



To: Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee
From: Alex Mayer, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society
Date: December 21, 2006
Subject: December 5, 2006 Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee Meeting

Attachments: Meeting agenda
CWS Submitted Proposal Report

The December 2006 meeting of the Michigan Technological University Center for Water & Society (MTCWS) Advisory Committee (AC) was held December 5, 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
Christine Anderson, representative, Educational Opportunity
Linda Nagel, representative, School of Forest Resources & Env. Science.
Nancy Auer, representative, Biological Sciences
Gary Campbell, representative, School of Business.
Carol Asiala, CWS administrative assistant

1. Minutes from last Meeting

Approved September 19, 2006 minutes.

Two meetings will be scheduled for the Spring 2007 semester during the 6th and 13th weeks of classes. It is requested that the Advisory Committee members submit their schedules to Carol (cjasiala@mtu.edu) for the weeks of Feb. 19 and April 9. Meeting dates and times should be scheduled by the first week of classes.

2. Graduate Student Council Poster Session

CWS participated in the Graduate Student Council Poster Session by providing a second category of prize money. Eight students registered their posters in the CWS Poster competition, and were judged by the CWS representative, Nancy Auer. The students and the GSC were greatly appreciative. As a result, the GSC will be soliciting additional prize categories from other sources on campus.

As a note for next year's competition, it has been recommended that the criteria for topics to be included in the CWS competition be more closely defined.

- First place:** Cory P. McDonald, Engineering – Environmental
(\$175.00) “Modeling copper transport in the sediments of Torch Lake, Houghton County, MI”
- Second place:** Melba D. Apoya-Horton, Biological Sciences
(\$125.00) “Movement Modalities As Adaptive Response To Salinity Changes Of The Mudflat Diatom *Cylindrotheca closterium* (Bacillariophyceae)”
- Third place:** Andrea Munoz Hernandez, Engineering – Environmental
(\$75.00) “Calibration of a water surface model for a basin in a semiarid region: The Rio Yaqui-Basin, Mexico”
- GSC Best Overall:** Agustin Robles Morua, Engineering – Environmental
“A Collaborative Approach to Improve Sanitation in a Marginalized Rural Community in Mexico”
(registered in CWS Poster Competition)

View their posters at <http://www.mtcws.mtu.edu/>

3. Informal Discussions of CWS Research Interests

The first informal research discussion took place on October 10, 2006. Approximately 25 people met to discuss interests in Great Lakes research. As a result of the discussion, a cross-discipline NSF IGERT pre-proposal will be submitted through CWS.

A second informal discussion is planned with the research topic of “**Water and the Developing World**”

4. Submitted Proposals

Four proposals and 1 pre-proposal have been submitted through CWS since July 1, 2006, and 3 projects have been funded.

5. Role of Water in Michigan's Economy Symposium

The Symposium will be held in Traverse City on May 10-11, 2007. The focus will be on how Michigan can attract water related business, technologies, and management companies. Goal is to make Michigan the capital for water technology and services.

Keynote Speaker: Former Michigan Governor William Milliken.

Will apply for funding from the Wege Foundation and National Wildlife Foundation.

6. Note on Conferences for Future Reference

Johnson Wax in Racine, WI sponsors conferences.

7. Freshmen Orientation

Alex Mayer will take the lead in following through on idea of recommending book, sponsoring speaker, taking lead in discussions.

8. CWS Subcommittees

Education Subcommittee organized CWS Poster competition.

Current focus: Develop minor and/or graduate certificate, student memberships, promote travel & research grants.

Members: Nancy Auer, Kathy Halvorsen, Alex Mayer

Nancy Auer will take on the leadership role in leading the committee.

Seminar & Symposia sponsored showing of Inconvenient Truth & Dr. Gallo's presentations.

Current focus: use Seminar funds to sponsor or co-sponsor invited speakers – let departments know that funding is available for water related topics; meet with Mary Ann Beckwith about the Arts & Water festival she suggested for the Fall of 2007.

Members: Noel Urban, Kathy Halvorsen, Chris Anderson, Alex Mayer

Noel Urban will take on the leadership role in leading the committee.

9. World Water Day – March 22, 2007

Kathy Halverson made a pledge to WNMU radio and set it up to be announced that the Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society will be sponsoring a day of broadcasting for World Water Day.

ESC is planning activities for Earth Week (March 19 - 24), and World Water Day falls on the Thursday of that week.

Seminar & Symposia subcommittee will collaborate with ESC to do activities for World Water Day (ex. get Fine Arts students involved with posters or lunch time musical).

10. Focus of CWS

It was decided that no special initiative is needed at this time to focus the goals of the Center for Water & Society.

**CWS advisory committee meeting, Tuesday, 12/05/06, 8-9 am,
Room 426 DOW ESE Building**

Agenda

1. Minutes from 9/19/06 meeting
2. Graduate Student Council Poster Session
3. Informal Discussions of CWS Research Interests
4. Submitted Proposals
5. Role of Water in Michigan's Economy Symposium
6. Note on Conferences for Future Reference
7. Freshmen Orientation
8. CWS Subcommittees
9. World Water Day – March 22, 2007
10. Focus of CWS