



IOOS Association Board of Directors
June Board Conference Call
Tuesday, June 16, 2015 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm ET

DRAFT
Minutes

Attending: Ru Morrison, Carolyn Thoroughgood, Debra Hernandez, Roy Watlington, Julio Morrell, Barb Kirkpatrick, Julie Thomas, Danielle Williams, David Anderson, Raphe Kudela, Jan Newton, Ron Baird, Kelli Paige, Molly McCammon, Melissa Iwamoto, Chris Ostrander, Zdenka Willis, Carl Gouldman, George Jungbluth, Derrick Snowden, Laura Greisbauer, Josie Quintrell

Ru Morrison called the meeting to order at 3 pm ET

1) Motion: To approve the minutes from the meeting on March 3, 2015.

Molly McCammon moved the motion, Julie Thomas seconded.

Vote: Approved, unanimously.

2) Financial Report

Molly McCammon, Treasurer of the Association, provided an update of the second quarter financial report that had been reviewed with the full Finance Committee (Molly, Roy Watlington and Melissa Iwamoto). The finances are tracking along with the operating budget. No formal action taken. The Finance Committee has started preparing the operating budget for FY 16 for adoption at the September IOOS Association meeting.

3) Motion: To appoint Chris Ostrander, David Anderson, Kelli Paige and Julio Morrell to serve on a Nominating Committee to develop a slate of IOOS Association officers and Executive Committee members for election in September 2015.

Roy Watlington moved the motion, Ron Baird seconded.

Discussion: Ru noted that the current officers are: Ru Morrison, Chair, Debra Hernandez, Vice-Chair, Jan Newton, Secretary, and Molly McCammon, Treasurer. Other members of the Executive Committee include Julie Thomas, Gerhard Kuska, Barb Kirkpatrick and Ron Baird.

Vote: Passed, unanimously.

5) Honorary Board for the IOOS Association

Jan Newton noted that the Executive Committee is still discussing creating an Advisory Board for the Association and plans to have a proposal for consideration by the full board in September. The current thinking is to start small with maybe 3-4 members who would champion IOOS but not require significant resources. If you have ideas for members, please contact Jan or Josie.

6) Reauthorization and Appropriations

Josie noted that funding for regional IOOS is level with FY 15 in both the House and the Senate, which is good news since the overall NOAA budget was cut. Representative Young (Alaska) introduced H.R. 2744 "Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observing Act Amendments" last week and is looking for co-sponsors.

7) Update from Zdenka Willis and the Program Office

Zdenka provided an update on the budget, IOOS logo, staffing, certification and the NOS stimulus.

Budget update: The FY2016 House and Senate Appropriations Committee bills have been passed, both of which fund IOOS at the FY 16 President's levels: IOOS Regional (\$29.5M) and IOOS national (\$6.741M). The Senate mark includes the following language: "Committee encourages NOS to work more collaboratively with the National Weather Service (NWS) to prioritize buoy management, observations and repair." And "the Committee Supports NOAA's Alliance for Coastal Technologies [ACT] given the program's valuable expertise in marine sensor technology development. The Committee directs NOAA to maintain full funding for ACT within the National Ocean Service."

The House Mark also included language regarding the Arctic: "NOAA shall provide a report...detailing the resources necessary to properly maintain and operate the coastal weather buoy system in areas off Alaska and in the Arctic Ocean,... [and] include the identification of gaps in Arctic weather and sea ice observing networks in U.S. territories of the Arctic Ocean."

Senate Bill S.1331 – Weather Improvement Act- calls on NOAA to integrate ocean and coastal observations, other data and research from IOOS into regional weather forecasts, and to support the development of real time data sharing products and forecast products in collaborations with IOOS regional associations.

Logo: The Program Office hired Brand Architecture (Fred Terral) to develop a new logo for IOOS. The review team included Carol Kavanaugh (NOS CED), Zdenka Willis, Carl Gouldman, George Jungbluth, Derrick Snowden, Nancy Seeger, Laura Griesbauer (IOOS Program Office), Josie Quintrell (IOOS Association), Debra Hernandez (SECOORA), Barbara Kirkpatrick (GCOOS), David Legler (IOOC/NOAA) and Eric Lindstrom (IOOC/NASA). The RAs were involved at many review stages. The process started with a user questionnaire that lead to the development of 4 options.

The final logo is described as follows:



The logo is a modern, eye-catching and abstract representation of the *integrated* collective of individuals, associations, technology and education partners whose eyes are always on the ocean.

The *integrated* lines of the logo work in harmony to present an abstract interpretation of the letters I, O, O, and S, from the inside out. This in-to-out attribute serves as a fitting metaphor of IOOS reaching out to its many partners in collaboration.

The inside *I on the O* is a subtle homage to the IOOS tagline, *Eyes on the Ocean*. The inside I/O forms are also suggestive of a radar signal, the

ripple of a wave and an eye.

The outer S form is suggestive of waveforms, a boat's propeller, movement, and it unifies the other elements within the *system*. While the S connects to the O, its open ends are suggestive of the open culture of IOOS with its many partners

A unique characteristic of the logo is that it reads equally right-side up or "upside down".

There is an element of engagement that takes place with viewers when they discover the "IOOS" letters within the logo. This discovery creates a surprising, deeper connection to the logo, one that is active versus passive. This engagement serves as a metaphor for IOOS's mission to actively engage consumers, educators, industry, and government alike to the mission of monitoring and protecting our ocean.

The logo is embargoed until it is reviewed by NOS and NOAA. The Program Office is working on a roll out of the logo aimed at the fall MTS meeting and with the launch of a new IOOS website in spring 2016.

Staffing Updates. The Program Office expects to hire a Senior Grants Manager by July 2015 and looks forward to having Regina Evans back from detail in July as well. Jennifer Bosch will be on detail to the Operations Division and Lt. Commander Eric Johnson from the NOAA Corp will start a 3-year detail in August 2015. Derrick hopes to have 2 new data management specialists on staff by September 2015, and George hopes to have a new Communications Specialist in October 2015.

Certification: PacIOOS submitted their proposal, most of which has been approved. There are some remaining DMAC issues and so the clock has been paused while PacIOOS answers those questions. GLOS is expected to submit their proposal in June.

NOS Stimulus Projects: NOS had some seed funding for multi-office projects. IOOS was funded for 2 of them: 1) Port of Long Beach Under Keel Clearance Project and 2) OCM/NERRS Collaboration with IOOS (SECOORA). The office also submitted one for the Hampton Roads project that was not funded. Lessons learned include the project must involve more than one NOS office and must be linked to the NOS roadmap. It is unclear whether this will be an annual event or not.

8) IOOS Biological Observation and Integration Task Team Update

Dr. Raphe Kudela is the IOOS Association representative to the IOOC Biological Observation and Integration Task Team (BIO-TT), which is chaired by Sam Simmons

of the Marine Mammal Commission. The Charge and members of the Task Team can be found here: http://www.iooc.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/BIO-TT-Scope-of-Work_WEB-VERSION.pdf

The Task Team was established to fulfill one of the recommendations of the IOOS Summit that recognized the need to expand the 26 IOOS core variables to include additional biological variables. The original 26 variables include fish abundance, fish species, phytoplankton species, zooplankton species and zooplankton abundance.

The Task Team conducted an in-depth survey of the federal agencies about what biological data is currently being collected, what additional observations should be collected, protocols for data sharing and archiving and other information. The results of the survey were shared with a group of experts at a workshop held in November 2014. The workshop used a feasibility matrix (high/low feasibility and high/low impact) to develop a list of variables. The list is long and includes species and abundance for all organisms of interest, fecundity, productivity, pattern and trends as well as pelagic and benthic habitats. Sound was also included in the list as monitored by passive and active acoustics.

The report is now undergoing the federal review process. The initial version will be released to the RAs and other groups for review before being broadly distributed.

9) Rapid Regional Roundtable - Molly McCammon

Molly explained that each RA was asked to identify emerging issues or local initiatives that could have national implications. The purpose of this session is not to discuss the issues in depth but to identify issues for future discussion, such as at the September meeting.

AOOS -

- Working with NMFS on how to incorporate Large Marine Ecosystem indicators and other ecosystem considerations used in stock assessments for the North Pacific Fishery Council into future Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEAs) and web-based State of Alaska's Coasts and Oceans status report.
- Developing a searchable data base for AIS vessel tracking for stakeholders
- Exploring what role AOOS may have in monitoring for contaminants (e.g., mercury in fish, other POPS, PCBs).

PacIOOS -

- PacIOOS is hoping to assimilate ocean data from animal tagging into numerical models soon. PacIOOS is currently beta-testing and refining the sampling algorithms of new GPS sensors that collect conductivity and chlorophyll. What the animal telemetry folks need from the modelers is more information on the levels of precision required for coordinates, depth ranges, etc.

- 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress will be held in Hawaii. The theme is “Planet at a Crossroads”. The call for contributions just opened and closes October 15. PacIOOS is exploring how to contribute and show the value of observations and science in conservation design and evaluation. PacIOOS would be happy to collaborate on a session, etc. with others.

NANOOS -

- The “BLOB” continues to be a significant issue in the region, including being featured on the June 16 front page of Seattle Times. It appears to be influencing weather, being exacerbated by drought conditions, fueling phytoplankton blooms and severely impacting estuaries because of low fresh water and rising temperatures. NANOOS is posting anomalies on the web.
- NANOOS will be hosting the follow up west coast workshop in the fall.

CeNCOOS -

- MTS Oceans 2016 will be held in Monterey. CenCOOS is considering putting together an IOOS session, perhaps linked to big data.
- A massive domoic acid bloom has been occurring in Monterey Bay for the past month. It is being detected by water sampling (net tows and sampling) and ship surveys. This bloom was successfully predicted by the Santa Barbara team using their ROMS model. (See <http://news.ucsc.edu/2015/05/algal-bloom.html>.)

SCCOOS -

- Tuna crabs are showing up in Southern California, probably as a result of a developing El Nino.
- Both SCCOOS and CeNCOOS have posted data on the Refugio oil spill on their websites to assist response including data on currents from HFR, gliders and model output.
- A new buoy for the Port of Long Beach has been deployed.

GCOOS -

- Tropical storm Bill is hitting the Texas coast, raising concerns about a potential hypoxic event on Texas Coast, given the recent rainfall and toxic runoff. TAMU is deploying gliders to see if they can detect changes in the water chemistry.
- Citizen Science Project. Chris Simoniello has teamed up elementary school students to collect water quality samples and is doing rigorous QA/QC on the data.

SECOORA-

- Ocean sound is the emerging (or re-emerging) issue that is a particularly hot topic in the SE. This is linked to the increased potential for offshore energy development, both traditional and wind, and the seismic testing that has been recently permitted by BOEM.

CaRA-

- Sargasso sea grass mats are showing up on beaches.
- They are working with the local Coast Guard and industry (e.g., harbor pilots) on oil spill preparedness and would be interested in insights from other regions on what works, what doesn't.

MARACOOS-

- Annual Meeting was held in May. Gerhard has been working with Hendrick Tolman at NCEP. NCEP is interested in establishing better communication with regions to get feedback on their models. Louis Uccellini wants to reduce the modeling adaption time from research to operations from 7 years to 2 years. The new NWS facility at College Park has extra desks available and they are interested in hosting people there. This could be an opportunity for RAs to place modelers near NCEP.
- Planning an industry connection workshop in fall around Oceans 15 in Washington DC. MARACOOS is reaching out to industry more, particularly around product development.

NERACOOS-

- Offshore energy, particularly wind, is still an issue. The first offshore wind farm is expected to be operational in 2016.
- Working with oil sector and transportation sector to understand needs and the implication of drilling on the Scotian shelf. New England's heating oil is delivered on an "as-needed" basis. This winter, Boston was within 2 hours of running out of heating oil for the whole city because of ice blocking the harbor.

GLOS

- Exploring data sharing and collaborations with Environment Canada and Ontario Ministry of Environment. The Canadian government has an open data initiative similar to that of the U.S.: , Open Data Government: open.canada.ca/. They are excited to work with GLOS and hope the partnership will strengthen the effort.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Jan moved, Barb seconded.

Vote: Passed, unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:22 pm.

