



CUAHSI

universities allied for water research

CUAHSI Board Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2020

Roll Call

15 members are present, 10 needed for quorum. “X” indicates present

Term expires 12/31/2020

Al Valocchi, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign X

Amir AghaKouchak, University of California-Irvine X

Jesus Gomez-Velez, Vanderbilt University X

R. Edward Beighley, Northeastern University X

Term expires 12/31/2021

Gordon Grant, Oregon State University X

Steve Loheide, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Chair) X

Jeanne VanBriesen, Carnegie Mellon University (Past Chair) X

Gretchen Miller, Texas A&M University X

Alejandro Flores, Boise State University X

Greg Characklis, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill X

Term expires 12/31/2022

Aditi Bhaskar, Colorado State University X

Anne Jefferson, Kent State University

Anne Nolin, University of Nevada-Reno X

Ashok Mishra, Clemson University X

Jay Zarnetske, Michigan State University X

Officers: (terms expire 12/31/2020)

Audrey Sawyer, Ohio State University (Treasurer) X

Adam Ward, Indiana University (Secretary) X

CUAHSI Staff Present: Jerad Bales

Guests: (none)

Minutes prepared by Ward

1. Executive Director’s Report

a. Executive Director Travel

i. Bales summarized travel provided in a meeting attachment:

Travel Dates	Location	Event	Role	Notes
3/9-11/2020	Tuscaloosa	2020 SI Planning	Project Team	
3/25-27/2020	Austin	AWRA Conf--Maidment Symp.	Participant, speaker, and planning team	
3/29 - 31/2020	Tifton, GA	ICRW	CUAHSI workshop; Sponsor and invited speaker	
5/18 - 21/2020	Narragansett, RI	EPA BOSC	BOSC member	EPA pays travel
5/24-28/2020	Albuquerque, NM	CO River Basin Workshop	Workshop leader	Moore Foundation project
5/28 - 6/1/2020	Aspen	Aspen Institute	invitee; IoW	
6/1 - 5/ 2020	New York	Science Gateways Community Institute workshop	Participant, along with CUAHSI data services team	
6/7 - 11/2020	Tuscaloosa	Summer Institute kickoff	Sponsor	
6/15 - 18/2020	Pasadena	PODACC Annual Meeting	Advisory Board member	Travel paid by NASA
7/21 - 24/2020	Tuscaloosa	SI Capstone	Sponsor	
7/26 - 31/2020	Shepherdstown	Biennial and Board meeing	Participant	
8/16 - 20/2020	Iowa City, IA	Int'l Conf on Flood Mgmt	Session organizer	

ii. **Motion to approve travel as presented above.**

1. Motion: Nolin

2. Second: Miller

3. Discussion: (none)

4. Vote: Approved (unanimous)

2. Board Chair report

a. Loheide reported that D. Tarboton reached out to offer an update to the Board on HydroShare activities. The Board expressed interest in hearing an update at a monthly meeting of the Board, with the potential of inviting for a longer discussion at a face-to-face meeting.

b. Loheide expects draft plans for the DEI Implementation Plan and Data Services Implementation Plan for discussion at the next Board meeting. He advised Board members should be prepared to review both prior to the next meeting.

c.

3. Approval of DEI Strategic Plan

a. A final version of the DEI Strategic Plan was circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting for their review.

b. Nolin voiced the need to address accessibility for hearing and vision impaired people. She suggested that simple steps like file permissions allowing text-to-voice conversion and including on videos (e.g., via YouTube’s automatic captioning) should be implemented. Nolin suggested adding a goal to make all web-based material accessible to hearing and vision imapired people.

c. Bales suggested this might be implied already in Goal 6. Miller suggested adding a sentence to the text of Goal 6 to clarify these issues are part of inclusivity. Jefferson suggested accessibility more broadly should be added as well (e.g.,

mobility limitations). Loheide suggested the phrasing of “disability” early in the document already includes accessibility early in the document.

- d. The group discussed differences between inclusivity and accessibility issues more broadly, considering if a commitment to accessibility is distinct from a DEI strategy. It was noted that accessibility is an issue CUAHSI should actively consider, especially as a developer of tools and web-based content.
 - e. Minor edits were made to include accessibility
 - f. **Approve amendments as made during this meeting to include accessibility as part of Goal 6 in the document.**
 - i. **Motion: Nolin**
 - ii. **Second: Miller**
 - iii. **Discussion: (none)**
 - iv. **Vote: Approved (unanimous)**
 - g. **The CUAHSI Board of Directors approves the CUAHSI DEI Strategic Plan as finalized during this meeting.**
 - i. **Motion: Loheide**
 - ii. **Second: Jefferson**
 - iii. **Discussion: (none)**
 - iv. **Vote: Approved (unanimous)**
4. Biennial Planning (Miller, Gomez-Velez)
 - a. Miller reported speaker lists and session descriptions should be final within the next two weeks. She reported several workshops are being organized by the members of the community.
 - b. Gomez-Velez summarized outstanding needs including one lagging session to be organized and the panel session led by Grant.
 5. Award Nominations (Loheide)
 - a. Loheide requested nominations for the community service award be sent to him via email.
 6. Fee payment and discounts (Loheide)
 - a. Loheide introduced the topic of providing a small discount for prepayment of membership. The motivation is to encourage longer-term commitments and less frequently requiring staff to follow-up on outstanding dues. It was noted that prepayment is currently allowed with no discount. Several Board members voiced that this would be beneficial if a small discount would encourage longer commitments.
 - b. **The CUAHSI Board of Directors approves a 10 percent discount for pre-payment of CUAHSI membership dues for five years.**
 - i. **Motion: Nolin**
 - ii. **Second: Beighley**
 - iii. **Discussion: (none)**
 - iv. **Vote: Approved (unanimous)**
 7. Undergraduate Membership Committee (Loheide):
 - a. Loheide drafted a charge to ad hoc committee on undergraduate membership in CUAHSI, and committee members are being sought.
 8. Adjournment

- a. Loheide opened the floor to any other business. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.

14:00 EDT Adjourned

Action items generated during the Feb. 2020 BoD meeting

1. Loheide or Bales will request a pre-read on HydroShare for the Board prior to the presentation from Tarboton