



To: Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee
From: Alex Mayer, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society
Date: January 20, 2009
Subject: January 20, 2009 Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee Meeting
Attachments: Meeting agenda

The January 2009 meeting of the Michigan Technological University Center for Water & Society (MTCWS) Advisory Committee (AC) was held January 20, 2009 at 9:00 am in the Dow Environmental Engineering & Sciences room 873. The purpose of this memo is to describe the results of the meeting.

Committee Members Present:

Alex Mayer, Director
Bill Breffle, representative, School of Business
Tom Pypker, representative, SFRES
Noel Urban, representative, Civil & Environmental Eng.
Kathy Halvorsen, representative, Social Sciences
Joan Chadde, representative, Western U.P. Center for Sci., Math. & Env. Ed.
Chris Anderson, representative, Educational Opportunity
John Gierke, representative, GMES
Carol Asiala, CWS administrative assistant

1. Minutes from last Meeting

Approved October 14, 2008 minutes.

2. Director update – World Water Day Events

Sandra Postel is under contract for a dinner, lecture, and book signing Monday night and one classroom visit.

Action Items: Decide which six people from CWS will be invited to the dinner

The **CWS Seminars and Symposia subcommittee** will determine which class will be chosen for her classroom visit and will plan other activities when her schedule is finalized.

Suggestion: Environmental Engineering Seminar Series in DOW 642 at 3:00 on Monday. Students from other courses invited to attend.

Carol and Joan: The Rosza Center will advertise Sandra Postel's lecture, but separate emails should be sent to area schools, including Finlandia.

CWS Research Poster Competition

The 2 categories of Poster entries will be (1) Research Posters and (2) Coursework / Informational

Action Items: Carol will look into the option of using the Dow lobby areas on 6th & 7th floors for the Poster competition (1/23/2009 – CWS Poster Competition will be held in Dow lobbies)

Tom will contact the Wetland Scientist Student Chapter to encourage their participation in the Poster Competition

Carol will check with Student Affairs to promote Poster Competition

3. Great Lakes Lab

The Great Lakes lab was not discussed at this meeting.

4. CWS colloquium (*Climate Change and the Sustainability of Water Resources*)

The Climate Change and the Sustainability of Water Resources course is currently enrolled with 13 students and 20 additional people have expressed an interest in receiving class material to review and participate in the discussions.

Action Item: Consider the possibility of committing to hold the CWS colloquium course every Spring semester with different topics.

5. CWS Graduate Certificate in Water Resources

Proposed graduate certificate in water resources originated by Nancy Auer and edited by Kathy Halvorsen and Alex Mayer.

Benefits of certificate: (1) Background Introduction characterizing water resource management and water policy issues; (2) certification will make students more attractive to potential employers.

Action Items: The **Degree subcommittee** will update Business courses and add Geology courses. The majority of the certificate courses should be level 4000 and up, but some appropriate 3000 level courses could be included, for example GeoHydrology (GE3850).

If the CWS colloquium course will be required for the certificate, CWS needs to commit to running the colloquium course every Spring with different topics.

Alex will alert the grad school that this proposal is coming as per university procedures for graduate certificate approval.

6. Marty Auer's proposed modeling initiative

The following items were extracted from Marty Auer's **The Great Lakes Systems Modeling Initiative** document, and refer to the involvement of CWS in this initiative.

- the Center for Water & Society would commit to assistance in the identification of agency opportunities for proposal submission, leadership in the generation of proposals that would provide broad-based support for doctoral students (e.g. NSF S-STEM, NSF IGERT), organization

of a satellite-based research colloquium in Great Lakes Systems Modeling and marketing educational opportunities to prospective graduate students;

- the Center for Water and Society will be able to better fulfill its mission as a result of enhanced faculty participation and the opportunity for developing additional alliances with Initiative Partners. New proposals resulting from the activity of cluster faculty would generate economic support for the Center;

It was agreed by the CWS Advisory Committee that CWS could participate in these activities with the current resources of the Center.

Note of Concern: Departments may lose flexibility in assigning graduate school sponsored assistantships.

7. Other items

CWS Budget

Carry Forward Budget (6/30/2008).....	1,206.67
Incentive Returns (from expenditures in APR-SEP 2008).....	8,811.84
Admin Salary/Fringes	-4,026.03
Sandra Postel Honorarium	-2,000.00
Other Speaker Expenses.....	-428.38
Miscellaneous.....	-237.71
Balance (as of 1/19/2009)	\$3,326.39

DVDs on Water Issues

Joan Chadde has started to compile a list of films available for viewing along with a brief synopsis of each film.

Action Item: Process for film selection and viewing will be discussed at the next CWS Advisory Committee meeting.

8. Next Meeting End of February

The next CWS Advisory Committee meeting will tentatively be held at 9:00 on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 in Dow 873

AGENDA - CWS Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Dow 873 9:00 am

1. Director update
2. Great Lakes lab
3. CWS colloquium (Climate Change and the Sustainability of Water Resources)
4. Proposed graduate certificate in water resources (see attached). Please take a look at the attached proposal, originated by Nancy Auer and edited by Kathy Halvorsen and Alex Mayer. I would like to discuss what we hope to accomplish with this certificate, and not necessarily the details of the proposal.
5. Marty Auer's proposed modeling initiative (see attached). Please take a look at Marty's proposal. In the attached, Marty has highlighted the portions of the text that refer to the involvement of CWS in this initiative.