather someone who could analyze and do projects on networking, communication, and track how science is used by decision-makers (or where it is not used and what the barriers are).
* Hajo met with other AT leads in Boulder last week at a CliC meeting: Ted Schurr, Fiamma S. and Ted Scambos. All are on track. It did emerge that the AT leads would like to be involved in some way in selection of new SEARCH ED; and these discussions reinforced the need for ex officio SSC membership on the ATs.

**5. AON Updates**

* Position Paper:
  + Olivia summarized: We had re-opened the period of comments of the AON position paper, and received one additional comment. Olivia compiled all the comments and will work with Craig on the final draft, which she hopes can happen in a few weeks.
  + Craig Lee recently visited NSF to discuss AON, as well
* AON Open Science Meeting planning.
  + Planning is underway – ARCUS received core funds for this meeting from NSF/Erica Key.
  + Helen asked if SSC members know any big conflicts for the following potential dates for the meeting (in Seattle area): Week of November 9, 2015 (or) Week of November 16, 2015.
  + **ACTION**: SSC members email Helen if they know of major conflicts for the above date possibilities.
  + Hajo reported that folks at the Boulder CliC meeting last week were interested in the AON OSM
* Hajo and Craig present to NSF and Simon (possibly IARPC meeting) to talk about AON
* For our March SSC+AT+Craig call, we can discuss this in more detail.

**6. Informational: Ocean Leadership hosts Arctic Policy forum**

<http://policy.oceanleadership.org/events/public-policy-forum/2015-public-po>

licy-forum/

* This is a high level meeting and it would be good to have SEARCH participation, especially since the topics are on things that the scientific community have already provided feedback on
* Steve Vavrus was just contacted this week but he can’t go.
* Fiamma is a speaker
* Helen/ARCUS can offer travel support for an SSC rep to attend
  + **ACTION**: Helen email the whole SSC to see if anyone is, or can attend

**7. Timing for next SSC in-person meeting**

* Helen would like to start scheduling the next in-person SSC meeting. Recommends that we schedule it such that the new ED would be able to attend; SSC members agreed
* **ACTION**: ARCUS start polling SSC, Action Team, OCP members for possible timeframes

**8. Which SSC members attending ASSW 2015?**

* Hajo is going; Ted Schurr might be going. No other SSC members on call are planning to go.

**9. Update on Terms of Reference**

* Helen updated the SSC on new Terms of Reference development. On our last discussion we had two outstanding issues:
  + Role of IARPC (and IARPC’s decision to dissolve IPMC)
    - Helen and Neil are working together on language that sufficiently explains the new agency structure as well as IARPC and/or Neil’s role in approving SSC membership or terms of reference; Neil will also discuss it more with Simon
    - Neil will also informally review the draft Terms of Reference and flag any points he has concern about in his role as IARPC liaison and also as SEARCH program director at NSF.
  + The other outstanding issue is what to do with AON and a SEARCH Observing Panel. There is a lot still unsettled with AON (eg how IARPC AON work will play out, perhaps a new NSF AON program manager, etc), so Helen recommends that the SSC keep the current Observing Change Panel for another 6-months, with a focus on planning the AON Open Science Meeting. Then once some of these bigger issues play out a bit, we can re-visit. There were no objections to this.

**10. Other items as needed and as time allows.**

* Hajo had some discussions with CLiVAR, CliC on potential partnership, for example, should we form a joint regional panel for the Arctic (e.g., as they do for other regions like Pacific, etc). This might also help with AON issues.
* No other items brought up

##meeting adjourned##