

**PAGES SSC MEETING**  
**5-6 May 2008—Cape Town, South Africa**  
**MINUTES**

*PRESENT SSC*

Julie Brigham-Grette (joined 6 May) (Co-Chair), José Carriquiry, Jérôme Chappellaz, John Dearing, Zhongli Ding (joined 5 May afternoon), Pierre Francus, Peter Kershaw, Takeshi Nakatsuka, Bette Otto-Bliesner, Michael Schulz, Mohammed Umer, Ricardo Villalba, Heinz Wanner (Co-Chair), Cathy Whitlock, Eric Wolff, João Morais (partial attendance) (IGBP)

*PRESENT IPO*

Louise Newman (Science Officer), Thorsten Kiefer (Executive Director)

*ABSENT*

Eystein Jansen

*GUESTS*

Louis Brown (U.S. NSF, Directorate for Geosciences)

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### Actions

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## **1. Introduction & Miscellaneous**

(Julie was delayed one day. Heinz chaired the meeting on the first day.) Heinz welcomed everyone to the meeting, presented the new SSC members, and invited all members to introduce themselves.

### ***1.1 Approval of Minutes from Past Meetings***

Heinz called for comment on the Minutes for the SSC and EXCOM meetings in Australia (2007). There were no amendments.

**Decision**      **Minutes from past meetings were approved.**

### ***1.2 IPO Staff***

There have been no changes to the IPO staff over the last year.

### ***1.3 Visiting Scientist Program***

Thorsten reported on the recent guest scientists that had visited the PAGES IPO. Discussion was opened for suggestions on possible future PAGES guests. Heinz commented that Nick Graham from Scripps had shown interest in visiting to work on the Paleoclimate Reconstruction Challenge. Bette mentioned that she might visit in August. Jérôme enquired as to whether it was a problem if no scientists were lined up to visit. Thorsten answered that it was not a problem but usually a benefit if visitors came and that the SSC should make the option known. José enquired as to the scope of scientific visits and Thorsten answered that it was generally for focused work on PAGES issues.

## **2. Finances**

### ***2.1 Funding Overview***

Thorsten outlined the funding for 2008/09. Heinz summarized the requirements of the short Swiss NSF proposal required for the final grant year of 2009/10. Louis Brown gave an overview of NSF funding for the next year.

### ***2.2 Budget Overview 2008/2009***

Thorsten gave an overview of the budget and explained that losses due to exchange rate fluctuations were in the order of US\$ 30,000 of the annual budget. Discussions followed on funding possibilities for the YSM and OSM.

**Decision**      **Budget for 2008/2009 was approved.**

## **3. PAGES Products**

### ***3.1. Website***

Thorsten summarized the website statistics and pointed out the most popular webpages and products. It was noted that the current statistical software counted every attempt to download, even if unsuccessful. Thorsten explained that a new software package would overcome this problem and that the download capacity of the server would increase with the move of the IPO to the University of Bern. Bette asked whether the new software would allow us to see from which country the downloads came but Thorsten replied that this would not be possible.

### **3.1.1 PAGES Information**

Thorsten explained that the IPO had replaced the old science structure on the website with the new structure but that the IPO needed input from the SSC on the text for the Foci and CCTs. Jérôme suggested that the PAGES newsletter and website be advertized more, e.g., on the Real Climate website, and that the IPO get in touch with Gavin Schmidt to make a small announcement that newsletter articles were available free of charge. Heinz commented that the YSM would also be a good platform to inform young scientists about the newsletter.

**Action IPO to look into possible platforms to advertize PAGES newsletter.**

### **3.1.2 PAGES Product Database**

Michael mentioned that the first Info Sheet was difficult to find on the website. Thorsten said that it would be added to the Product Database.

### **3.1.3 PAGES People Database**

Thorsten commented that subscriptions had continued to increase steadily.

### **3.1.4 National PAGES**

Louise updated the SSC on the status of the National PAGES. John suggested advertizing it more and showing a map of the National Contacts. Thorsten agreed that dots showing location could be added to the National PAGES map. John also suggested getting the National Contacts more involved by inviting them to SSC meetings held in their country. Louis Brown enquired about National Committees. Thorsten replied that PAGES did not have any and that ties with the IGBP National Committees rarely reached down to project level.

**Decision IPO to indicate the location of national contacts on the online map.**

**Decision PAGES national contacts to be invited to SSC meetings held in their country.**

### **3.1.5 Other Website Items**

Thorsten outlined the status of the metadatabases and the Data Portal. Bette mentioned that she had recently visited the LOTRED-SA metadatabase and had been frustrated by the lack of data that was publicly available; even if it had already been published, the user was still directed to contact the author. Michael questioned the seeming duplication of effort between the large data centers and the metadatabases. Heinz and Thorsten both argued that the PAGES metadatabases were useful, as scientists with regional reconstructions wanted a place to put data before publication. These databases only included metadata; the contributors should eventually feed their actual data into the larger databases. Thorsten reiterated that PAGES did not want to work against the world databases but rather assist data compilations. The regional databases within research groups would encourage contributors to add their data to the world databases. Michael added that PAGES should announce very clearly that this should be done.

**Action PAGES to advertize with the metadatabases the importance of submitting data to world data centers.**

## **3.2 Newsletters**

Louise provided an overview of the newsletter issues published in the last year and an outline of the remaining issues to be published in 2008. Eric volunteered to co-guest edit the Bipolar Paleoscience issue and would discuss whether this was necessary with Julie.

Topics for future issues were then discussed:

- Careers in Paleoscience – either an entire special section or one article per newsletter (these could be put on the website as a dossier of careers/interviews or made into Info Sheets). It was noted that for an entire issue to be devoted to careers, the articles would need to go beyond anecdotal outlines and be global enough to represent the international situation. The decision was made to postpone the idea until after the YSM and to discuss the usefulness of the idea with the young scientists.
- Paleofire – Cathy agreed to guest edit this special section, to be published as the first issue in 2009.
- Lake records – long records from large lakes, based on ICDP and focusing on EPICA timescales from lake records. Peter suggested focusing on the continental drilling program as a whole but Thorsten replied that PAGES should not advertize a particular program. Pierre suggested the topic of “lake records of global significance”.
- Abrupt changes – Bette suggested that past tipping points for informing the future could fit with this topic and that the U.S. Climate Change Science Program Public Review Draft on Abrupt Climate Change had just been posted.
- Ocean and land records– Michael asked if PAGES could address integrated studies aiming to bring ocean and land together. Thorsten replied that the science question behind the comparison would still need to be decided in Focus 3. Michael suggested advertizing potential links between IODP and ICDP.
- Foci oriented issue
- Future projections – John suggested promoting paleoresearch with regard to future projections (flooding and drought hot spots: integrating regional information that underpins the projections).
- Biotic response to environmental change – potentially a joint issue with IMBER. Ideas included bringing the biogeochemical and ecosystem response together; that each article could describe an ecological response and then the feedback that results from it; and focusing on the challenges rather than what is already known. It was decided that the IPO should first talk with IMBER to find out where the commonalities were.

### ***3.3 Special Issues/Synthesis Articles***

See section 3.4 below.

### ***3.4 Publications in Preparation***

Thorsten asked the SSC if any publications had been omitted from the list. Cathy asked whether the paleofire synthesis papers should be included and Bette similarly suggested PMIP papers. Thorsten replied that it was sometimes difficult to draw the line on PAGES credit for a product. Cathy answered that if it made the papers available to more people then it was a positive thing.

**Action**      **IPO to add paleofire and PMIP papers to list of publications/products.**

### ***3.5 Posters and Flyers***

Not discussed.

## **4. Funded Workshops and Initiatives**

### ***4.1 2007 Funded Workshops and Initiatives***

Thorsten briefly outlined the workshops and initiatives that PAGES had supported during 2007 and asked if there were meetings or resulting products that had been omitted. Pierre named the radiocarbon and ice-core chronologies workshop, and Cathy the paleofire and AIMES young

scientist fire workshops. Heinz reiterated that it was difficult for the IPO to keep track of workshop products and that PAGES workshop liaisons should help with this task, which was important for future funding. Heinz suggested that the PAGES liaison should receive a copy of the workshop contract (although it was agreed that PAGES liaisons should not micromanage workshops).

## ***4.2 2008 Funded Workshops and Initiatives***

It was agreed that approval of workshop funding via email in between proposal calls, such as sometimes occurred as an exception in very special cases, was not efficient and that proposals should only be considered if submitted for the advertized deadline.

**Decision**      **IPO to strictly enforce workshop deadlines.**

## ***4.3 Pending Workshop Proposals***

Thorsten summarized the open call and PAGES initiative proposals, and clarified that PAGES could provide approx. \$10,000 for the open calls and support all the initiatives, if appropriate. The SSC then provided feedback on the proposals, which would later be decided on at the EXCOM meeting.

(6 May) Heinz informed the SSC of the EXCOM decisions on the workshops and initiatives proposals. He repeated that with the financial restrictions, a strong emphasis had been put on PAGES initiatives.

**Decision**      **SSC approved the funding of PAGES Open Call and Initiatives.**

## ***4.4 Upcoming Large Meetings***

Julie requested ideas for special sessions for EGU and AGU. Bette remarked that the sessions that worked best at AGU were those that had a theme but were not too focused (e.g., bipolar), and that past, present and future themes were good for bringing communities together.

Suggestions included:

- Reconstructions of SST's or sea ice (latter perhaps better as a workshop).
- Arctic 2K (Heinz in discussion with Nalan Koç about EGU).
- Sea level (only attracted a small number of abstracts at the last AGU)
- LOTRED follow-up (expensive to support people)
- Comparing past interglacials (ESF conference on past interglacials in June 6 - 11 2009).
- Union session on tipping points, hotspots, abrupt transitions
- Land-ocean-atmosphere connections

Heinz gave an overview of the PAGES/NCCR Summer School. The organizing committee will consist of two representatives from NCCR, two from PAGES (Louise and Thorsten) and Heinz.

## **5. SSC & EXCOM Membership**

### ***5.1 Current SSC Members***

Heinz reminded the SSC that the only member rotating off at the end of 2008 was Julie but that Bette, Cathy and Mohammed would complete their first term then, and that their approval for a second term was required. Previous discussions via email had confirmed Bette's second term and consequent position as Co-Chair. Heinz called for discussion on the second terms of Cathy and Mohammed.

**Decision** Cathy Whitlock and Mohammed Umer were unanimously approved for a second term.

## **5.2 New EXCOM Members**

Bette and Ricardo were welcomed as the new EXCOM members for 2008.

## **5.3 New SSC Members**

Heinz invited the SSC to comment on the nominees. Bette reminded the SSC that since there must always be a U.S. Co-Chair, it was important to take nationality into account when considering candidates for the future.

(6 May) Heinz reported on EXCOM's deliberations about new membership and asked the SSC for their opinion on the shortlisted candidates.

**Decision** Steve Colman and Fatima Abrantes were nominated to the SSC for 2009.  
**Action** IPO to seek IGBP approval of PAGES nominated SSC members.

## **6. Reports on Research and Activities**

### **6.1 PAGES Science Plan and Implementation Strategy**

Thorsten informed the SSC about the status of the SPIS. Extensive discussions followed about the names of each of the Foci and CCTs, and who the leaders should be. Later discussions also resulted in the proposition and approval of a new CCT on modeling. The final decisions were as follows:

Focus 1 – Climate Forcings

Leaders: Jérôme Chappellaz, Bette Otto-Bliesner

Focus 2 – Regional Climate Dynamics

Leaders: José Carriquiry, Eystein Jansen, Heinz Wanner, Cathy Whitlock

Focus 3 – Global Earth-System Dynamics

Leaders: Zhongli Ding, Peter Kershaw, Takeshi Nakatsuka, Michael Schulz, Eric Wolff

Focus 4 – Past Human-Climate-Ecosystem Interactions

Leaders: John Dearing, Mohammed Umer

CCT1 – Chronology

Leaders: Pierre Francus

CCT2 – Proxy Development, Calibration and Validation

Leaders: José Carriquiry, Ricardo Villalba

CCT3 – Modeling

Leaders: Bette Otto-Bliesner, Michael Schulz

CCT4 – Data management

Leaders: IPO

CCT5 – Dissemination and Outreach

Leaders: Julie Brigham-Grette, Louise Newman

[Note: The IPO has since proposed that CCT5 be omitted (see 6.2 below).]

**Action** SSC to complete SPIS Foci text by the end of the IGBP Congress.

## **6.2 PAGES Research Activities**

### **F1: Climate Forcings**

Jérôme outlined the idea behind Focus 1 and updated the SSC on the relevant recent and future workshops and meetings (AGU 2007 session, sea level workshop, PMIP2, PIGS, EPICA).

Discussion followed regarding the identification/definition of “forcing”. It was agreed that F1 leaders would need to discuss what was defined as a forcing. Heinz added that the distinction could be made between primary and secondary forcings. This was to be clarified within the SPIS text of Focus 1. Discussions then turned to the gaps in the knowledge of forcings and how Focus 1 could fill these.

### **F2: Regional Climate Reconstructions**

Heinz briefed the SSC on the status of Focus 2. The connection to CLIVAR was brought up and the absence of an ocean group within the structure was also mentioned. Debate followed about the timescales to be covered. Thorsten commented that while the original structure of F2 had included older timescales, the 2k regional groups were the only active groups within this Focus. Bette gave the CAPE Last Interglacial Group as an example of another group working on longer timescales. She stressed that PAGES should not dictate the science but rather reach out to find the researchers to cover the needs. Heinz agreed that longer timescales needed to be represented and called for input and help with coordinating these into the Focus. PIGS and IPICS were both identified as having links with Focus 2.

**Decision**      **Cathy and José are to help Heinz and Eystein in leading Focus 2.**

### **F3: Global Earth-System Dynamics**

The goals and structure of Focus 3, and how to make a clear separation from Focus 2 were discussed. After lengthy debate, it was generally accepted that Focus 2 would look at regional reconstructions without inter-connections, and Focus 3 would look at the dynamics of interaction between the regions.

Thorsten pointed out that Focus 3 was presently composed of three Working Groups that had the unifying theme of looking at global scale perspectives but that the connection between them was loose and needed to be defined in the SPIS text.

- Global Monsoon: Zhongli outlined his thoughts on monsoon research.
- Past Ocean Biogeochemistry: Takeshi informed the SSC that he was organizing a joint workshop with IMBER and SOLAS on paleo-biogeochemistry in the Pacific Ocean.
- BIPOMAC: While the overall status of the Working Group was unclear, Julie outlined several conference sessions that were being held, including a session at the International Geological Congress, where she would try to map out future BIPOMAC workshops to bring records together. The joint SCAR/IASC conference and the upcoming PAGES/CLIVAR permafrost session were also noted as having relevance for BIPOMAC.

Peter mentioned the Land-Atmosphere-Ocean Connections, which was previously a strong component of F3, but did not appear to be encompassed in the new discussions of the focus. Peter then outlined the idea behind the topic and its position in F3 was then discussed.

**Decision**      **Michael, Eric, Takeshi and Zhongli are to be the new leaders of Focus 3.**  
**Action**        **Focus 3 leaders to send new SPIS text, including clarified goals, to Thorsten.**



#### **F4: Human-Climate-Environment Interactions**

John outlined the current status of Focus 4. John described the role of the new working group INTEMODS, which would provide an upscaling and synthesis approach to the regional case studies. The goal was to produce syntheses at larger scales (global) of past land-cover changes, past changes in water quality and quantity, past changes in soil erosion/stability, and human impact/effects in climate/environment hotspots. John also mentioned that the key people within each working group had changed; LIMPACS is now led by Roland Hall and Peter Gell, LUCIFS by Nick Preston and Thomas Hoffmann, HITE by Marie-José Gaillard and Scott Mooney.

The SSC discussed the need to link the webpages of the working groups to the PAGES website. Thorsten raised the issue that with the addition of INTEMODS, the Focus hierarchy was very large. John replied that all of the working groups had active communities with workshops, etc, and that INTEMODS was to be the main focus. He argued that the other active working groups should remain, particularly as they were not a burden on PAGES. The need to include more people from other parts of the globe was also mentioned as an important goal for this Focus.

#### **CCT1: Chronology (formerly Chronostratigraphy)**

Pierre presented this CCT as the successor to Frank Sirocko, who had indicated since his departure from the SSC that he would not be able to continue taking the lead. Pierre outlined some of the changes that had been made to the goals and the text in the SPIS. In addition to the goals of “promotion of absolute dating” and “event stratigraphy”, the new goal of “chronostratigraphic dating” had been added, in order to focus on tools that were not sensitive to leads and lags (e.g., tephra and paleomagnetism). Discussion followed about the importance of the goal of establishing a high-resolution sea level master curve. Michael felt that this topic did not fit in CCT1 and should be included in Focus 1, since sea level could be considered to be a forcing (albedo).

Extensive discussions followed on a number of chronology communities that could provide potential links with CCT1. The idea to set up a new SPECMAP initiative to produce references on EPICA timescales was also discussed and Thorsten requested ideas from interested parties for the upcoming André Berger meeting. Julie added that collaboration with INQUA was important and reminded the SSC of the previously discussed INQUA/PAGES workshop proposals.

Pierre summarized the ultimate goal of the CCT as the establishment of a set of regional master curves, ideally with annual resolution (varves, etc.), good paleomagnetic and tephra records and climate variation sensitivity, so as to enable the event stratigraphy correlations. Pierre agreed and added that links to published curves (e.g., Cariaco Basin, INTIMATE NGRIP, EPICA) should be included on the CCT1 website. In final discussions of the immediate activities for this theme, Thorsten suggested organizing a workshop, possibly in Switzerland, to establish some concrete working groups. Ideas for new meetings were discussed further with the following suggested: INTIMATE, ESF paleo-chronologies network (Marian Scott, Irka Hajdas, Paula Reimer), EGU or AGU sessions, varve meeting.

**Action**            **Pierre to work with the IPO to update the CCT1 website and establish a Steering Group.**

#### **CCT2: Proxy Development, Calibration and Validation**

Ricardo stated that the key goal of CCT2 was the improvement of the precision and accuracy of paleoenvironmental proxies. He mentioned that he required collaboration with other people to incorporate other types of records and timescales. He suggested that rapid changes might also be important to consider under CCT2. Ricardo listed the PAGES/CLIVAR workshop in Trieste, Italy as the key upcoming workshop for CCT2, and suggested that follow-up meetings on problems with specific proxies could be useful. Eric suggested not only concentrating on a particular method but

also including the development of proxies, e.g., a workshop on proxies of sea ice. Thorsten added that PAGES would find the community required to help create and develop the proxies within IGBP. He suggested a PAGES-led workshop on sea ice (with Eric as the lead convener) that included a mix of physical and biological scientists to trigger proxy development. Ricardo agreed, and said that similar could be done for El Niño and SST. Thorsten suggested including a list of parameters that would advance the field of paleoscience. It was recognized that research in many of the Foci was already focusing on proxy development. Julie suggested that the SSC discuss the opportunities over the remainder of the week. Thorsten then introduced the GEOTRACES program and his ideas for a SEDITRACES component. Michael had several issues with the SEDITRACES concept.

**Action Michael and Thorsten to discuss the SEDITRACES concept at a later date.**

### **CCT3: Modeling (working title)**

Bette and Michael outlined their idea for an additional CCT on Modeling. It was noted that modeling was a strong component of all four Foci, and could not, therefore, be specifically mentioned in just one. Issues covered by this CCT would include how proxies are modeled and how to upscale and downscale i.e., to go from F2 to F3. Heinz supported the inclusion of this CCT and was of the opinion that PAGES should push the big modeling centers to invest money into paleo-modeling. It was noted that text would now be required for the SPIS.

**Action Michael and Bette to provide SPIS text to Thorsten.**

### **CCT4: Data Management**

Thorsten outlined the ideas for data management, including Gavin Schmidt's "dynamic archiving" idea to keep old archives up-to-date. He reported that the Data Portal was already working but that several weeks' worth of work was needed to finalize it. Michael added that he would try to negotiate with PANGAEA about opening their database for model data, and that PAGES should encourage an agreement on data format, as was done for IPCC. Bette mentioned that PMIP2 had followed the IPCC lead and changed the format of their data, which had been a huge amount of work.

**Action Michael to approach PANGAEA about the inclusion of model data.**

### **CCT5: Dissemination and Outreach**

Julie summarized the status of the PAGES Info Sheets and explained the concept to the new SSC members. Topics and resources were then discussed. A discussion on the development of the Paleoclimate Speaker Series followed. It was felt that this activity should be put on hold due to the current financial concerns and the need to invest a great deal of time and money into it becoming a success. It was agreed that PAGES workshop support should also include the possibility to apply for a speaker to attend a summer school or capacity-building workshop.

**Action IPO to add the Earth System Model Info Sheet to the PAGES Product Database.**

**Action Julie and IPO to come up with list of Info Sheet topics for the SSC to work on.**

**Action IPO to extract information from IPCC Chapter 6 FAQ to produce new Info Sheets.**

**Decision Plans for the Paleoclimate Speaker Series will not be pursued further for now.**

**Action IPO to change the webpage heading to "Workshop and Summer School Support".**

*[Note: The IPO has since discussed excluding this CCT from the formalized PAGES structure. It is felt that the goals within this theme are already an integral part of PAGES. Furthermore, this CCT differs significantly in scope from the others in that it has no scientific emphasis as such. The IPO proposes that CCT5 be dropped but that dissemination and outreach continue to be key aims of PAGES.]*

### **6.3 PAGES Support of Young Scientists**

Heinz and Thorsten gave a short overview of the PAGES Young Scientists Meeting. Louis Brown suggested that a follow-up on the young scientists after the meeting would be valuable for funding proposals.

#### **UNSCHEDULED DISCUSSIONS**

Louis Brown gave a short summary of the status of the U.S. NSF and outlined the key problems that the NSF was now facing: (1) The low exchange rate meant that every dollar given was worth less overseas, (2) The NSF budget was raised by less than 2%, and (3) The focus in NSF had shifted away from Earth System sciences. He notified the SSC that Margaret Leinen had left NSF and that Tim Killeen would take over the post on 1 July. He reported that the NSF (along with NOAA and the U.S. Geological Survey) had developed a new program called Paleo Perspectives on Climate Change (P2C2). Julie enquired whether Paul Filmer would be able to attend the PAGES EXCOM meeting at AGU in December. Louis answered that NSF should have travel support for Paul to attend.

Thorsten then invited Louis to discuss his ideas on Africa. Mohammed expressed the opinion that an African 2k Working Group was needed. He explained that some efforts had been made to build this community, such as the EAQUA and central African workshops, but that what was now needed were names to revitalize paleoscience in Africa. He proposed that the next available SSC meeting be held in Africa. Mohammed then outlined future meetings that were taking place, e.g., a continental drilling project meeting (Ethiopia, Nov.), a meeting on the Holocene man–environment around Lake Turkana (USA, Oct.), and a paleofire meeting in Nairobi (October). Furthermore, the pre-proposal for a new lake drilling project with teams from Germany, U.K. and USA had been accepted, and an Ethiopian National Climate Change research group had also been established and was now trying to set up laboratories for tree ring and stalagmite research. Thorsten clarified that Mohammed was not only interested in a PAGES-Africa for 2k but across all themes and timescales. Mohammed added that they wanted to bring African people to each of the PAGES Foci.

## **7. PAGES links to other projects**

### **7.1 IMAGES**

Thorsten reported on IMAGES new Science Plan and on how PAGES might link to their new scientific focus. He explained that the idea was for PAGES and IMAGES to comment on the other's Science Plan, in order to create synergy. It was noted that two of the people nominated for the SSC were from IMAGES. It was discussed that IMAGES interest in interglacials and the strong links to the PAGES PIGS Working Group could be a potential AGU session for 2009.

**Action**            **Michael and Thorsten to comment on IMAGES Science Plan as soon as possible.**

## **7.2 IPICS**

Eric updated the SSC on the outcomes of the IPICS Steering Committee meeting:

- N. Greenland drilling was to start this summer with the aim to obtain the last interglacial. IPICS discussed migrating this to an ice core interglacial program, including Antarctica, which would feed into the PIGS Working Group.
- Oldest ice project was a long-term aspiration and not likely to see a core for several years.
- IPICS 40k was to cover Dansgaard-Oeschger events and termination in and around both poles. It would feed into Focus 3 and also link to BIPOMAC. The working group already existed and cores had already been collected, and a synthesis paper was planned.

Eric reported that each Working Group now had a science and coordination plan, which were on the IPICS website [[www.pages-igbp.org/ipics/](http://www.pages-igbp.org/ipics/)].

## **7.3 CLIVAR**

Heinz reported on the PAGES-CLIVAR intersection and the meeting in Trieste.

## **7.4 GESAMP**

Thorsten outlined the GESAMP proposal on “Global trends in pollution of coastal ecosystems” and the possible role of PAGES. It was noted that Focus 4 would be the place to look at coastal zone effects of climate over the last few hundred years. John agreed and said that they would need to discuss how to fit it into the structure. He suggested that one of the team from Chesapeake Bay could attend, and that he would also talk to Eelco Rohling. It was also suggested that Julie contact Tom Pederson.

**Action            John, Thorsten and Julie to inquire with possible protagonists about the interest in a coastal change Focus 4 group.**

## **7.5 INQUA**

Thorsten provided information on the proposal by Sandy Harrison for PAGES participation in the INQUA PALCOMM project – Evaluation of PMIP Palaeoclimate Model Simulations. It was noted that although the main link between PAGES and INQUA would be PALCOMM, PAGES should not ignore the PASH and INTIMATE projects.

## **ESSP**

Louis Brown brought up the importance of links with ESSP programs and Julie remarked that this discussion was one of the aims of the IGBP Congress. John mentioned that PAGES had some direct links with IHOPE, as he was on their Steering Committee and was giving a talk for the Global Land Project at the pre-G8 meeting. It was commented that links were not deeply established but were growing. Louis suggested that although discussions of merging programs had not suggested the merging of PAGES, it was still important to build links in the future.

## **8. YSM and OSM**

Thorsten outlined the venue for the YSM and OSM. The attendance of the SSC at the YSM was discussed and it was agreed that the young scientists should have some guidance, with keynotes given by established scientists. Eric commented that the IPICS meeting was likely to occur in parallel with the YSM. Dates for the next SSC meeting were discussed.

## ***8.1 Committees***

Not discussed.

## ***8.2 Draft YSM/OSM Structure***

### **8.2.1 YSM**

Eric suggested that YSM speakers should also give talks at the OSM. Jérôme suggested picking the best YSM talks and leaving talk slots open for them. Thorsten replied that there was not much flexibility within the sessions. Louis Brown questioned whether YSM and OSM participants could make recommendations for future PAGES actions. Thorsten referenced the panel discussion on PAGES future direction that was held at the end of the previous OSM. Julie added that this was productive, even though it was held on the last day. Louis suggested keeping notes on these feedback sessions so that the suggestions could be followed up on at the subsequent SSC meeting.

### **8.2.2 OSM**

Logistics were discussed.

## ***8.3 OSM Theme***

The theme for the OSM was discussed and the SSC agreed on a title.

**Decision**      **The title for the OSM will be “Retrospective views on our planet’s future”.**

## ***8.4 OSM Sessions***

The urgency of a decision on topics and speakers was pointed out, since speakers needed to be lined up 1 year in advance and grants were needed to support them. Michael commented that the OSM should tackle the most urgent questions (i.e., to get the answers that would be required for AR5) and that the sessions should be structured along those lines—e.g., Focus 1 – solar forcing and aerosols (biggest uncertainties), Focus 2 – need for reconstructions from the S. Hemisphere and the tropics. It was noted that poster and oral sessions would need to cover the same topics, since the abstract submission would be the same for both, and unsuccessful oral submissions would become posters. It was then suggested to have only invited speakers, as the number of possible oral presentations was very low. However, in this case, with speakers identified a year in advance, less new science could be presented orally.

## ***8.5 OSM Speakers***

Possible hot topics and speakers for the OSM late-afternoon program (or morning sessions) were discussed:

## ***8.6 YSM Topics***

Discussed at Program Committee meeting.

## ***8.7 YSM Speakers***

Discussed at Program Committee meeting.

## ***8.8 YSM/OSM Budget and Funding***

In addition to the options listed in the agenda, SSC members volunteered to inquire about the following potential sources of funding:

- AQUA – Peter
- NSERC – Pierre
- German Science Foundation – Michael

Louis Brown suggested that PAGES inform IGFA of funding needs and proposal plans by contacting:

Dawn Conway (Steering Committee Chair)

Tim Aston (Secretariat Chair)

As a side note, it was mentioned that the National Academy of Sciences had a dedicated office to deal with visa problems, if they should occur.