AGU Natural Hazards Focus Group
Joint Executive Committee (EC) and
Advisory Board (AB) Business Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, 11 December 2013, 6:45AM-8:00AM
Moscone North, San Francisco, California

Call to order at 6:45 AM

Attendance
Rick Murnane (President), Upmanu Lall (President-Elect), Alik Ismail-Zadeh (Past President), Ning Lin (Secretary), Yev Kontar (EC member), Hans Lechner (EC member, student representative), Vasily Titov (EC Member), Howard Singer (Advisory Board member), Dalia Bach Kirschbaum (NH representative at the AGU Science Program Committee for AGU Fall Meetings).
Guests: Patrice Cobin (student), Lisa Darby, Celso Ferreira (OSPA coordinator), David D. Jackson, Kelly Klima (AGU Council Member), Ramesh Singh, Stephanie Tubman (student), Yekaterina (Katia) Kontar (student).

Note taker: Rick Murnane and Ning Lin

AGENDA TOPICS

1. Introductions

2. Review of AGU changes
   a. By-laws for Focus Groups
      i. Need to follow AGU’s by-laws guidelines, which have been made uniformly across the focus groups.
      ii. Rick to email Cheryl Enderlein and send out information
   b. Code of Conduct and Leadership criteria
      i. Developed to give information to potential leaders about roles and behaviors
      ii. Rick to send out information
   c. Conflict of Interest
      i. Changes implemented related to nominations of/by advisors/advisees
   d. Revised Data Policy
      i. Ideally, data and code should be publicly available, exceptions can be granted by editor
   e. Revised Correction Policy
      i. Implemented changes consistent with on-line publications. Errata and other updates will be published along with record of changes
   f. Change in election schedule
i. Need nominations by April 15, at least two candidates for each elected position. Election will be in Aug-Sep.

g. Earth’s Future is new journal
   i. Ben van der Pluijm, Univ. of Mich., is the new editor, first articles already available.

3. Focus group committees
   a. Nominating committee, headed by Alik, will be formed to create committees or individuals to fill following positions:
      i. Fellows – single representatives to work with AGU. Alik suggested to appoint David Jackson, AGU Fellow, to become the NH representative.
      ii. Graduate student award - committee
      iii. Gilbert White award - committee
      iv. Program Committee – two people required, but new individual starts each year for a 2-3 year position. Dalia will be in her second year in 2014, and will rotate off at the end of 2015 and another person will replace her. A new volunteer for 2014 must be selected to work with Dalia.
      v. OSPA – individual or committee (confer with Celso)
   b. Web master – Ari Posner, Hydrologic Research Center, has agreed to be the webmaster and will work with Ning and Rick to move and reconstruct the website as directed by AGU.

4. Other matters
   a. Swiss Re sponsored session
   b. Town hall meeting
   c. Comments from Dalia, Celso, Hans?
   d. Upmanu comments on Global Flood Initiative

5. Any other business?
   a. Alik described efforts towards an initiative to create an intergovernmental high-level body to assess disaster risk
   b. Discussion regarding the desirability to fund travel grants for students (and early career scientists?) Agreed this would be great, but must find the funds for this effort.
   c. Advisory board should be populated by representatives from other relevant sections/FG to make sure they can be aware of and provide feedback on NHFG activities.
   d. Discussion with Howard Singer (SPA advisory board rep) regarding how to sponsor a more formal joint session with SPA on space weather
   e. Dalia reported this year’s NH session statistics: 499 Abstracts, 20 orals, and 19 posters.
   f. Suggested after the meeting: convene a student/young scientist group for NH with a Student representative (currently Hans Lechner) to provide new ideas for sessions, events, etc. Other ideas included having an all-student led session with a
keynote invited speaker or two that could then meet with students later for a social/reception. Another idea was to continue the town hall concept. The most important part of this is to ensure student ideas are voiced and encourage student and early career scientist participation from a range of different subjects.

Gilbert F. White Distinguished Lecture Award Winner Dr. James Elsner (Middle); from left to right: Yev Kontar, Upmanu Lall, James Elsner, Rick Murnane, and Dalia Bach Kirschbaum (photo courtesy of Katia Kontar)