

Minutes

2007 International Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 16, 2007 from 6:00pm-10:00pm

Waterside Marriot, Tampa, Florida.

Participants:

Lisa Bourget, Ximing Cai (Secretary) Hal Cardwell (Chair), Shou-shan Fan, Stacey Langsdale, Pete Loucks, Mohammad Karamouz, Mark Killgore, Laurel Saito, Cris Surbeck (Vice-Chair), Walter Grayman, Yi-chen Yang

Members who sent regrets: Kyle Schilling, David Eaton, Jack Day, Daene McKinney, Jianping (Jim) Zhou

1. **Approval of Agenda, as attached.**
2. **Review and Comment on 2006 Omaha Meeting Minutes**
Approved, no comments. It is available online.
<http://www.ag.unr.edu/Saito/ic/2006%20International%20Council%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf>
3. **Governing Board Report**
Udai Singh is the Governing Board Representative for Operations which includes International. The GB continues to support future overseas activities In addition to items under 10, future overseas conferences are planned in
4. **EXCOM Report**
Deadline to confirm the mission statement and update membership is July 1.
5. **Existing and proposed Committees & Task Committees**
 - a. Visiting International Fellowship (VIF) - Langsdale
Three fellows were selected this year Dr. Ahmed Bdour (Jordan and hosted by Mark Stone), Mr. Naranjyoti Pathak (India and hosted by George Anipsitakis) and Mr. Haider Alhemairi (Iraq hosted by Rollin Hotchkiss)
Haider was late and arrived in the last day (Friday) of the conference. An article on the fellows will be prepared for *Currents*.
Discussion on VIF includes:
 - Have more options to publicize VIF during Water Congress
 - Speed the application process, such as posting application as soon as possible on the website
 - Build more contacts with more potential hosts, including a strong host network by advertising the benefit of hosting researchers from developing countries

- Expand the funding opportunities for the award. The current award does not cover the entire cost; hosts are not obligated to have financial responsibility but they generally do.
- Suggest to change the application questions

b. Transboundary Environmental Management After NAFTA – Killgore/Eaton

Mark Killgore described the progress of the task, also on behalf of David Eaton. This task is going to finish within one year. The rest of the work will focus on publication and strengthening contacts with Mexico further. ASCE is will be used as the distribution vehicle for publications such as DVD products.

c. World Water Forum – McKinney

Vice Chair Mark Killgore briefed the Council on behalf of Chair Deane McKinney about our involvement in the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico and the preparations for 5th World Water Forum to be held in Istanbul, Turkey. Daene and Mark have already begun the preparation effort including a trip by Daene to Turkey to meet with the Forum organizers. The effort is still open to ideas. We plan to:

- 1) Have a more active organizing role – (more than the role of session participant and workshop organizers in the Mexico Forum)
- 2) Collaborate with Mexico, Latin America partners; for example, we may establish a connection in Latin America to ease up possible junctures for future collaborations on the Forum and other activities.
- 3) Prepare a list of products including educational and technical ones that ASCE/EWRI brings to the table and also outcomes from collaborative efforts with international partners.
- 4) Take advantage of existing programs such the American Water Dialogue, EWRI's International Fellow program and our membership in the World Water Council.

After the Council meeting,

- We have to follow up on the preparation effort (to be led by Daene McKinney again) through emails/phone after this meeting, particularly among the task committee members – McKinney, Fan, Karamouz, Killgore, and Saito.
- Mark Killgore will post the initial report on e-room
- Dale Jacobson would like to initiate an EWRI technical activity in South America

6. New Task Committees

- a. International Activities database – led by Lisa Bourget. Previous requests, including through *Currents*, did not result in consistent information capable of being synthesized in a useful database. Another attempt will be made targeted at the February Council Weekend, with fruitful results expected to be updated once a year. This activity may not need funding support although a committee is helpful.
- b. Student International Involvement – led by Laurel Saito. This effort was merged with the collaboration/connection with Engineers without Borders (EWB); email contacts have been made with EWB for further collaboration but no response from EWB yet; and the Council will wait and see the outcomes given that ASCE is singing an

agreement with EWB, which might provide more opportunities to collaboration on water issues. Other activities include: a website link should be added to make this activity more accessible; a panel session may be prepared on “water for people” in next year EWRI conference in Hawaii; contact with Peace Corps will be maintained for possible joint work;

- c. Engineers w/o Borders – Mark Anderson is the liaison (merged with Student International Involvement). EWOB now offers a discounted membership to ASCE members.

7. Liaison with other organizations and committees

- a. ASCE International Activities Committee –Saito/McKinney

There is a lot of potential collaboration from international agencies who overlap; the Committee tried to collaborate to organize international conferences around the world; many of them are related to scope of EWRI.

- b. IWA – liaison Jim Zhou

Jim Zhou prepared a draft report about the development of a formal linkage with Int’l Water Association (IWA). The Council decides to form a new task committee to build formal linkage with IWA, which is to be chaired by Jim Zhou; L. Saito and X. Cai will join the TC as members.

- c. Mexican Hydraulics Association (AMH) relationship – Killgore

The Council thinks it is worthwhile to continue pursuing a strong relationship with AMH; Deane McKinney is the best member to lead this because of his ongoing collaboration with people in Mexico.

- d. UNESCO-IHP interactions- IC contacts, Schilling

EWRI is involved in the advisory committee to US- UNESCO-IHP forum; the US is spending money on UNESCO; and it has been proposed to establish US-UNESCO centers around the world (one in USA). The Council will depend on the contact of Kyle Schilling with UNESCO-IHP for further interactions. Mohammad Karamouz will help Kyle to form a session related to UNESCO-IHP in next year conference. We should keep on discussing whether a task committee is needed within the Council. Kyle and Mohammad will take the lead.

8. Participation in 2007 Tampa Congress

- a. International Council sessions – led by Karamouz, Fan and Loucks

The Council is hosting 5 sessions this year (high turnouts) and excellent papers were received. Lessons include: getting international presenters registered sooner; providing necessary help on visa; having flexible sessions; carefully evaluating how many sessions needed during the conference planning stage; not putting all who might have visa difficulty in one session.

b. International Reception - Surbeck

This year's reception was basically successful. In the future we may consider having keynote international speakers so they won't be offended by small turnouts. Acknowledgement was given to Cris Surbeck and two other new members for this effort.

9. 2008 EWRI Congress – International track coordinators, IC-sponsored sessions

Lisa Bourget will chair the international track for next year conference with the help of Karamouz, Killgore and Saito. Possible topics include:

- Hydro-philanthropy (Mark Killgore)
- International fellows' panel (Cris Surbeck)
- International case studies (Karamouz)
- History of water from around the world (co-chair with the Education Council)
- UNESCO-IHP (Hal Cardwell)

10. Symposia and Conferences

i. 2006 India EWRI Conference

Mark Killgore served on the steering committee for the EWRI conference in India and Udai Singh, conference chair, authored an article in *Currents* about the conference.

ii. March 2008- Ho Chi Minh City and surroundings, Viet Nam

iii. 2009 5th World Water Forum Istanbul

The IC will continue a task committee led by Daene McKinney on this conference.

11. Consideration of officer and core positions

Mohammad Karamouz was elected core group member and Mohammad will be the new secretary. Other officers include Lisa Bourget: EXCOM Representative; Hal Cardwell: past-chair; Cris Surbeck: chair; and Ximing Cai: Vice-chair, starting in October 2007.

12. Entries for *Currents*

IC will publish an article on the 2007 International Fellows (Surbeck)

Daene McKinney or his committee will author an article on the World Water Forum.

13. Award Nominations

The Council decided to re-nominate Mark Killgore for the Service to the Profession Award and nominate Lisa Bourget for the CANAM award.

14. Other Business

(None)

15. Review of Commitments

- Continue the task committee on World Water Forum and prepare for the Forum in Istanbul (McKinney)
- Maintain contacts with Engineers without Borders and “wait and see” results (Saito)
- Form a new task committee to establish a formal relation with IWA (Zhou, Saito and Cai)
- Study the possibility to organize a task committee for the interaction with UNESCO-IHP (Cardwell)
- Continue to organize international sessions, including the traditional International Fellow Program in 2008 conference (Bourget)
- Members are assigned for the new round of officers
- Submit two articles for *Currents on* international fellows (Surbeck) and World Water Forum, respectively (McKinney)
- Nominate Mark Killgore for the Service to the Profession Award and Lisa Bourget for the CANAM award.

16. Adjournment

Appendix:

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AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda, Welcome and Introductions (new members?)
2. Review and Comment on 2006 Omaha Meeting Minutes
3. Governing Board Report
4. EXCOM Report
5. Existing and proposed Committees & Task Committees
 - a. Visiting International Fellowship - Langsdale
 - b. Transboundary Environmental Management After NAFTA – Killgore/Eaton
 - c. World Water Forum – McKinney
6. New Task Committees
 - d. International Activities data base - Bourget,
 - e. Student International Involvement – Saito
 - f. Engineers w/o Borders – Anderson (merged with Student International Involvement)
7. Liaison with other organizations and committees
 - g. ASCE International Activities Committee –Sanio/McKinney
 - h. IWA – Zhou (Potential task committee?)
 - i. Mexican Hydraulics Association (MHA) relationship - Killgore
 - j. UNESCO-IHP interactions- IC contacts, Schilling
8. Participation in 2007 Tampa Congress
 - k. International Council sessions - Karamouz
 - l. International Reception - Surbeck
9. 2008 EWRI Congress – International track coordinators, IC-sponsored sessions
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 - i. 2006 India EWRI Conference
 - ii. March 2008- Ho Chi Minh City and surroundings, Viet Nam
 - iii. 2009 5th World Water Forum Istanbul
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12. Entries for *Currents*
13. Award Nominations
14. Other Business
15. Review of Commitments
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