

# PAGES SSC 2015 Meeting Minutes

24-25 January 2015

Las Cruces, Chile

## PRESENT

**SSC:** Pascale Braconnot (PB), Hubertus Fischer (HF, chaired Day 1), Sheri Fritz (SF), Peter Gell (PG), Hugues Goosse (HG), Darrell Kaufman (DK), Michal Kucera (MK), Claudio Latorre (CL), Alan Mix (AM, chaired Day 2), Denis-Didier Rousseau (DDR), Chris Turney (CT), Blas Valero-Garcés (BV), Janet Wilmshurst (JW)

**Ex-officio SSC member/IGBP liaison:** Ninad Bondre (NB)

**IPO:** Thorsten Kiefer (TK), Leonie Goodwin (LG)

**Future Earth:** Frans Berkhout (FB, online from Japan, morning Day 2)

**WCRP:** Dave Carlson – Executive Director (DC)

## ABSENT

**SSC:** Immaculate Ssemmanda, Kathy Willis, Yusuke Yokoyama, Liping Zhou

**IPO:** Lucien von Gunten

## 1. Introduction and Miscellaneous

### 1.1 New to PAGES

Steven Colman rotated off the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) at the end of 2014. PAGES is grateful for his commitment and stewardship all these years.

Two new members were elected by PAGES and approved by IGBP to join the PAGES SSC in January 2015: Blas Valero-Garcés and Darrell Kaufman.

### 1.2 Approval of Minutes from 2014 SSC Meeting and outstanding action items

#### 2014 action items still outstanding

The action items still outstanding were discussed.

**DECISION:** 2014 SSC Meeting Minutes approved.

## 2. Finances

### 2.1 Funding Overview

TK provided an update on the funding situation. PAGES' current Swiss SNF grant runs until end of 2015. A proposal for funding from 2016-2018 will be submitted to the Swiss National Science Foundation in April 2015. PAGES' relationship with Future Earth must be formalized by then.

After 2018 PAGES' grants would be administered by the Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences.

#### *Future Earth Block Grant*

The availability of the block grant for next year's SSC meeting was discussed with Frans during the Skype call (see Section 10).

## 2.2 Budget Overview

The budget was discussed and TK reported that due to the rapid gain in the Swiss franc in January 2015, the budget was now (as at end Jan 2015) ~55k CHF lower than at the end of 2014.

**DECISION:** Budget approved, acknowledging the exact numbers will be subject to currency fluctuations.

## 3. Review of PAGES Working Groups

The importance of an SSC member being appointed to liaise with each WG was highlighted. SSC members were assigned to all groups. The nominated SSC member is listed in the brackets after the WG title below. The SSC liaison is not expected to attend the WG meetings, but can if they are interested.

The SSC liaison should brief the group leaders about expectations of the meetings and the group generally, they should follow the group's progress and stay in contact with them, as well as providing feedback on the groups to the SSC each year.

**C-PEAT (Hubertus):** The 1<sup>st</sup> workshop is scheduled for later this year.

**DICE (Denis):** Group is just starting out. Awaiting news on NSF grant. Make sure they connect with PMIP4 and its work around dust.

**PALSEA2 (Alan):** PALSEA2 energetic and forward moving. Synthesis paper coming soon in *Science* or *Nature* with Andrea Dutton leading. Noted PALSEA have a lot of papers - they do all seem to acknowledge PAGES – a very successful group.

**ACTION:** IPO to split the Product Database so it reflects the difference between WG highlights and journal articles.

**SIP (Hugues):** Two syntheses are being written then sunseting. **ACTION:** IPO show on website that SIP is concluding in 2015.

**GPWG (Thorsten):** Want to transform into a new group working dealing with shorter time scales and the human impact on fire. **ACTION:** IPO to show on website that GPWG anticipate sunseting in 2015.

**Solar Forcing (Hubertus):** HF attended one of their two workshops. At present more research is needed on various factors and this will take time. Solar Forcing should consider they are in the concluding phase. Could a review paper, white paper, or opinion piece be drafted outlining the open questions, the way forward, and where experts agree progress could be made? This could motivate future research – set the research agenda. Be precise about which part of model they are addressing. **ACTION:** IPO move Solar Forcing to synthesis phase on the website.

**2k Network (Darrell / Hugues / Chris):** The 2k Network recently moved into Phase 2. The regional groups themselves are in various stages of transition.

**LOTRED-SA:** Leadership needs clarification. The group will need to contribute to the synthesis and do regional work too.

**Africa2k:** Discussed the lack of records and the need for the group to open up. Hope to engage more Africans at the February AfQUA workshop where Africa2k will hold a themed session and workshop. **ACTION:** TK to follow up with Africa2k leaders.

**Arctic2k:** Noted annual report received late.

**2k Network:** DK reported on the trans-regional projects, efforts that transcend the 2k regional groups (<http://www.pages-igbp.org/ini/wg/2k-network/trans-regional-projects>):

- Ocean and terrestrial datasets from last 500 years – Abram.
- Global proxy climate database – McKay and regional groups. Looking to publish in data literature.
- V2 w data descriptors – Emile-Geay.
- Developing new methods for combining annually and decadal resolved records – Werner.
- Global climate field reconstruction – TBD.
- Hydroclimate dataset v1 – TBD.

Next steps for the 2k Network:

- Generate new circular
- Refresh the coordination team
- Hold a 2k Network planning meeting in 2015.

Next push should be toward developing the 2k database for hydroclimate.

Discussed the Phase 2 timeline: Keep it as it currently is. All groups should produce a regional paper to go in a special issue. Aiming for publication beginning in Sept 2016 and close half way through 2017.

At this stage, the regional groups might sunset at the end of Phase 2 as envisioned. Then the 2k Network could transform into a single new working group that could oversee research on 2k.

### **2k Open Science Meeting or AGU Chapman Conference**

The SSC discussed the possibility of having a 2k Open Science Meeting or AGU Chapman Conference in 2018. A big meeting that could offer a platform for the 2k community, as well as a celebration, and deadline for the overall 2k Network synthesis. Could leverage the new 2k products to come up with new implications e.g. for society. Would also be an opportunity to inspire others to use the database to tackle certain questions e.g. temp field reconstructions.

**ACTION:** IPO to get deadlines for AGU Chapman proposals. Need to explore if additional funding available, perhaps NSF.

**Global Monsoon (Thorsten):** In synthesis phase – the synthesis has 2 parts – descriptive (published already) and mechanisms (still to come).

**ACTION:** IPO to set up new section on the WG intro page of the website: active and in synthesis stage. IPO note: The criteria for moving a WG from synthesis to former is when it has published. Synthesis groups should only be required to submit a short paragraph-long annual report.

**OC3 (Alan):** On track. Continuing with database/metadata efforts. Met with EarthCube reps at AGU and added some early-career researchers to the steering group. Setting up meeting dealing with database issues. Getting organized with contributions to database and some products developing.

**PIGS (Thorsten):** Synthesis paper almost submitted. **ACTION:** IPO to put PIGS into the synthesis list and then sunset after they have published.

**Syntrace-21 (Sheri):** SynTraCE-21 keen to continue with a new set of goals, with a particular eye towards forward modeling of paleoclimate proxy behavior during the past 21 kyr. **ACTION:** IPO move Syntrace-21 to former phase on website. **ACTION:** SF to ask for further clarification from Syntrace-21 leaders about a new group.

**Varves WG (Blas & Thorsten):** VWG said AGU 2014 would be their final meeting. Possible follow-up options have been discussed. Sunset at the end of 2015. Encourage to submit a WG proposal with an applied focus using the knowledge gained to date. PAGES to keep hosting the Varve Image Portal and other Varve pages.

Discussion around how PAGES should treat methodological groups.

**Aquatic Transitions (Peter):** PG reported that a special issue containing 12 papers has come out of the Ramsar Meeting held in Australia in late 2013 and will be published shortly.

**Biodiversity Theme (Thorsten):** Not a lot happened during 2014. TK suggested theme is shut down to provide space for new WGs. TK has discussed some ideas with Kathy. The SSC discussed the importance of this topic to PAGES and links with Future Earth and the other core projects within Future Earth. Discussed the possibility to implement action around some of the questions that arose from the 50 Questions in Paleoeology paper ([Jrnl of Ecol, 102](#)). Community should drive implementation of the research itself. **ACTION:** IPO to shut down the Biodiversity theme, launch a call for WGs in the areas of paleoecology/ecology/biodiversity for consideration at the next EXCOM meeting. **ACTION:** SF, PG, JW to contact key people to discuss putting together WG proposals in this area. Could IPBES be involved?

**GloSS (Peter):** A special issue, emerging from the Leuven Focus 4 meeting in Feb 2014, will be published in *The Anthropocene* next year. GloSS have first meeting planned for June.

**LandCover6k (Thorsten):** More ambitious and global than before. Aiming to produce regional reconstructions of land-cover change across the planet. The Steering Committee will be meeting in Paris in February - TK to attend.

**Regional Integration (Peter):** A paper emerging from the 2010 Southampton meeting on regional integration has been submitted. John would like to continue with this work. Of all PAGES groups, this working group may be the one that best interacts with the social science community and Future Earth. **ACTION:** Feedback to Regional Integration that we will sunset the theme after the synthesis paper is published. Encourage to submit a working group proposal in the next round addressing a particular issue.

## 4. Review of endorsed and affiliated activities

**Glacial Ocean Atlas (Michal):** Not very active at present but valuable and has the potential to be developed into something else. They intend to re-initiate. MK to stay in touch.

**IHOPE (Thorsten):** After some time, IHOPE and PAGES still exploring concrete ways to collaborate. Discussed ideas for how PAGES should work with the archeological community. Need to identify topics and develop a strategy on how we go forward. **ACTION:** TK to invite a representative from the archeology community to the next SSC meeting.

**ACTION:** IPO to note: send the information re: workshops around our integrated activities, 2k Open Meeting, and PAGES OSM to one or two good archeology community representatives.

**IODP (Alan):** Under significant budget stress. Wait and watch.

**IPICS (Hubertus):** Open Science Meeting in Hobart in March 2016.

**PAST4FUTURE (Thorsten):** Been running for the last 5 years. We produced two PAGES magazine issues with them and hosted their website, which will be preserved. The SSC discussed assessing the project and the pros and cons for PAGES.

### **Possible Training Network**

The SSC discussed developing a Training Network. Could be a way to support students from developing countries. **ACTION:** All SSC members to explore training network funding mechanisms in their country to see if it is a possibility for PAGES (e.g. AM in US, HF through ITN in Europe, Liping in China, etc.) and report back to next SSC Meeting.

**PMIP / PCMIP (Pascale):** PMIP is restructuring following its big meeting in May. Community groups will be invited to give feedback on the restructure. A discussion will be hosted on the PMIP Wiki page. **ACTION:** PB to send PMIP restructuring info to SSC members and invite their feedback. IPO to ask working groups to comment.

## **5. Proposals for new PAGES Working Groups**

### **General**

PG noted very few Southern Hemisphere participants in any of the WG proposals.

The SSC discussed groups having their own external websites versus PAGES creating their websites. Some groups do have their own, most don't.

### **Working Group proposals**

**WG1 – FireHub - DECISION: FireHub not approved in current state. Asked to resubmit.**

**WG2 - PAGES12K - DECISION: PAGES12k not approved in current state. Asked to resubmit.**

**WG3 - Pliocene Climate Variability - DECISION: Pliocene Climate Variability approved with comments from the SSC re: altering their work plan.**

**WG4 – QUIGS - DECISION: QUIGS not approved in current state following long discussion. Asked to resubmit.**

**WG5 – Scales and scaling of variability in paleoclimate (SSVP) - DECISION: SSVP not approved in current state. Apply for scoping workshop then resubmit working group proposal.**

## 6. Symposium review

CL reported: 39 participants: 10 paleoscientists and 10 PhDs and Post-docs. Good show from Chile and Argentina. The event reached a large percentage of South American paleoscientists. Every single major group working in Chile. Wish more people from Argentina had attended but they were on holiday. The SSC discussed strategies for involving the Brazilians more.

## 7. SSC & EXCOM membership

**DECISION:** Sheri Fritz has agreed to be the next US Co-Chair after Alan Mix leaves the SSC at the end of 2015.

### 7.1 IGBP

Ninad Bondre to look into the transition of SSC members to Future Earth and extending PG and MK's terms past end of 2015.

### 7.2 Second terms up for renewal

**DECISION:** The SSC and EXCOM thanked HG, PB, and YY and approved their nominations for a second term, subject to IGBP/Future Earth approval.

### 7.3 Nominations for the SSC in 2016

Five seats will be free in 2016. After assessing the nominations received, the SSC and EXCOM decided not to nominate any of the applicants for now as they couldn't achieve the right spread and geographical dispersion. Will hold a second round prior to the next EXCOM meeting asking for more applications. The 5 nominees will stay in the pool and be considered in the next round.

IGBP officers will meet in October to confirm SSC memberships, most likely at a joint meeting with Future Earth.

### 7.4 Analysis of the nomination procedure

The SSC discussed achieving diversity on the SSC. This includes:

- Gender balance
- Geographical diversity
- Including young women (see: section 4 of Future Earth Core Project Guidelines).
- Expertise: need ice core person by end of 2016, biodiversity expertise, Human side.

The SSC discussed the nomination process and the barrier it might be creating for applicants.

**ACTION:** IPO to run a second call for SSC nominees for consideration at the next EXCOM meeting in June. Inform the community that they can now apply themselves, rather than needing to be nominated by someone.

### 7.5 EXCOM nominations

**ACTION:** HF to organize the voting procedure for the two new EXCOM members to replace AM and DDR. To be done after the next EXCOM meeting.

## 8. Meeting Support Proposals

The EXCOM met and decided which workshop proposals to approve. Input was provided by the SSC. See the minutes from the EXCOM meeting on the 24th January 2015.

## Additional Young Scientist Meeting

Discussed having a Young Scientists meeting more regularly. We currently use the YSMs as one of our key capacity building activities. They serve the international environment and are designed to give young scientists professional development opportunities. They do have a big impact in terms of loyalty and kick starting networks. In our recent proposal to the US NSF we proposed an in-between YSM. **ACTION:** Consider additional YSM for joint WCRP activity (see Section 11).

## 9. IGBP

### Update (Ninad)

IGBP closing end of 2015. IGBP and Future Earth talking frequently about IGBP's experiences and how to incorporate them. Discussed PAGES' contribution to a synthesis work.

### AGU Meeting 2015

NB outlined some of the ideas for IGBP's Landmark Synthesis Event at AGU2015. Input was invited from the SSC.

## 10. Future Earth update

Frans Berkhout, the Interim Executive Director, gave an update on Future Earth. The following points were presented:

- Interim Secretariat and transition plans to permanent Secretariat.
- Policy development.
- Finalizing the Vision document. The key role of the eight focal challenges in the Vision.
- The Strategic Research Agenda which links research priorities to focal challenges.
- Engaging stakeholders: starting up a policy brief series.
- Securing new resources.
- The development of Core Knowledge Networks.

In further discussion the following topics were covered:

- Stakeholders/Engagement: how PAGES could involve and engage with stakeholders. How the Future Earth secretariat may support us.
- Core Project Review Process.
- Fast-Track Initiatives (FTI), other initiatives, and the application process.
- Trans-disciplinarity and how it will be fostered.
- Block Grant for SSC Meetings.
- Swiss SNF Funding and needing to formalize the relationship.
- Core projects / Core Knowledge Networks.

### 10.4 Stakeholders/Co-design

The SSC discussed how to define our stakeholders and start implementing a stakeholder engagement strategy. **ACTION:** IPO to include a question in WGs proposal forms re: stakeholders. **ACTION:** IPO to include a question in Meeting Support proposal forms: have you considered co-sponsorship by non-academic institutions/stakeholder organisations? **ACTION:** IPO to think about stakeholders we could invite to the next SSC meeting and Symposium in Romania.

## 11. WCRP Update

### WCRP Structure (David Carlson)

Presented a slide re: WCRP structure. Outlined the five Grand Challenges and (Regional) Climate Information, which cuts across all of the challenges, and Decadal Time Scales.

### Potential research themes with PAGES/WCRP (Pascale and Hugues)

#### Three-page PowerPoint presentation:

- Slide 1: Complimentary things between PAGES and WCRP
- Slide 2: Possible activities
- Slide 3: Discussion – re: value added for both parties

#### Discussion

**ACTION:** PB, HG, AM & TK to deliver report to WCRP. It should highlight the current points of connection i.e. PAGES directions or initiatives (half a dozen (prioritized) ideas that can be backed up with something already written) with an invitation for WCRP co-design/participation. DC will ask the WCRP Committee to do the same. The following ideas for 1-page summaries were discussed:

1. Warmer worlds / Ocean Heat (AM)
2. Multi-decadal variability: ENSO, 2k, Southern Ocean, Ocean2k, Antarctic variability, spectrum of variability, decadal (PB, HG, MK)
3. PMIP (PB)
4. Extremes – Future Earth FTI (TK)
5. Sea level –talk to PALSEA (TK)
6. Additional Young Scientists Meeting with WCRP (TK)

## 12. Implementation of new Science Structure

### The Humans corner

Discussed ways to further invigorate this corner of the structure.

### The Environment corner

Discussed ways to invigorate this corner of the structure.

### 12.2 Integrative activities

**ACTION:** The following teams to prepare a 1-page scoping document fleshing out what their integrative activity means as a concept.

- Warmer Worlds – HF and AM.
- Thresholds - CT
- Extremes – BV and HG
- Data Stewardship – MK and DK

## 13. PAGES Products and Communications

### PAGES Magazine

#### Issues in preparation and planned

- Volcanic forcing and climatic response.



- Tipping Points: Lessons from the Past for the Future (Chris)
- Climate change and cultural evolution (Claudio)

### **Future issues**

Issue highlighting ICDP projects

### **Communications**

New People Database, to be implemented shortly, should make targeting our communication easier.

Noted there does now appear to be a growth in Indian subscribers, followers now – perhaps a result of holding the 2013 OSM /YSMs in India.

Encourage WGs with press releases for their papers to send them so we can distribute.

DDR: BNP Paribas videos – great example of outreach videos.

**ACTION:** LG to re-implement the paleo PowerPoint slides in an easy to use format.

## **14. Upcoming PAGES meetings**

### **PAGES OSM and YSM in 2017**

Discussed the process for inviting bids to host the 2017 OSM/YSM. **ACTION:** IPO to dig up the SSC Minutes and check if there are any notes on improving the bidding process that should be taken into account. Look at forms we created last time (for both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> rounds) and circulate a draft to the SSC.

### **PAGES SSC Meeting in 2016**

The SSC discussed where to hold the next SSC meeting. It was decided to approach Romania to see if they would be interested in hosting us.

It was noted that someone from the Future Earth Engagement Committee, Scientific Committee, and Secretariat is supposed to come to our SSC meetings.

### **Thanks**

The PAGES SSC officially thanks the IGBP for many years of support and assistance. The SSC thanks the host and organizers in Chile and the IPO. And thanks to David Carlson for being our special guest.

*Meeting closed 7.13pm.*