

# **PAGES SSC Meeting Minutes**

## **17-18 February 2013, Goa, India**

### **PRESENT**

#### **SSC:**

Fátima Abrantes (FA); Hubertus Fischer (HF, Chair day 2); Sheri Fritz (SF); Hugues Goosse (HG); Claudio Latorre (CL); Alan Mix (AM, Chair day 1); Denis-Didier Rousseau (DDR); Michael Schulz (MS); Immaculate Ssemmanda (IS); Chris Turney (CT); Janet Wilmshurst (JW); Eric Wolff (EW); Yusuke Yokoyama (YY); Liping Zhou (LZ)

#### **IPO:**

Thorsten Kiefer (TK); Lucien von Gunten (LvG)

#### **Guest:**

Olga Solomina (OS)

### **ABSENT**

**SSC:** Pascale Braconnot; Steven Colman (partly listening online); John Dearing

**IGBP:** Ninad Bondre

**IPO:** Saadia Leal Iqbal

## Opening

Welcomed guest Olga Solomina who was a PAGES SSC member and also a Vice Chair of IGBP.

**DECISION:** The 2012 SSC meeting minutes were approved

## Future of PAGES

### **PAGES' funding proposals to the Swiss and US NSFs**

Proposal writing will be coordinated by the IPO, with contributions from the SSC. A short (ca. 5 page) document outlining the transition to the new science structure should be incorporated.

**DECISION:** No action on amending the PAGES Science Plan just yet.

### **PAGES' parent organization(s)**

It was decided that PAGES should align directly with Future Earth, but also approach WCRP to ensure full representation of PAGES' activities. Discussion followed regarding Future Earth, the pros and cons, the contributions that can be made and the implications on communicating scientific results.

SSC and IPO to watch the evolving structure of Future Earth and consider how/whether to modify PAGES' structure.

SOLAS is an example of a project with more than one parent, including WCRP. A discussion followed regarding the pros and cons of having two-parent organizations e.g. more administrative work, balancing different management approaches.

**DECISION:** PAGES to continue discussions with Future Earth.

### **PAGES Science Plan update**

The SSC discussed if the PAGES Science Plan needs to be updated and if yes, to what extent. The SSC agreed that no big revisions should be made, but writing the new PAGES funding proposals could be used as opportunity to update it and help position PAGES within the scope of the potential new parent organizations. Ongoing conversations with Future Earth may also determine how the Science Plan evolves.

A sub-committee (MS, CL, JW, EW, SF) looked at the current science plan and came up with suggestions on how to best update it, various suggestions were put forward for consideration.

## IGBP final synthesis

IGBP is planning a series of synthesis products to mark its contribution (and the core projects' contributions) to Earth System Science and to be published to coincide with its closing down in late 2015.

IPO to keep the SSC informed and ask for SSC or community contributions if necessary.

## Review of the YSM and OSM

The SSC discussed the success of the 2013 YSM and OSM. It was agreed that it was a very successful event. The structure of two parallel sessions and the size of

the meeting (ca. 400 participants) was ideal and should be maintained. The frequency of four years should also remain unchanged.

Points to be considered when planning the next meeting include:

1. The pacing of the parallel session – important to give participants time to move between the sessions.
2. At the YSM more time was needed for discussions and especially for the breakout groups
3. Some OSM participants were taking pictures of the slides without permission.
4. Consider using more new media for the next OSM/YSM to improve the information flow and keep participants informed.

**DECISION:** Maintain structure with 2 parallel sessions for next OSM. IPO to amend next YSM/OSM guidelines that permission should be requested before taking pictures of presentations or posters.

## **Post-it note experiment/outreach**

SSC discussed whether PAGES could improve its outreach and have more activities for young scientists. Ideas included web-based outreach (i.e. “international”), to offering courses for schools and colleges. The SSC agreed that to offer professional outreach and career support services, professional help would be needed, e.g. a curriculum expert. Could be considered when writing the next NSF proposals. An alternative could be to support outreach activities during PAGES supported workshops.

## **PAGES Working Group annual reports**

### **General**

The requirements and expectations of WGs should be clarified particularly the sunsetting and acknowledgement policies. A SSC sub-committee led by CT and JW will prepare guidelines for the WG leaders. IPO to inform all the WGs about the WG policy for the next round of annual reports.

### **Solar**

A new WG, not very active to date. First workshop was held in Switzerland, tied to the Swiss FUPSOL project. SSC to encourage a more open and international approach and clarify working plans.

### **Paleofire**

A very active WG, publishes well and acknowledges the WG. However, the SSC observed the group has no plan to sunset, which isn't in line with the WG policy. The Paleofire WG should submit a more specific timeline - could follow other groups' approach (i.e. go for a second phase). Also, request that PAGES is mentioned on the external Paleofire WG webpage.

### **PALSEA**

PALSEA has submitted a new plan for the next 5 years. The group is very well organized, with one meeting per year, and many products. Communication inside the group is very effective with regular email circulars. The SSC reauthorized PALSEA for phase 2.

## **2k Network**

Generally a very good group; could also set some focus on non-annual records and on the tropical regions. Some groups are undergoing leader and membership restructuring before entering phase 2 of the project.

Generally, the SSC supported the idea of 2k workshops on 1) data-model comparison in collaboration with PMIP, and 2) reconstruction methods.

## **PAGES/CLIVAR**

Not very active at the moment, but no action required.

## **ADOM**

ADOM's leadership structure is somewhat unclear and its focus seems to move more toward "commissioned work" rather than addressing the dynamics of dust.

A PAGES news issue on dust is planned in 2013/14 and could provide the opportunity to bring a new spin to the WG and develop new ideas. Having new members joining the team may help. Joining forces with SOLAS or IGAC should also be considered. The IPO and SSC to communicate with the group and request modified work plan.

## **Global Monsoon**

The synthesis for this WG is currently being written and then the WG will sunset. There are already some ideas for a new WG on Monsoon. A formal proposal will be submitted for SSC consideration.

## **NICOPP**

A synthesis paper is currently being prepared for *Nature Geoscience* and then the group will sunset. An AGU Chapman conference was suggested as sunset event. A follow-up WG proposal might be submitted to the PAGES SSC.

## **PIGS**

SSC noted the problem last year with a publication that was not attributed to the whole PIGS WG. Now a review paper including all PIGS sections is being prepared for *Reviews of Geophysics*. After that, the WG will be sunsetted. The Royal Society Open Meeting was suggested as a sunset meeting.

## **Syntrace-21**

This WG has good activities and many young scientists involved, but does not acknowledge Syntrace21 or PAGES on many products and could be more open and international. SSC to follow up.

## **Focus4**

The SSC agreed Focus 4's work is very important to PAGES. With John Dearing, the Focus 4 leader, rotating off the SSC at the end of 2013, and the restructuring of PAGES, there is an opportunity to re-organize Focus 4 and reinvigorate WG activity. A number of Focus 4 group leaders were identified; they are active and willing to be involved.

The SSC proposed bringing some key Focus 4 people together for a planning workshop to discuss the theme's future and aligning Focus 4 with Future Earth. The output of such a meeting could then flow into the PAGES proposal and science plan.

## **Varves**

A good WG, but no clear sunset plan.

## **Sea ice proxies**

A special issue in *Quaternary Science Reviews* is in preparation.

## **Endorsed and related programs**

### **IODP/ICDP/IMAGES**

The SSC discussed having a liaison person with IODP and ICDP - one option being a young scientist in charge of providing a minimum level exchange between PAGES and IODP/ICDP.

IMAGES was the ocean group of PAGES, but was removed from the endorsed WG list after their activity ceased and their website went offline. IMAGES has recently developed a new science plan and the SSC are keen to keep in touch.

### **INQUA**

The SSC discussed formalizing the relationship between PAGES and INQUA. The SSC agreed there should be further discussions.

## **Working Group proposals**

There were no WG approvals in this round. The SSC decided to open an additional call for meeting support proposals in 2013.

## **Workshop proposals**

The EXCOM decided which workshop proposals to approve, with input from the SSC. See the minutes from the EXCOM meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2013.

## **PAGES data policy**

PAGES provides metadatabases for its working groups, but should not be a primary data archive. All WG data should be archived on a public archive such as NOAA paleo.

PAGES to work on minimal standards for the submission of paleodata (and model output) to public archives (i.e. what kind of data should at the minimum be added to the raw data series). Such an effort would be timely with regards to the collaboration between 2k and NOAA, and the NSF "EarthCube" effort on data management. SSC should initiate the effort by drafting a template.

## **PAGES finances and budget**

Thorsten reported on expenditure, with the only big uncertainty being the final costs on the OSM/YSM.

The SSC thanked the IPO and the Event Manager, Barbara Gerber, for their work organizing the 2013 YSM/OSM.

**DECISION: The SSC approved the budget and finances.**

## **IPO personnel**

Anand (Communication Officer) left the IPO in November 2012 and was replaced by Saadia Iqbal. Francesca Baumgartner (Admin and Finances) will leave the IPO by April 2013.

Planned guest scientists at the IPO in July-August 2013 are Bernd Zolitschka and Gisela Winkler.

### **National contacts**

The SSC discussed the situation with national contacts i.e. they seem to be dealt with differently across different countries and many seem to be inactive.

PAGES' selection procedure for national contacts should be formalized and clarified. In addition clear requirements are needed outlining the National Contacts' responsibilities and tasks.

Important to remember that national contacts are just PAGES contact persons, and not nationally appointed officials. A national contact should also be approved by IGBP.

The SSC requested that national contacts be contacted every 2 years asking for confirmation of their function.

IPO received an application for a national contact from Sri Lanka. IPO to check whether there is already an IGBP national contact for Sri Lanka and if not follow up.

### **PAGES News**

SSC supported the idea of producing a special issue on "applied paleoscience".

Chris to send a proposal regarding an abrupt changes PAGES news.

### **Paleo press release database**

The SSC discussed implementing a paleo-press release database. Given staffing limitations within the IPO, it was decided to put this on hold for now. It was noted that the community could upload press releases to the PAGES product database or any other relevant page on the website.

### **Journalist request**

Thorsten to respond to request to journalist from Bangladesh who wants to write about the OSM.

### **SSC and EXCOM membership**

Three SSC members are rotating off the SSC in 2013. The EXCOM, with input from the SSC, decided on Peter Gell, Kathy Willis and Michal Kucera to replace the three outgoing members (see EXCOM minutes from meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2013).

CL and HF's first SSC terms are ending at the end of 2013. The SSC approved their nomination for a second term.

At the end of 2014, FA and SC will rotate off the SSC. IPO to initiate a new call for SSC nominations.

### **Next SSC meeting**

The SSC tentatively suggested Uganda as the location for the SSC meeting 2014.