



**To:** Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee  
**From:** Alex Mayer, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society  
**Date:** September 19, 2006  
**Subject:** September 19, 2006 Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee Meeting

**Attachments:** Meeting agenda

The September meeting of the Michigan Technological University Center for Water & Society (MTCWS) Advisory Committee (AC) was held September 19, 2006, 8:00 to 9:00 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  
Linda Nagel, representative, School of Forest Resources & Env. Science.  
Nancy Auer, representative, Biological Sciences  
John Gierke, representative, Geol & Mining Eng & Sci.  
Carol Asiala, CWS administrative assistant

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

Approved June 9, 2006 minutes.

The next Advisory Committee Meeting will be in DOW 426 on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at 8:00 a.m.

## **2. Survey developed and distributed**

The survey form developed from the results of the CWS retreat has been completed and distributed to all CWS participants. The results of the survey will guide the long-term strategy of the CWS. If the completed surveys have not been received by the end of September, a reminder email will be sent out. The target date for the return of all surveys is October 6, 2006.

### **3. 2005-2006 Annual Report**

The annual report was completed and distributed. The link is listed on the left side of the “About MTCWS” section of the CWS website (<http://www.mtcws.mtu.edu/>).

Printed copies were distributed to department heads and deans, and directors of the other major research centers on campus. Copies were also given to President Glen Mroz, Dale Tahtinen, and Dave Reed in the Research Office.

### **4. Upcoming meetings/representation of CWS**

Alex Mayer will represent the Center for Water and Society at two conferences in September and October. He will describe the CWS and its goals, and will also look for new research projects and funding opportunities that match the expertise and interests of the CWS participants.

September 21-26, 2006 – Great Lakes Restoration Conference  
Cleveland, Ohio  
<http://www.theoec.org/greatlakes.htm>

October 4-6, 2006 – Freshwater Ecosystem Sustainability Roundtable  
Detroit, Michigan  
Freshwater Ecosystem Sustainability Roundtable being convened by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in collaboration with international leaders from the drinking water community, local governments, and environmental groups experienced with sustainability programs.

### **5. Goals for 2006-7**

- 5.1. Sponsor seminars on WS issues;
- 5.2. Pursue discussion of certificates, degrees, enterprises, etc.;
- 5.3. Make internal awards for grad and undergrad research/travel;
- 5.4. Make awards to CWS member posters in GSC poster competition;
- 5.5. Organize a major workshop on Water in Michigan Economy in spring;  
Alex Mayer and Dave Dempsey are making contacts to individuals at Grand Valley, University of Michigan, Michigan State University, and industries to get interested co-sponsors in the workshop. With a more specific starting point for the workshop agenda and commitments of other partners, greater interest will be generated for the workshop from others.
- 5.6. Promote collaborative proposal efforts.  
The function and reason for the center’s existence is to foster research. Find research opportunities that match the center’s expertise.  
Initiate informal gatherings to collect similar interests to lay the groundwork for collaborative proposals.

Work harder to get people involved and participating in CWS.

5.7. Perform outreach

## **6. Frequency of meetings in 2006-7**

It was agreed by the advisory committee that meetings would be held twice a semester, and the subcommittees will schedule separate times to meet. The advisory committee will conduct the majority of its functions through email. The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 5, 2006.

## **7. External Advisory Board**

The formation of the external advisory board will be delayed until the CWS has a more refined definition of its goals and strategies. Getting external input in the informal gatherings described above may lead to future external advisory board members.

## **8. Freshman Reading**

It was suggested that CWS get involved in the book selection for the Freshman Reading, and follow through with CWS participants as facilitators during orientation and sponsoring of the speaker or author at orientation.

**CWS advisory committee meeting, Tuesday, 9/19/06, 8-9 am,  
Room 426 DOW ESE Building**

**Agenda**

1. Minutes from 4/27/06 meeting (attached)
2. Survey developed and distributed
3. Annual report completed and distributed
4. Upcoming meetings/representation of CWS
5. Goals for 2006-7
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  - 5.2. Pursue discussion of certificates, degrees, enterprises, etc.;
  - 5.3. Make internal awards for grad and undergrad research/travel;
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