



**To:** Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee  
**From:** Alex Mayer, Director, Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society  
**Date:** March 20, 2006  
**Subject:** March 16, 2006 Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee Meeting

**Attachments:** Meeting agenda  
Letter from UNESCO, U.S. National Committee for the International Hydrological Programme

The second March 2006 meeting of the Michigan Technological University Center for Water & Society (MTCWS) Advisory Committee (AC) was held March 16, 2006, 9:00 to 10:00 am in the Dow Environmental Engineering & Sciences room 426. The purpose of this memo is to describe the results of the meeting.

Present were: Alex Mayer, Director  
Kathy Halvorsen, representative, Social Sciences  
Noel Urban, representative, Civil & Environmental Engineering  
Nancy Auer, representative, Biological Sciences  
MaryAnn Beckwith, representative, Fine Arts  
John Gierke, representative, Geological & Mining Eng & Sci.  
Carol Asiala, CWS administrative assistant  
Willett Kempton, visiting speaker, Center for Energy and Environmental Policy at the University of Delaware

## **1. Minutes from last Meeting**

Approved March 2, 2006 minutes  
Next Advisory Committee Meeting will be March 30, 2006

## **2. Invitation from US Committee on UNESCO**

A letter was received from UNESCO, inviting the Michigan Tech Center for Water and Society to nominate a representative of the MTCWS to serve on the U.S. National Committee for the International Hydrological programme. The letter is attached to the minutes, and the web site for more information is <http://www.unesco.org/water>.

Kathy Halvorsen nominated Alex Mayer to represent the MTCWS on this committee.

### **3. Policy on distribution of overhead return funds**

Noel Urban has requested \$1000 of matching funds from MTCWS for an equipment-only proposal. The committee approved using the funds from either the MTCWS REF account or the overhead return incentive account for the Center.

The Advisory Committee will work on getting a policy in place to determine how funds will be spent from the MTCWS incentive account.

### **4. Public meeting on Huron Creek**

MTCWS is sponsoring a public meeting concerning the Huron Creek Watershed, which is resulting from collaboration between the Dept. of Geological & Mining Engineering & Sciences 2005-6 Senior Design project and Department of Social Sciences spring 2006 Environmental Decision-Making class.

The meeting will be at:  
BHK Child Development Facility  
700 Park Avenue  
Houghton, MI

Tuesday, March 21, 2006  
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### **5. Craig Waddell's request**

Two MTU Scientific and Technical Communication graduates are serving with the Peace Corps in Zambia. Does the MTCWS have an interest in participating in a water sanitation project in Zambia with Engineers without Borders and International Senior Design?

### **6. Chris Anderson suggestion of REU**

An announcement was made of the NSF-sponsored Research Experience for Undergrads (REU) program in Environmental Engineering at the University of Colorado – Boulder

Chris Anderson asked if the MTCWS is going to be involved in REU's. Many of the Advisory Committee members showed an interest in REU's. In particular Noel Urban and John Gierke indicated an interest in submitting an REU proposal for next year's competition.

## **7. World Water Day**

World Water Day is March 22. The Center will circulate flyers with water facts on March 22, but would like to plan ahead for a bigger event next year. Suggestions included a water movie and sponsoring a student group to make a Splash!

## **8. CUAHSI – Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Incorporated**

<http://www.cuashi.org>

The Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science (CUAHSI) is an organization representing more than a hundred U.S. universities, sponsored by the National Science Foundation to develop infrastructure and services for the advancement of hydrologic science and education in the United States.

The Advisory Committee discussed the idea of the MTCWS joining CUAHSI. There is a \$2000 membership fee that interested department heads may be willing to contribute funds to. Typically, a university is a member of the consortium, but it was agreed that the MTCWS should be the member.

Committee members will review the information on the CUAHSI web site, and decide whether the MTCWS should join at a later meeting.

## **9. Discuss CWS with Willett Kempton, visiting speaker**

Willett Kempton shared his experiences with bringing people of different disciplines together to write proposals and focus on a common goal.

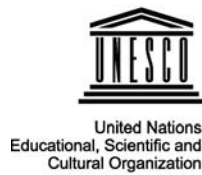
## **10. Water and Society Arts and Music Festival**

MaryAnn Beckwith would be interested in making Water the focus of an arts and music campus festival that would include speakers, concerts, art displays, outdoor activities, etc. Such an event would take a year to plan, and it was decided that Fall would be the best time of year. Fall of 2007 was suggested as a tentative time frame.

## **CWS Advisory Committee Meeting, March 16, 2006, 9 am, DOW 426**

### **Agenda**

1. Minutes from last meeting
2. Invitation from US Committee on UNESCO
3. Policy on distribution of overhead return funds
4. Public meeting on Huron Creek
5. Craig Waddell's request
6. Chris Anderson suggestion of REU
7. World Water Day
8. CUAHSI
9. Discuss CWS with Willett Kempton, visiting speaker



United States  
National Commission for UNESCO

March 6, 2006

Dear Dr. Mayer,

The U.S. National Commission for UNESCO is establishing a U.S. National Committee for the International Hydrological Programme. The Michigan Technological University Center for Water and Society has been suggested as an organization which may have interest in being represented on this Committee. I am pleased to invite you to nominate a representative of The Center for Water and Society for consideration. Members of the U.S. National Commission will review the nominated organizations and representatives and recommend to me, the Executive Director of the U.S. National Commission, an appropriate and well-balanced group of potential members, from which I will appoint members to the Committee.

The long-standing International Hydrological Programme (IHP) is the core program for UNESCO's work on fresh water issues. The IHP has historically focused on methodologies for hydrological studies and training and education in the water sciences, but has recently shifted emphasis to the role of water resources management for sustainable development and broader impacts of hydrological science. Another important objective is the integration of developing countries into international research and training programs. More information about the IHP can be found at <http://www.unesco.org/water>.

The U.S. National Committee for the IHP will be a subgroup reporting to the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO, which is an advisory group organized under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). The functions of the U.S. National Committee for the IHP will be to advise the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO on the following topics: 1) making recommendations on U.S. participation in the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme and assisting upon request in the formulation and review of other UNESCO international water resources activities; 2) providing advice on domestic and international activities related to UNESCO programs that advance research, education, or training in water resources sciences or the application of water resources sciences to specific problems; 3) recommending U.S. programs for participation in the UNESCO International Hydrological Programme; and 4) providing advice to organizations involved in U.S. participation in UNESCO international water resources activities.

In addition to members of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO and representatives of relevant federal government agencies, the Committee will also include organizations with expertise in water resources, including state or local governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), university departments, professional societies/associations, and trade/industry associations. Unfortunately, funds are not available to reimburse representatives on the Committee for travel or other expenses related to work on the Committee.

If your organization wishes to be represented on the U.S. National Committee for the IHP, it should apply by send the following materials (preferably in one PDF document):

- 1) a cover letter from the representative describing their own and the organization's interest in and experience with the IHP, UN water programs, or other international water issues (1 page maximum);
- 2) the representative's curriculum vitae (2 page maximum); and
- 3) a letter of endorsement from the Center for Water and Society.

This PDF document should be sent to [PilzKM@state.gov](mailto:PilzKM@state.gov) by March 22, 2006. If you have questions, please call (202) 663-0033.

Sincerely,



Marguerite H. Sullivan  
Executive Director  
U.S. National Commission for UNESCO

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