

**ESSC Meeting at NSF
October 16-17, 2008**

Present: Goran Ekstrom, Anne Trehu, Terry Plank, Randy Keller, Bill Holt, Mike Williams, Howard Zebker, Jim Whitcomb (NSF), Kaye Shedlock (NSF).
Jim Davis joined the meeting via telecom on Thursday afternoon.

visitors: Tim Killeen (NSF, Thursday morning), Bob Detrick (NSF, joined the meeting via telecom on Friday morning).

Summary: This was the second meeting of the EarthScope Steering Committee (ESSC) and was held at NSF in order to facilitate discussions with NSF officials. Topics covered included:

- The need for ESSC and NSF to work together to enfranchise a broader science community and bring in scientists who don't directly use the data from the facilities.
- The need to maintain a balance between science directed to clearly defined community goals and investigator-driven projects and increase the visibility of EarthScope and opportunities for cross-divisional funding, particularly collaborations between geo- and computer scientists. All NSF officials noted that EarthScope is well regarded at NSF and that the community can help by providing compelling examples of the science achieved by EarthScope.
- Wording of the program solicitation. Changes updating the solicitation wording and ways to educate the science community on how to get funding were discussed.
- Topics/concerns received from PBO/UNAVCO and USArray/IRIS.
- An "adoption" plan for remaining PBO strainmeters.
- Action items from recent EarthScope Education and Outreach Subcommittee (EEOC) meeting.
- Web site development and addition of new links suggested by the EarthScope CyberInfrastructure Subcommittee (ECISC).
- Development of short, intermediate and long-range plans for cyberinfrastructure.
- Status of and a strategy for advancing Thematic Working Groups (TWGs).
- ESSC self-evaluation.
- Update on EarthScope National Office (ESNO) activities.
- Update on status of planning for EarthScope National Meeting.
- Future workshops.
- EarthScope celebration.

ACTION ITEM: Shedlock will send an simplified version of her EarthScope powerpoint presentation for posting as a resource on the web site.

ACTION ITEM: Everyone should send Shedlock their comments on wording changes to the solicitation. A revised draft, which also includes comments from EEOC, will be distributed via email.

ACTION ITEM: Shedlock and Trehu will draft a document for the web with "helpful hints" on submitting proposals to EarthScope. This will be posted in the "Funding" section of the the "Science" web page along with the EEOSC document suggesting some ways to broaden research impact.

ACTION ITEM: Shedlock will draft a message to the community regarding strainmeter availability. Ekstrom will inform Miller and Jackson of this approach.

ACTION ITEM: Shedlock will distribute relevant sections of NSF "Committee of Visitors" report on EarthScope.

ACTION ITEM: Davis will email list of EEOSC Action Items to ESSC.

ACTION ITEM: Davis and the EEOSC should prepare a draft "ownership" document for discussion at the December telecon.

ACTION ITEM: Williams will follow up on invitation from SERC as another way of getting EarthScope into undergraduate programs.

ACTION ITEM: NSF will let ESNO know when a specific E&O product is funded as part of a grant. Note added after the meeting: it would also be useful to be informed when a "data product" for use by other scientists is funded as part of a grant.

ACTION ITEM: Trehu will ask Blackman to set up accounts and folder for ESSC, EEOSC and ECISC on the "Knowledge Tree" (if this hasn't already been done) and send out an email on how to use it. (Note added after meeting: We can make a list of documents that should be there during our next conference call.)

ACTION ITEM: Trehu will distribute telecon summaries for comment. Request feedback by Oct 27. Summaries will be posted by Nov. 1.

ACTION ITEM: Keller will send Trehu a list of useful links that has already been compiled along with short descriptions of these "products." These will be added to the existing "Science" page under "data products" and "resources." This information can be passed on and added to the web site as it becomes available.

ACTION ITEM: Before the November telecom, Keller, Williams, Zebker and the CI committee should prepare and circulate a draft plan focused on the short term that responds to the charge agreed on in July.

ACTION ITEM: ECISC will prepare a document elaborating on a plan to address each element of their charge. (timeline for this? TBD at next telecon or in discussions at AGU?)

ACTION ITEM: Trehu will ask Blackman to set up a button on the web site for people to join (and quit) TWGs ASAP.

ACTION ITEM: ESNO will send a message to the EarthScope list-serve prior to AGU explaining the TWGs, asking people to join working groups by signing up on the web, and inviting people to the AGU Town Hall Meeting. This information will also be available on a flyer distributed at EarthScope booth at AGU.

ACTION ITEM: Linda Warren will assign each EarthScope-funded PI to a TWG and send this list to ESSC.

ACTION ITEM: Prior to ESNO, Plank/Holt or TWG co-chairs will send each PI an email telling them which group they have been assigned to, outlining the responsibilities of the TWGs and inviting them to use the web site to comment on TWG objectives and/or to change TWGs. (note: this letter can be modified from the generic letter about TWGs sent to the entire EarthScope listserve. ESNO has email list for EarthScope PI).

ACTION ITEM: Plank will write up the action items associated with TWGs and assign target dates to milestones.

ACTION ITEMS: ESNO will design a template for TWGs that Blackman can implement. Input will be requested from TWG chairs on template design.

ACTION ITEM: BH and AT will incorporate changes from ESSC discussion into next version of the program, which will be discussed by the planning committee. Revised program will be distributed to ESSC by email.

ACTION ITEM: Plank will write up a short paragraph for the EarthScope website on how to propose a workshop.

ACTION ITEM: Trehu will follow up with Joan Gomberg about the status of the proposal for a Chapman conference on ETS.