



To: Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee
From: Alex Mayer, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society
Date: October 9, 2007
Subject: October 9, 2007 Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee Meeting

Attachments: Meeting agenda
CWS Balance (1st quarter of Fiscal Year 2008)

The October 2007 meeting of the Michigan Technological University Center for Water & Society (MTCWS) Advisory Committee (AC) was held October 9, 2007, 9:00 am in the Dow Environmental Engineering & Sciences room 426. The purpose of this memo is to describe the results of the meeting.

Committee Members Present:

Alex Mayer, Director
Christine Anderson, representative, Educational Opportunity
Nancy Auer, representative, Biological Sciences
Bill Breffle, representative, School of Business
John Gierke, representative, Geological & Mining Eng. & Sci.
Tom Pypker, representative, School of Forest Resources & Env. Science.
Noel Urban, representative, Civil & Environmental Eng.
Carol Asiala, CWS administrative assistant

1. Minutes from last Meeting

Approved April 17, 2007 minutes.

The Advisory Committee will meet next at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 6, 2007.

2. Budget

1st Quarter of Fiscal Year 2008 balance (attached)

3. Director's Report

1. GK-12 proposal was submitted 7/07, and is currently under review. Expecting to hear results some time in December 2007.

2. IGERT pre-proposal not invited, but will be re-submitted in March or April of 2008. It is noted that this will be a limited submission proposal.
3. NSF MUSES grant awarded
 Title: "Collaborative Research: Modeling and Analyzing the Use, Efficiency, Value and Governance of Water as a Material in the Great Lakes Region Through an Integrated Approach"
 PI: Alex Mayer
 Co-PIs: James Mihelcic, David Watkins, Qiong (Jane) Zhang
 Award: \$1,078,322 (September 2007 – September 2012)
4. Funds for Great Lakes Laboratory spearheaded by C. Kerfoot are included in MTU 2009 Capital Outlay Budget Request finalized by the Board of Control on October 4, 2007.
5. World Water Day, 2008

Peter Annin, author of Great Lakes Water wars will be invited for World Water Day in March 2008.

Sandra Postel was also considered, but her honorarium was too high for the CWS budget. The Great Events committee at the Rozsa Center was contacted, and Ms. Postel will be considered for the 2009 Great Events calendar.

Assistance with speakers is also available from the Visiting Women & Minority Scholar Program.

CWS will plan a poster session around World Water Day and Earth Week (celebrated during week of World Water Day). Seminar & Symposia committee will help organize speaker, Peter Annin, and a Poster Session, which will also include art work from Mary Ann Beckwith's students.

6. CWS active in sustainability faculty hiring initiative (SFHI)

Alex Mayer is representing the Center for Water and Society on the committee to determine the areas in which the new faculty will be hired.

7. CWS co-sponsors seminars in Fall 2007: Visser, Croley

Melvyn Visser, Chemical Engineer, MTU Class of 1959
 "Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the Great Lakes:
 Evolution of the Understanding of their Source and Transport"
 September 24, 2007 in DOW 642, 3:00 p.m.

Thomas E. Croley II, Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
 "Great Lakes Hydrology Modeling with the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction

System"

October 8, 2007 in DOW 642, 3:00 p.m.

8. CWS participates in Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative

This grant program is associated the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, and supports initiatives to encourage secondary school students to become stewards of Lake Superior. CWS supported this program by providing a \$600 cost share planning grant and Alex Mayer has been attending the workshops. If funded, CWS faculty and grad student expertise will be used to find and support projects for the secondary students.

9. CWS participates in Shoreline Communities program

Alex Mayer, Noel Urban, and Joan Chadde have participated in a workshop for the cities of Houghton and Hancock to inform local decision-makers how cities can keep the Great Lakes healthy. Another workshop is planned for the Spring of 2008 for L'Anse and Baraga.

4. Proposed goals for fall 2007

1. Improve web page, especially organization of faculty, staff interests.

It has become important to display the interests, expertise and focus of the CWS members for reference to new faculty hiring and for state and federal government representatives looking for expertise in forming water policies.

Participant List: Add small photo of each CWS member, a link to their home page, and short general description of their area of interest.

Research web page: Organize page by Topics of Research. Each topic would list faculty and staff involved, and also the current research projects that support the topic. It was decided that a list of topics would be prepared and CWS members would then select the topic(s) that fit their expertise, interests and research.

2. Degree subcommittee develops "integrated water management" certificate program.

One of the criticisms of the IGERT reviews was innovative graduate education.

Points for Degree subcommittee to consider:

Would a program be created from current classes?

Would new classes be created to support the program?

If a grant provided the setup needed to create a new program, will there be ongoing support to keep the program running on a long-term basis?

3. Invite graduate students to join CWS.

Ask CWS members to provide email addresses of their grad students who have an interest in water, would like to be added to the CWS mailing list for the newsletter, and also be eligible for graduate student travel and research competitions.

GSC poster competition planned for Spring semester – CWS offers separate category of prizes for water-related posters

4. Sponsor graduate student travel and research competitions.

The graduate student travel and research grant application will be updated, and posted on the CWS web page, so that grad students associated with CWS can apply. There will be no deadlines, and applications will be considered on first come-first serve and merit basis, dependent on available CWS funding.

5. Develop international focus area.

It was the goal of CWS to start a new informal research group to focus on international aspects of water. However, it was decided that Alex Mayer would meet with the leaders of the new D80 Center at MTU to set the framework for collaboration on research areas common to both centers.

The D80 Center is dedicated to assisting the most vulnerable 80% of humanity in meeting their basic needs for food, water, shelter, sanitation, waste disposal, energy, income, and education. While water is not the main focus of the D80 Center, it still plays an important role in the lives of the poor. This area will overlap with CWS.

6. State and federal government presence. (Not addressed)

5. Next Meeting

The next CWS Advisory Committee meeting will be held at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 6, 2007.

CWS Advisory Committee Agenda

Tuesday, October 9, 2007 8:00 a.m., DOW 426

1. Minutes from last meeting (4/17/07) (attached)
2. Budget
3. Director's Report
 - GK-12 proposal submitted 7/07
 - IGERT pre-proposal not invited, but will be re-submitted in 08
 - NSF MUSES grant awarded
 - Great Lakes Laboratory included in MTU Capital Outlay
 - Peter Annin, author of Great Lakes Water wars will be invited for World Water Day
 - CWS active in sustainability faculty hiring initiative (SFHI)
 - CWS co-sponsors seminars in fall 2007: Visser, Croley
 - CWS participates in Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative
 - CWS participates in Shoreline Communities program
4. Proposed goals for fall 2007
 - Improve web page, especially organization of faculty, staff interests
 - Degree subcommittee develops "integrated water management" certificate program
 - Invite graduate students to join CWS
 - Sponsor graduate student travel and research competitions
 - Develop international focus area
 - State and federal government presence

MTCWS Balance as of October 8, 2007		
7/1/2007	Beginning Balance	\$5,452.18
7/30/2007	Incentive Return	\$2,910.83
	Carol's Salary & Fringes (July - Sept)	(\$1,271.75)
10/1/2007	Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative Cost Share	(\$600.00)
	Balance as of October 8, 2007	\$6,491.26
	Outstanding Commitments	
	Melvyn Visser Lecture	(\$307.00)
	Thomas Croley Lecture	

