

## MINUTES

### GLOS Steering Committee Conference Call – April 13th, 2006 – 10 a.m. EDT

#### I. **Call to Order, Roll Call** (Dave Schwab)

Mark Bobal  
Mark Breederland  
Steve Colman  
Dave Schwab  
Paul Horvatin  
Norm Grannemann  
Mark Burrows  
Jeff Reutter  
Tom Landon  
Greg Mott  
Zack Brunder  
Mark Brasset  
Scott (NOAA CO-OPS)  
Rick Harkins  
Steve Stewart

Roger Gauthier  
Christine Manninen  
Elaine Sterrett-Isely  
Stuart Eddy  
Jon Dettling  
Dave Knight

#### II. **Secretariat Reports**

- a. Governance Update (Schwab and Elaine Sterrett-Isely)
- Size of the inaugural Board of Directors

Voting:

By the declared deadline, count showed a tie for 7 members and 12 members

Calls yesterday resulted in 5 additional votes

Summary:

Total counts –

1 vote for 5 members

6 votes for 7 members

5 votes for 9 members

9 votes for 12 members

Total votes - 22

Discussion:

9 votes for 12 members not a majority of total votes. Question – Hold a second vote, limit options to 7 members or 12 members on second round?

[RG]-Additional vote delays the process again. 5 weeks since the nominee list was assembled, please if possible reach a decision as quickly as possible.

[JR]-This is a Steering Committee decision, we should make it now.

Motion: Decide about holding a re-vote on this call.

Second: Steve Stewart

Comments:

“Voted 9 to get enough people to allow action at any decision point.” – a few absences wouldn’t mean too few people to make decisions

“Voted 9 but would move to 12 for similar reason.”

[DS] – Roll call vote, 2 items:

Accept 12 as initial Board member count? 10 in favor.

Revote between 7 and 12? 2 in favor.

Result: Going with a Board size of 12

Letters of appointment to nominees from Secretariat within 3-4 days.

- Schedule for GLOS Annual Meeting

Governance structure (Board + Systems Oversight Panel) means Steering Committee must stay involved until SOP is established.

1<sup>st</sup> meeting proposed for Ann Arbor, late May (23, 24 or 25) or early June (1, 5, 8 or 9)

May dates conflict with IAGLR

June 8 & 9 conflict with ARAP conference in Washington

June 1 or 5 possible?

Multi-day meeting is proposed. The Board would meet alone after Board and S.C. meet together for introductory briefing and background on GLOS and national IOOS.

Items:

- Introductions

- Overview of current status

- Adopt or modify by-laws

- Membership guidelines

Roles and responsibilities – begun by Secretariat, available within the next 10-14 days

[DS] – Membership guideline development already assigned to Board;  
recommendations/range of approaches as far as Secretariat/SC can go

[ESI] – Confirmed, only recommendations can be made

[MB] – Process for implementing?

[RG] – Planned meeting followed by monthly conference calls for decisions

- Dues structure

Possible categories (preliminary):

Feds, State/local, Academic, Native American, NGO, Regional, Canadian

Examples from other RAs?

GoMOOS

Gulf of Mexico

S. California

Any discussion at NFRA level?

None so far, only what RAs need to pay NFRA (\$2K to support NFRA staff)

Be clear about benefits (it won’t be possible to charge for many “benefits” in terms of data – much of it will be publicly available)

Eligible to place someone on the SOP

Eligible to vote for Board members

A skeleton list was put together for Industry Day. It will be distributed to the SC in the next 2 weeks for consideration

Different levels of access to data?

HEC meeting in Port Huron – mention was made of some commercial firms wanting access to raw data for development of customized tools.

Much of any raw data will come from the backbone – federal data products, so can’t limit access.

Research also limited by limiting access?

Value-added products? – charges for these based on a membership structure outside of dues?

Maybe not workable for us?

All of the above can be modified. Initial idea was that dues would cover administrative costs for support to the Board and SOP, e.g., travel. As pictured, dues would not be for advocacy, infrastructure/hardware development, staffing support.

[comments/examples:]

NAML, National Association of Marine Labs – one example. The SC could recommend

1. A yes/no choice about having a dues structure, then 2. Why join? The 2<sup>nd</sup> question is what is being answered here. NAML quandary similar for (1.) – they based theirs on the organization's size by FTE. Also advocacy issues there, so Fed dues were separated out – no portion used for advocacy.

GoMOOS dues based on gross revenue of members

Dues by FTE or revenue would be tough for federal agencies. Multiple labs = big staff totals, which would push the dues too high for budgets.

Place Federal agencies under a special dues structure knowing they provide many services? Assign a static charge, e.g. \$5K per agency.

Note -- Still need a reason for Federal agency directors to put this expense into budget  
Visibility an additional benefit? – advertising that organization is a member of regional observing system

Access to data + insurance that own data is in system

Question: Who within member agencies decides how a vote is cast?

▪ Establishment of SOP

Membership recruitment – Board needs to consider as early as possible, get SOP constituted so that work plan development goes forward

Outreach planning will also help get new SOP members

Timeline – Board + SC until SOP is constituted. 6 mos? And SOP may include many SC members

Oversight roles for outside entities with respect to GLOS work? Specific example: Science oversight through an outside, existing structure, e.g. Council of Great Lakes Research Managers

Other existing organizations for other oversight roles as well? Partnerships would probably be good for many things once the GLOS RA is established. Not until GLOS is established, not until committees are established, but then this would be a natural step. For research, CGLRM as an input stream. Another for communications, another for advocacy... (organizations would have to decide whether they want to accept)

▪ Beginning of Annual Workplan

- Membership Classes and Dues  
(covered above)
- Roles and Responsibilities of Members  
(covered above)
- Membership on Systems Oversight Panel  
(covered above)

Extra item: Operational Forecast Models/Systems:  
Report by Greg Mott

Great Lakes Operations Forecasting System (GLOFS)

[Immediate request from Roger, please revise acronym, too close/easily confused with GLOS. NOAA communication with region regarding project names/acronyms needed. Would be helpful in limiting confusion within community.]

Lake Huron area, also work being done in Chesapeake Bay, Galveston, New York

NOS forecast systems, nowcast and forecast of currents, temps, water levels

Public site from NOAA, could be incorporated into products

URL:

[Recommendation: Change references relative to datum to use inches, not feet]

Working w/ Dennis McCarthy to develop delivery mechanisms

NDFD (National Digital Forecast Database – blend of regional forecasts, maybe usable in place of NSEP

Some activities similar to planned GLOS products; communicate, meet DMAC standards for both.

Important is that data development at the regional level is coordinated with Mark Vincent's shop at COOPS

**b. Budget and Grant Update (Roger Gauthier)**

Budget numbers okay through June 2006

Modifications being made to budget to accommodate travel

July 06-June07 funding confirmation received – total amount = \$325K

To be used for

Development of the workplan

Continued work on establishing the RA

Membership

Sufficient to maintain staff load

GLC is grantee, not GLOS, so GLC Executive Director will have to remain involved/negotiate with GLOS Board regarding use of funds

Also more user needs assessments, cost/benefit analyses likely

DMAC activities need to continue

Integration w/ backbone

Education, outreach objectives and actions

Involve Board in budget process

Next phase (beginning July 2008) needs to have GLOS RA as grantee

Earmark in '07 budget being sought, \$4M to be incorporated into workplan contingent on Congressional approval – see 'advocacy' below

**c. Development of Annual Work Plan (Gauthier)**

Inaugural workplan coming, July 1 to June 30

Details use of \$325K, plus \$4M if available

Key points: Staffing, education/outreach, DMAC, systems development

To be developed by Secretariat, goes to SOP for review and comment. After any edits, to Board for adoption.

Discussion/comments:

- Inaugural workplan to be approved by Board? No clear plan for this aspect.
- SOP to have ability to discuss/determine priorities, then make recommendation to Board
- Role of SC/SOP could be Board's choice once Board is constituted. As planned, SOP will make recommendation to Board

- SOP cannot make funding decisions, only recommendations. Board can make changes if it sees fit.
  - Board may at times have to decide priorities because SC/SOP won't be able to reach consensus
  - Need decisions in timely fashion, staff needs to be able to advocate for, allocate and expend \$
  - Not all money from earmark will come to the RA itself – much will go to individual RA member agencies to meet goals of earmark, which results in contribution to the system
  - Workplan may not need much emphasis on earmarks – may not have much control over them (in early phases?)
  - Status of earmark will only be known when comes out of appropriations committee
- d.** Advocacy Update (Jon MacDonagh-Dumler – not available, provided by Roger)  
IOOS authorization bill in committee, prospects of it getting out not likely this session.  
\$138M trying to be gotten into House, Senate – 17 Senators' signatures on letter of support, CJS appropriations begin waited for. Staff will inform SC
- e.** Results of the Huron to Erie Corridor Modeling Workshop (Jon Dettling)  
Meeting in Port Huron, Michigan, March 16 & 17  
Hydrodynamic modeling on Huron to Erie Corridor  
50 people, breakouts discussing needs, new model structures  
Good consensus among breakouts  
Report to SC as well as to participants
- f.** Results from the RDX '06 Conference (Dettling)  
April 4-6, Rochester, NY  
3-day conference on remote sensing across Great Lakes  
Training seminars, 10 plenary talks, 20 commercial exhibitors, 50 presentations  
Positive feedback, average rating 5 out of 6  
Many GLOS-related presentations  
Key speakers: NOAA – Stan Wilson, Miki Schmidt; GoMOOS – Phil Bogden; EPA/GEOSS – Ross Lunetta  
Conference website – [rdx.glc.org/06/presentations](http://rdx.glc.org/06/presentations) or [/speakers](http://rdx.glc.org/06/speakers) for content
- g.** Web Update (Christine Manninen)  
New web mapping app link just sent out – comments welcome. See <http://mds.glc.org/glosMap/htdocs/>
- Pete Giencke at GLC heavily involved with web mapping, data integration
- Have Pete talk to Tom Landon, others in Mark Vincent's group – ties exist through GLC, will get with them
  - Site doesn't work well on Mac? Fine on Firefox; better on safari than on IE but still not good
  - Stream monitoring network in danger due to funding cuts – report possible from Norm Grannemann? He is looking into this.
  - Tom Landon – contact w/ Andrea Hardy – developing IOOS DMAC protocol at COOPS
  - Output for Great Lakes needs to be in forms displayable on map servers
- h.** Outreach planning (Manninen)
- Behind the scenes progress on MOU with Sea Grant

Draft completed, to be reviewed

All Sea Grants involved but money will probably go to MI, OH and be divvied out from there  
Needs assessments - Partner w/ COSEE (Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence) to  
move both efforts ahead

Timing good for discussion right now – other grants are being worked on

- Items highlighted on GLOS site?
- Several above would be good to include
- GLOS update coming, just not able to fit in yet; will include these

From TL – status of current meter network:

Kickoff meeting in March

April – contract out for Maumee River, ...

Good participation among players

Trying for survivability through winter

3<sup>rd</sup> meter pending for Bluewater Bridge

[Highlight at GLOS news? Yes.]

Product will have a phone and voice interface

### III. New Business

a. Upcoming meetings

- NSTC-JSOST Ocean Research Priority Plan Workshop – 4/18-20/06 – Denver, CO

Jeff R. will be there.

Meeting may influence IOOS direction

Review draft docs posted for discussion there

[JR] – troubled by “ocean and coastal” throughout documents. Argues that this should  
be “ocean, coastal and Great Lakes” in any phrasing. Otherwise, lakes  
forgotten/relegated to second class.

Education – clarify that term does not imply just “ocean education in the Great  
Lakes” but also “Great Lakes education in ocean areas”

Formal comments from nascent RA, copy these to Great Lakes Task Force and  
GLC, IJC, maybe get formal comments from them as well

Many breakouts, JR limited in his ability to represent all 3 of his roles (GLOS,  
NFRA, NAML)

[RG] – Recommendations for participants from SC?

Email from Roger to clarify, forward out to SC, official comments from SC to  
workshop

Links provided by Jeff Reuter via email:

ORPP Development Workshop –planning document available for review at

[http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup\\_jsost\\_public\\_comment.html](http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_jsost_public_comment.html)

Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources (SIMOR) Work Plan is  
available at

[http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup\\_simor\\_workplan.html](http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_simor_workplan.html).

General comment: Push hard to have national meetings in Great Lakes region instead of  
Denver-type locations [Note: ORION meeting in Chicago done w/o invitation to any Great  
Lakes scientist]

- IAGLR '06 – 5/22-26/06 – Windsor, ON  
Education presentation scheduled from GLOS

- NFRA Coastal Remote Sensing Workshop – 10/3-5/06 – Durham, NH  
By invitation only, GLOS representatives already engaged

New item:

- Add SOLEC meeting to schedule –Milwaukee, November 1-3  
Theme: Chemical Integrity, both anthropogenic and natural origin  
Include Observing Systems, get GLOS representatives there – SC, regular interested members

b. Other

[PH] – Briefing every Friday morning, all Federal agency representatives together for follow-up to regular working group sessions

Add a GLOS overview presentation to one of these meetings to bring group up to speed.

Volunteers: Roger, Dave

Schedule 15-20 min for May? Maybe for June after inaugural Board meets?

Send materials to Paul Horvatin

[MB] – Mar 21 & 22 = workshop in Canada for National ... Explored air quality, other issues including small river contamination/sediments in coastal/border regions of country – loading data for Great Lakes? Mark will monitor, send briefing note

**Next Conference Calls:** The second Thursday of each month @ 10 a.m. EDT (May 11, June 8)