

PAGES SSC 2021 Meeting Minutes

Online, 17-21 May 2021

PRESENT

SSC: Asfawossen Asrat (AA), Ed Brook (EB), Emilie Capron (EC), Cristiano Chiessi (CMC), Mike Evans (MNE), Eugenia Ferrero (EF); Aster Gebrekirstos (AG), Lindsey Gillson (LG), Aixue Hu (AH), Elena Ivanova (EI), Zhimin Jian (ZJ, Co-chair), Katrin Meissner (KJM), Keely Mills (KMS), Pradeep Srivastava (PS), Willy Tinner (WT, Co-chair), Tamara Trofimova (TT), Paul Valdes (PJV), Boris Vannière (BV), Liping Zhou (LZ).

IPO: Marie-France Loutre (MFL), Sarah Eggleston (SSE), Angela Wade (AW).

Future Earth: Gilles Marciniak (GM).

1. Introduction and miscellaneous (WT)

1.1 Welcome and new to PAGES and PAGES IPO

WT welcomed all and thanked everyone for joining from different time zones.

1.2 ECA Award

Alicja Bonk was announced as the first Early-Career Award winner, to be presented at 2022 OSM.

1.3 Approval of the Minutes from 2020 SSC Meeting & outstanding action items

Decision: Unanimous approval of 2020 minutes.

Discussions were held about Wikipedia entry creation.

Decision: MNE to create a first attempt for a stub with LG, AA, CMC.

Action: AW to send MNE the previous attempts to show what was not accepted.

1.4 Approval of 2021 Meeting Agenda

Decision: Unanimous approval.

2. IPO news and Finances (MFL)

2.1 IPO updates

Discussed new staff/staff changes – Monika Hofer (Finance) is leaving, to be replaced by Ursula Widmer. Angela Wade (Comms) is leaving, to be replaced by Chené van Rensburg. Guest scientist/student Chloé Dhaille working on a paper, from France. Discussed the new website; SCNAT resubmission due next year in June; short updates about the partners WCRP, WDS-Paleo and Uni Bern.

2.2 Funding overview

Discussed SCNAT and CAS funding, Uni Bern support and Future Earth grant.

2.3 Budget Overview 2021 and 2.4 Budget Overview 2022 (combined discussion)

Decision: 2022 budget approved.

3. Review of PAGES Working Groups (All)

3.1 New graphic to replace the triangle

PAGES has a new spherical graphic which includes time. Six elements: air, life, society, water, ice, and land. To be implemented asap.

3.2 How can WGs be more open?

Discussion about WGs who have been successful in attracting new members.

Action: IPO to ask Iso2k and SISAL to hold a webinar for all WGs on how to activate the group and illustrate strategies for doing this.

Action: AW to add to all WG pages that ECR contribution is welcome (*done*).

Action: AW to add SSC liaison to WG pages or IPO contact in case people not getting responses from leaders on sidebar and People pages (*done*).

Action: AW to add to WG application form that “deep past” groups are also welcome (*done*).

3.3 Working Group (WG) discussions

PAGES currently has 15 WGs, in various stages, plus the Early-Career Network (ECN). Some WGs will sunset at the end of the year, while some have just started.

Discussions were held about various groups, where necessary, and feedback collated for group leaders.

Decision: AH replaces KJM as ACME liaison but she will send report and introduce AH *(done)*.

Decision: LZ replaces MNE as C-PEAT liaison but MNE will send report and introduce LY.

Decision: AH replaces KJM as C-SIDE liaison but she will send report and introduce AH *(done)*.

Decision: AG replaces LG as DiverseK liaison but LG will send report and introduce AG.

Decision: KMS replaces CMC as LandCover6k liaison but he will send report and introduce KMS *(done)*.

Decision: PS replaces AA as SISAL liaison but AA will send report and introduce PS.

Decision: PJV replaces MNE as VICS liaison but MNE will send report and introduce PJV.

4. Vision for PAGES' future (MNE)

Discussions held about the past PAGES survey; how to make PAGES more open and global and potential new activities.

Action: IPO to investigate the idea of WG leader summit.

Action: IPO to contact DiverseK to further discuss stakeholders/policy implementation and ideas.

5. Proposals for new PAGES Working Groups (All)

5.1 Data requirements for new PAGES WGs

Discussions were held regarding data stewardship and working group reporting.

Action: AW to add text to 2022 annual report template that if the WG cannot or did not meet the required "plans for data" they must provide an explanation why *(done)*.

5.2 Proposals

Two applications were received. One for a new working group PaleoEcoGen; the second for a Phase 2 of PEOPLE 3000. SSC members provided written feedback before the meeting and additional discussions were held in the meeting.

Action: EXCOM members to include SSC feedback in decision-making process.

6. Proposals for Data Stewardship Scholarship

6.1 What should the DSS Support

SSC members discussed how the funding should be spent.

Decision: PAGES won't pay for publication costs, just the scholar's reimbursement.

6.2 Proposals

Eight applications were received from PAGES working groups. SSC members provided written feedback before the meeting and additional discussions were held in the meeting.

Action: EXCOM members to include SSC feedback in decision-making process.

Action: Before next call, IPO to check wording of DSS application document to make sure we are asking for the information we need. A more detailed budget, for example.

7. Meeting support proposals

7.1 What should be done with previous allocated workshop funding

Due to COVID-19 disruptions, some workshops were not held in person and the funding allocated was therefore not used. SSC members discussed plans for the unused funding.

Decision: After two years, WGs must apply for new funding (not a new decision, IPO already notified WGs of this decision). If they can complete the tasks in two years, can use the money allocated. Or if they want to have a new workshop must apply again.

Action: Joining of past allocated (unused) funding with new application funding to be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

7.2 Should we increase funding limits for workshops?

The amount of financial support PAGES provides for workshops has remained consistent for the past 10 years. SSC members provided feedback.

Action: EXCOM members to include SSC feedback in decision-making process.

7.3 Workshop proposals

Three PAGES working groups applied for workshop support. Human Traces, QUIGS and DiverseK. SSC members provided written feedback before the meeting and additional discussions were held in the meeting.

Action: EXCOM members to include SSC feedback in decision-making process.

7.4 How to make workshops more open?

Discussions were held about how to encourage more participation at working group workshops.

Action: Encourage Hybrid meetings in application form. AW to add wording to docs (*done*).

Action: IPO to add section into workshop dossier about co-funding/where other funding comes from (*done*).

8. Integrative Activities

PAGES currently has three Integrative Activities. Discussions were held about their future and if new IAs should be created.

8.1 Data Stewardship

Decision: Keep Data Stewardship as an IA for now.

Action: AW to remove all names from Data Stewardship section on website – SSE said this is ok (*done*).

8.2 Extreme Events and risks

Action: IA leaders to have better/closer work with WGs. When IA leaders have that, look at the goals for data coverage to cover the global level.

8.3 Thresholds and tipping points

Action: PS to investigate further TSM options.

Action: Leaders to contact working groups to come up with a new goal.

Action: Plan a tipping points and risks TSM?

Decision: No new IAs to be created for now.

9. PAGES ECN update (TT)

TT provided a presentation before the meeting for SSC members to read and prepare questions. This is the fourth year of the Early-Career Network (ECN). The structure has changed with the introduction of Activity Clusters/projects and there are significant changes in the leadership group. ECN WG liaisons are being more active and plans are underway for a webinar series with WG liaisons. The Regional Representatives (RRs) are working well and have been instrumental in many activities.

Translation options were discussed/issues raised. Potential for closed caption subtitles or providing the written text for webinars etc.

Action: TT and ECN to look into PowerPoint translation as an option.

New Steering Committee members are being sought.

Action: All SSC members to advise potential candidates of this opportunity for the ECN SC (leaders) call for application. SSC to recommend people from their regions for the ECN to contact (*done*).

During the past year, discussions were held via email about unconventional outreach activities, proposed by former ECN SSC representative Stella Alexandroff.

Action: MFL to forward the list of ideas to TT and SSC (*done*).

Action: MFL to follow up with Stella and/or ECN.

The SSC congratulated the ECN on another outstanding year.

10. SSC and EXCOM (All)

10.1 Current SSC membership

End of 2021, AA, CMC, MNE, LG and KJM will finish on SSC (and MNE and KJM on EXCOM).

End of 2022, EB and WT will finish their tenure (WT as Co-Chair).

10.2 Organizational structure

MFL joined the EXCOM.

10.3 Second terms up for renewal

BV and PJV indicated in writing before the meeting they are willing to serve second terms starting 2022.

Decision: Both approved for second terms.

10.4 Nominations for 2022

Applications from 15 candidates discussed at length. Discussion about how many candidates should be chosen, plus geographic and gender distributions.

Action: EXCOM members to include SSC member feedback in decision-making process.

Action: SSC to encourage Chinese and American nominations next round.

Action: IPO to remind KJM when call is announced for her to contact modeling colleagues.

11. TSM/OSM/YSM and other upcoming meetings (MFL)

11.1 What to do with the TSMs?

Topical Science Meetings (TSMs) have been proposed as a potential vehicle for collaborative discussions/workshops. To date, none have been held. The TSM could fill the gap between the small workshops and the bigger meetings.

Action: EC to write a short text about how successful the PALSEA-QUIGS meeting was, to add to the website.

Action: No action or decision for now.

Action: Could there be a WG steering committee meeting at the OSM to spark ideas?

Action: BV to expand on ideas for Paleoscience Outreach Meeting. Should there be a task force?

Decision: More financial support needs to be provided to encourage WGs to work together.

Action: Get WG SC members to meet at OSM and discuss future plans for a TSM together.

11.2 OSM and YSM 2022

The 6th Open Science Meeting (OSM) and 4th Young Scientists Meeting (YSM) have been postponed from May 2021 to May 2022. Discussions were held about the 2022 possibilities.

Decision: Discussions to be held with Local Organizing Committee in July 2021.

Discussions were held about when the next OSM/YSM should be held, considering the delay.

Decision: We will wait to make decision about the next OSM dates until after Morocco.

Decision: Keep the meetings spaced between INQUA Congresses.

11.3 PAGES SSC Meeting in 2022

This will take place in Morocco, after the OSM; potentially in Marrakech. Discussions were held about having an online element of the SSC Meeting in March 2022 to discuss new working group, workshop applications etc.

Decision: No SSC Meeting in March, just in May with everyone discussing and will still have Appendix M etc.

11.3.2 SSC meeting in 2023

Decision: Late May in Beijing. LZ will host.

Action: Chinese delegates to start thinking about May 2023 SSC Meeting and associated TSM ideas.

11.4 AGU, EGU and other larger meetings

Mention of several larger meetings where PAGES could be present.

11.5 PASES workshop

The PASES-INQUA ECR workshop has been postponed until November 2022.

12. African and Latin American/Caribbean Fellowships (MFL)

Two new Fellowship programs are underway. One for Africa (with AAS) and the other with Latin America and the Caribbean (IAI). The programs will offer ECRs a small grant to attend labs in countries other than their own.

Action: Final details to be announced soon.

13. PAGES Products and Communication (SSE & AW)

13.1 PAGES Magazine

There have been four magazines in the past 14 months. Discussions were held regarding upcoming magazine issue topics.

Decisions: Oct/Nov 2021: PMIP (Pascale Braconnot, PJV, KJM); Mar/Apr 2022: Integrating paleoecology and restoration ecology (UN Decade of Restoration Ecology) (LG, WT, Cathy Whitlock, Peter Gell); Apr/May 2023: PASES (ECN Issue) (Xavier Benito), Oct/Nov 2023: Paleo and sustainability issue (LG, AG, GM, KMS); Apr/May 2024: DEEPICE (EC, Amaelle Landais, ECRs)

Action: Still need an Oct/Nov 2022 topic.

13.2 PAGES Horizons

The first issue of Past Global Changes Horizons was published in April 2021, with much success and interest. Plans are underway for the second issue, for mid-2022.

Discussions were held on finances and budget, manpower hours, topics, translations into other languages and other points arising from the first publication.

Decision: Keep the funding allocation for issue two the same as issue one.

Decision: Task force will decide on translation expenses and any other actions for Horizons.

Action: SSC members to nominate themselves for translation. Contact BV.

13.3 Communications wrap

AW gave communications output breakdown.

14. Endorsed & Affiliated Activities (All, Appendix D)

Time was running short. Brief discussions on the following items.

14.1 Review of Endorsed and Affiliated Activities (Appendix D)

Decision: AG will be the new SSC reporter for IHOPE.

Decision: LZ will be the new SSC reporter for HDRG.

14.2 DEEPICE

The DEEPICE project started January 2021 and will run for four years. PAGES is involved in many ways.

Coediting a magazine issue. All articles written by students about their projects. MFL and Hubertus Fischer will help us organize a training school.

14.3 GCI-12k

MNE gave an update about the proposal for this activity, which was approved for endorsement last year but has not launched yet.

15. Report on EXCOM recommendations (WT)

15.1 Decisions from the EXCOM

New working groups

Decision: PaleoEcoGen accepted.

Decision: PEOPLE 3000 Phase 2 accepted.

Data Stewardship Scholarship

Decision: All accepted for one year, and every application requires a detailed budget.

Meeting support proposals

Decision: Human Traces supported.

Decision: QUIGS supported.

Decision: DiverseK not supported.

Increase funding limits for workshops?

Decision: Increased allocations for two calls: end of 2021, and first call of 2022 (sometime in late March or early April).

Action: AW to add this new amount to workshop call home page on website (*done*).

New SSC members for 2022

Decision: Martin Grosjean, Ilham Bouimetarhan, Fabrice Lambert will be invited to join the SSC.

Action: MFL will send names to Future Earth *(done)*.

Action: MFL to contact the three incoming members *(done)*.

15.2 Liaison officers for new WGs

Decision: BV to be liaison for PaleoEcoGen.

Decision: WT to remain liaison for PEOPLE 3000.

WT reminded SSC about WG annual reports: SSC WG liaisons to contact their groups and cc IPO with feedback from Appendix M and from SSC Meeting.

Action: As soon as possible, WG liaisons to send feedback to WG leaders and cc IPO.

16. Future Earth

Our new Future Earth liaison is Gilles Marciniak (GM). Former liaison Hannah Moersberger provided a presentation before the meeting.

Discussions were held about recent developments. Global Research Projects (GRPs) and Knowledge-Action Networks (KANs) will be renamed Global Research Networks (GRNs). The Global Hubs are restructuring too.

Discussions were held about a potential TSM with Future Earth themes.

PAGES is involved in three KANs - Natural Assets (on hold?), Ocean and Risk.

The chance for PAGES to join COP26 (Glasgow, November 2021) activities with Future Earth was discussed.

Action: KMS to think about attending?

Action: MFL to contact GM and to ask how we can contribute, how to sell PAGES *(done)*.

17. Any other business

17.1 Predatory journals (MFL and AA)

The prevalence of “predatory” journals continues to grow. AA gave a presentation, as he is part of the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) committee which is focusing on this issue. Details for the infographic and brochure: <https://www.interacademies.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Results%20from%20a%20Survey%20on%20Combating%20Predatory%20Academic%20Journals%20and%20Conferences.pdf>; <https://www.interacademies.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Trifold-brochure.pdf>

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Action: AA to send any additional information to IPO for distribution. Possible magazine article?

Action: TT to contact ECN and AA about a potential ECN webinar.

17.2 Translations into other languages – PAGES website, ECN translation ideas

Discussions started with plans for Horizons article translations and then proceeded to website translation ideas.

Action: SSC members to translate Horizons articles where possible. Contact BV.

17.3 SCNAT (WT) and broadening financial support

WT mentioned Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) is very happy with PAGES. SSC should assist in the search for broader and more international funding.

Action: SSC members to explore financial support ideas in their countries.

17.4 New EXCOM members

The procedure to replace two outgoing EXCOM members (MNE and KJM) will start soon. Two SSC members will become new EXCOM members, in a two-round selection process.

Action: Proceed as normal (in September).

Action: MFL to do poll/set dates for next EXCOM Meeting *(done)*.

17.5 Increasing the IPO staff

Discussions were held about potential increase (e.g. additional science officer) of IPO staff to focus on certain projects.

Action: Wait to see what or if needed.

End of meeting