

CRYOSPHERE FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Tuesday December 6th 2005 Sierra J SF Marriott 12:30-1:30

AGENDA

1. **Introduction.** Thanks to 2004-2006 committee, recommendations for new members for 2006-2008 term (Kurt Cuffey wants to be rotated off after 5 years service). Apologies for absence. Discussion of numbers of abstracts for Fall meeting for Cryosphere. Between 2002 and 2004 Cryosphere had an upward trend with both the number of special sessions and the number of abstracts. 408 abstracts at this meeting in 22 sessions, an increase from 120 in 5 sessions in 2002, and 340 in 12 sessions in 2003. This year we had around 350, so a slight decrease. Danny Marks and Tad Pfeffer to give updates on Fall Meeting 2005 Planning Meetings. Thank you to Tad and Danny for stepping in and handling this during my absence on maternity leave this summer.

We are on par with the number of sessions and abstracts of several AGU sections, such as Oceans. Drawback is that we have to schedule sessions from Monday morning through Friday afternoon.

2. **Reception and Nye Lecture.** Matthew Sturm gave an excellent Nye Lecture last night – what did everyone think? Did you get feedback about it? Suggestions for next year's speaker? (Let's sort this out early this year). What about the Polar Reception (note name change since we added the Polar Research Board to the list of cosponsors).

3. **Fellow Nominations.** We should nominate someone from Cryosphere for 2006.

4. **Cryosphere Young Investigator Award.** This was made a reality this year (after a struggle). We had 10 excellent applications, some who will still be eligible next year. This year the award went to Alan Rempel for his work on hoar frost. We need a judging panel for 2006. Sponsor: NSIDC sponsors this award: \$500 check.

5. **Website.** Our new webpages are at <http://cryosphere.agu.org>

Need to send a representative to the Section/Focus Group Webpage Committee meeting on Wednesday lunchtime - volunteer? Wednesday, 7 December 2005, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Nob Hill A&B.

Keran Claffey of CRREL is maintaining our webpages and doing an excellent job. He has some suggestions (discuss these). **PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE PAGES AND SEND FEEDBACK TO KERRY.** Both Kerry and Mary are unable to attend the webpage meeting. Kerry asked me to discuss the following:

Item #2 on the webpage meeting agenda is about improving use of their sites. Each site's statistics have been posted on the Web managers' page http://www.agu.org/leadership/site_managers/ and show that these sites are been severely underutilized. What are the reasons that members come to their sites? How can they improve their sites in order to improve the perceived usefulness of these sites? How do the sections and focus groups welcome new members? Is a mention of the Web site part of that welcome message?

When I took over the site, I did not change the look and feel of the site very much. I mainly updated the information on the site and added the information that you requested to be added. I am more than happy to add or redesign the site to make it more useful (and more attractive) to the focus group and its members. Please ask the executive committee if anything is missing from the site or what information they would like to see added to the site.

One of the things that will help make the site more useful is to keep the site updated. I think that the update schedule that I sent out to you in an earlier e-mail (copied below) will help do just that.

Web page update 1 -- Coincide with Joint assembly meeting call for abstracts:

Joint assembly meeting button -- revised to list "call for abstracts" for Cryospheric sessions

Fall AGU meeting button -- change to "highlights of the fall meeting"

Cryosphere main page -- update what needs updating, including Exec committee minutes, Exec committee members, etc.

Web page update 2 -- Coincide with Joint assembly program publication:

Joint assembly meeting button -- revised to list Cryosphere sessions/program.

Web page update 3 -- Coincide with Fall AGU meeting call for abstracts:

Joint assembly button -- change to "highlights of the joint assembly meeting"

Fall AGU meeting button -- revised to list the "call for abstracts" in the Cryospheric sessions

Web page update 4 -- Coincide with Fall AGU program publication:

Fall AGU meeting button -- revised to list Cryosphere sessions/program.

It should not be too much work for me to update the Cryospheric web site 4 times /year. What I do need is help with the content. It would be very helpful if you could assign a person (at your executive committee meeting) to write a blurb on the Cryospheric goings on (and sessions) at the fall AGU meeting, and assign a second person to write a blurb on the planned Cryospheric sessions for the 2006 Joint assembly meeting. This info should be sent to me in time for Web page update 1, which I assume will occur sometime in January or February. Also, I am always looking for Cryospheric images to put on the web site.

6. Electronic journal. The current Cryosphere Editorial Selection Team (Hajo Eicken and Tavi Murray) have done an outstanding job with this for the past two years – they would like to be replaced. Suggestions?

7. Student breakfast. Need 2 volunteers to attend the ExxonMobil Morning Mixer on Wednesday 6.30-8.00. Yerba Buena Salon 9.

8. Hydrology Section Technical Executive Committee meeting. We need someone from our committee to attend the Hydrology Section Technical Executive Committee meeting Wednesday, 7 December 2005, 12:30 - 1:30 pm, Wednesday, 7 December 2005, 12:30 - 1:30 pm Marriott Sierra F.

9. Upcoming meetings:

Spring AGU (Joint Assembly) Baltimore May 23-26 2006 (need volunteer).

EGU – Vienna – April 2006.

Any others?

Minutes of 2005 Cryosphere Executive Committee Meeting

12:35 meeting called to order.

Attendance: Helen Amanda Fricker, Christopher Shuman, Kenneth Hinkel, Ted Scambos (NEW), Jason Box (NEW), Matt Nolan (NEW), Eugene Bierly (AGU rep), Son Nghiem, Danny Marks, Garry Clarke

Eugene Bierly is our new AGU rep email ebierly@agu.org

Apologies for absence: Hajo Eicken, Kurt Cuffey, Mary Albert

Other absentees: Tad Pfeffer, Larry Hinzman, John Wettlaufer, Matthew Sturm

1. Cryosphere Focus Group: number of people needed to become a Section? Need more than how many to list Cryosphere as their Primary Affiliation when they pay their AGU dues. We should send a reminder out about this every year in June when the email about the membership is sent out. Send an email to Cryoist, ArcticInfo and Clim list. Becoming a Section is our ultimate aim. We will have more priveleges, be able to nominate fellows etc. When people pay their dues they can also donate money to CFG which will be used for Outstanding Student Presentations, travel stipends for invited speakers who are not AGU members etc. (An addendum: 12/8/2005: Pete Folger of AGU sent me a list of AGU members who have Cryosphere selected as their primary affiliation. There are over 500. 12/14/2005 I emailed Pete to find out i) how many members we need to become a Section and ii) how already signed up members go about changing their Primary affiliation. Pete replied to say “there is not a specific threshold of membership that determines when a Focus Group can petition to become a Section. Because it ultimately requires a change to AGU’s Statutes and Bylaws, the process would include approval by the Council. Before we get to that point, the Focus Group has to present a clear argument why it should become a Section.”)
2. Nye Lecture: This year it did not work to have the presentations of the Awards and speeches by the Reception hosts at the Polar Reception. The Reception room was too nosy,

and without a podium it was not possible to get everyone's attention. The presentations and speeches should be done at the Nye Lecture itself (after the lecture). Let's start the lecture at 4.30 next year. Note that there is also a Certificate to the person who gave the lecture, this can be presented along with the YI Award. Need a larger room than Room 2002 for Nye Lecture – we overfilled the room this year. Note that the Nye Lecture is treated exactly like a session i.e. it gets scheduled at the PC meeting, the speaker has to submit an abstract via the normal channels, it is assigned a session convener etc. So the person going to the PC meeting needs to know about it. We were criticized this year for how the Nye Lecture was handled. This was my fault, as I was on maternity leave. However, we should have got the Nye Lecturer sorted out well before that (again my fault). We need a committee to appoint the speaker, and people should submit candidates to that committee by June 15th of every year, through the Cryosphere website. Need to have this advertised on the website. Suggestions for the committee are: John Wettlaufer, Danny Marks, Helen Fricker, Son Nghiem. Note, the Nye Lecture is *not* an honorific award, it is supposed to be given by a well-known person in the field to relate current ideas to the audience. It needs to be less specialized than a regular AGU talk, to accommodate a broader audience. Therefore it would not be appropriate for the Cryosphere YI Award winner to give the Nye Lecture.

3. Cryosphere Committee members. Need to have a good representation from all facets of Cryosphere. Rotating committee: if people are going to rotate off, they need to suggest a replacement. Jason Box agreed to be secretary, Helen Fricker Vice Chair, Danny Marks Chair. Garry Clarke will stay on committee. Ted Scambos and Matt Nolan will join. Kenn Hinkel will stay. Kurt Cuffey and Mary Albert will rotate off. Others? New AGU president for 2006-2008 will be Tim Killeen of NCAR (to replace John Orcutt). To ease communication, suggested regular interaction by email (once a month?) Jason happy to do this. Reminder about the website.

Suggestions for new members: Gwenn Flowers, Tim Link of U Idaho (snow hydrology)

4. YI Award. Need text for next year. Need to find out whether NSIDC will sponsor this every year, or was it a one off. → ask Mark Williams/Roger Barry (Helen/Ted) Need a judging committee for this year. Danny suggested Janet Hardy of CRREL. Let's ask for electronic nominations so we do not have to make copies of everything.
 5. Cryosphere Website: Thank you to Keran (Kerry) Claffey and Mary Albert for taking care of our website, Kerry is doing an excellent job. Some people in the room still did not realize we even have a website. This was only touched upon briefly. I asked everyone to look at the website and send me comments.
 6. Son Nghiem agreed to attend Hydrology meeting tomorrow.
 7. Christopher Shuman agreed to attend student breakfast, also tomorrow.
 8. We did not have a volunteer to attend Section Webpage meeting.
- 2.30 People started to disperse to attend sessions, and meeting was adjourned.