NH Executive Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 13 December 2017
Time: 12:30PM – 1:30PM
Venue: Hilton Riverside Hotel, First Floor, Grand Salon -Suite C -Sec 16

Participants

Ramesh Singh (President)
Seth Stein (President-Elect)
Daniel Wright (Secretary)
Tony Song
Bruno Merz
Robert Dahlgren
Christopher Bosma
Phu Nguyen
Eric Shearer
Robert Weiss
Leah Salditch
John LeBrecque
Kenneth Hudnut
David Green
Roger Pulwarty
Victoria Forlini (Director, Executive Office at American Geophysical Union)

Absent Executive Committee Members
Alik Ismail-Zadeh
Susan Hough
Upmanu Lall
Amir AghaKouchak
Antarpreet Jutla
Guido Cervone
Peter Bobrowsky
Valerio Tramutoli
Robert Dalhgren

Agenda

1. Welcome by President – Ramesh Singh
2. Introduction to the members and guests
3. Report by Secretary
4. Report by NH Program Committee Representatives
5. Discussion on AGU Centennial celebration
6. Discussion on NH-EGU-IUGG GeoRisk Joint meeting
7. NH Website
8. Gilbert White Lecture Award
9. AGU Fellows and Ambassador Award
10. Discussion on Chapman Conference on Natural Hazards and Disasters
11. Discussion on Reception ticket
12. How to attract sponsors for NH activities
13. NH Program Committee Representative for 2018 (Tony Song and Robert Weiss)
14. Group photo

**Summary/Minutes**

**Introductions/Status within AGU:** The Natural Hazards Focus Group will be renamed as the Natural Hazards Section

**Secretary update:** Daniel Wright provided update on website, newsletter.

**Program committee update:** Tony Song provided updated on program committee: 700 abstract submissions received in 2017, which is an increase over 2016; committee avoided early Monday and late Friday sections. David Green and Tony Song pointed out that attendance is generally poor and that efforts are needed to increase attendance. Robert Weiss and Tony Song will constitute the 2018 program committee.

**Discussion on centennial celebration (facilitated by Victoria Forlini)**
- Victoria Forlini outlined activities related to the 2019 AGU centenary. AGU hopes to emphasize outreach and societal benefits. Certain days (Earth Day, etc.) throughout 2018 to help build awareness -Natural Hazards as a discipline has a clear history of societal contribution. AGU is seeking input from NH and other sections/focus groups
- John LeBrecque-GeoRisk submission-symposium plus panel discussion-emphasizing research to operations; use AGU 2018 as precursor for IUGG (2019)
- Seth Stein: putting science to work-Bruno Merz’ efforts in Europe; 3-6 speakers from different disciplines, 1 day
- Ken Hudnut-need to have conversations between AGU and USGS to promote USGS efforts to reduce risks in mega cities. Inquired as to what resources are available from AGU for filmmaking and other promotional activities?
- David Green: Meeting is in Washington, DC, which presents unique opportunities. Does AGU have a vision for what constitutes a successful centenary? Other possible activities: voices from mayors, first responders, etc.-how natural hazards science and technology helps them on the ground; hack-a-thons/mapping?
- Victoria Forlini: AGU has some specific targets for centenary (e.g. scientists working to reach 10 million people by end of 2018). AGU is also planning science programs at embassies, meetings with policymakers/congress, etc.
- David Green: importance of embassy dialog (NOAA, NASA, USGS), headquarters of main agencies, centers/facilities in the region.
- Roger Pulwarty: 2 different panels at AGU 2018:
  - Panel 1: evolution of hazards in 21st century-case studies of positive impacts
Panel 2: what are the remaining challenges?
Examples from past: Galveston Hurricane vs. Hurricane Irma, Ethiopian droughts-1980s and recent—how were we vs. where are we know vs. where are we going?

- Robert Dahlgren and Tony Song: We need concrete numbers to communicate the contributions of NH science
- Victoria Forlini: Submissions for fall meeting open in February—more concrete plans will come in January and February

NH Website:
Daniel Wright: will work on adding additional NH-related resources from NASA, NOAA, USGS, etc. Also will add a sponsorship section to website.

Gilbert White Award:
Seth Stein: The lecture has been changed to award; NH is seeking new nominations for the award. Clarification is needed on how the selection process works.

Nominations for President Elect and Secretary:
Ramesh Singh: Next newsletter will announce solicitation of nominations, along with a timeline and information regarding nomination process

Chapman Conference on Natural Hazards:
- Seth Stein: Possible topic: cross-disciplinary forecasting/prediction/uncertainty issues, AGU will match contributions from NSF. EGU has a similar separate conference on geohazards and applications. UNAVCO may be willing to sponsor a conference in Boulder.
- Robert Weiss: PREEVENTS Track 1 could be potential avenue for conference funding.
- Chapman proposal: follow-up will be made by Seth Stein, Robert Weiss, Daniel Wright, Phu Nguyen

Reception Ticket Cost
- Ramesh Singh: Asked group whether tickets should be free/paid, should it be with the other section receptions or at a separate location? Members agreed that a small fee is appropriate, and that it should be hosted at the same location as other section/FG receptions. Members were interested in possibilities for corporate sponsorship of reception.

Additional items
- Ramesh Singh: Requested that Executive Committee ask members to switch primary memberships to NH
- Seth Stein: Asked whether AGU could do a sponsored distinguished lecture series on NH. Would need to check with other societies (GSA, SSA, etc.) to see how much these lecture series cost. Possibility of corporate sponsorship.