

International Partnerships in Ice Core Sciences (IPICS)

2009 Steering Committee business meeting
6th July 2009, 17.30-18.30, Corvallis, Oregon



Meeting notes

21 people were present (see appendix), representing 16 of the 22 IPICS nations. Apologies had been received from a number of the missing nations; alternates attended for some nations. Eric Wolff (EW) chaired the meeting on behalf of the co-chairs (Ed Brook (EB) and EW).

1. The minutes of the 2008 meeting in Vienna were formally confirmed, and no matters arising (except those covered elsewhere in the agenda) were raised.
2. EW reported that during the year the SC had welcomed Austria as a new member of IPICS, with Elisabeth Schlosser as the SC national member.
3. EW reported that the co-chairs have been in further discussion with the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS, part of IUGG), a move already agreed by the SC in Vienna. As a result we have sent a letter of intent to IACS expressing our wish to form an IACS/IPICS standing group within IACS. This will be discussed by IACS at their meeting in Montreal later this month. If agreed it will have the effect of leaving IPICS associated with, but not belonging to, a geographic (SCAR), temporal (PAGES) and material (IACS) parent. There is unlikely to be any large financial benefit from the new association, but gives us further profile and the possibility to arrange meetings with theirs.
4. The co-chairs wanted to remind members of the committees set up for each priority project (a) that they are members and (b) that they are responsible for pushing the implementation and synthesis aspects forwards.
ACTION: EW to e-mail all members of project SCs to confirm their membership.
5. The workshop had discussed the idea of turning the IPICS-NEEM white paper into a last interglacial project. The meeting agreed unanimously that this should be done, and the relevant committee is tasked to complete this.
ACTION: last interglacial project team.
6. Future IPICS meetings and workshops: First we discussed what meetings are required. The first need is for each of the priority projects to be able to hold small workshops to push their projects forward. This is the responsibility of each project to organise; they should notify the Co-Chairs (who will notify the SC) beforehand, and communicate the results of each workshop to the Co-Chairs. IPICS unfortunately only has very limited funds, but these can be used to get a meeting started (but only hundreds of dollars per meeting are available from this source, and meetings will generally have to be self-funded by attendees, or through grants obtained for each meeting). It was not clear that we need to organise a free-standing IPICS SC business meeting. Instead the meeting agreed that it would be desirable for IPICS to act as organisers of an ice core symposium, possibly with the International Glaciological Society, with a preferred date of spring 2012. Clearly, a business meeting could be held

in conjunction with that, but business in between would be done by e-mail. It was agreed to invite SC members to offer to host such a meeting. We already have one nice offer from Hou Shugui to host a future meeting in Nanjing, although we will need to discuss with him whether this would be a project meeting or the postulated ice core symposium, and compare his offer with any others we receive.

ACTIONS: EW to ask IGS if it would co-sponsor an ice core symposium with IPICS; EW/EB to invite offers for a symposium in 2012; project chairs to organise appropriate workshops, and communicate plans and outcomes to the Co-Chairs.

7. Actions required by constitution: We need each nation to re-confirm their national SC representative. We also agreed that we must ask each nation to tell us what mechanism it has for choosing that person, to ensure that we have a person with the appropriate authority.

We agreed to leave the additional members (co-opted for each project) as they are.

We agreed to start the procedure for electing co-chairs for 4 years from April 2010. Jeff Severinghaus agreed to run the procedure, and he will call for any additional nominations (the existing co-chairs agreed to stand again).

ACTION: EW/EB to ask each national representative to tell us how they are selected and to confirm they will continue; Jeff Severinghaus to call for nominations for co-chairs.

8. Any other business: Nancy Bertler felt IPICS should try to make a more direct relationship with IPCC. ACTION: Hubertus Fischer agreed to ask Thomas Stocker what would be appropriate.

Appendix: attendance at the business meeting

Tas van Ommen (Australia)
Jefferson Simoes (Brazil)
Bo Vinther (Denmark) (representing Dorthe Dahl-Jensen)
Rein Vaikmäe (Estonia)
Jérôme Chappellaz (France)
Amaelle Landais (France) (representing Valerie Masson-Delmotte)
Heinz Miller (Germany)
Thamban Meloth (India) (representing Rasik Ravindra)
Massimo Frezzotti Italy
Hideaki Motoyama (Japan)
Soon Do Hur (Korea) (representing Sungmin Hong)
Nancy Bertler (New Zealand)
Vladimir Lipenkov (Russia)
Margareta Hansson (Sweden)
Hubertus Fischer (Switzerland)
Rob Mulvaney (UK)
Eric Wolff (UK) (Co-Chair)
Ed Brook (USA) (Co-Chair)
Jeff Severinghaus (USA)
Eric Steig (USA)
Jim White (USA)