# CUAHSI Board Meeting Minutes

***April 13, 2016***

**Roll Call**

- 15 members are present, 10 needed for quorum
- "X" indicates Director is present

**Term expires 12/31/2016**
Michael Gooseff, Colorado State University
David Hyndman, Michigan State University (Chair) X
Holly Michael, University of Delaware X
Todd Rasmussen, University of Georgia X
Al Valocchi, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (past-Chair) X

**Term expires 12/31/2017**
Erkan Istanbulluoglu, University of Washington X
D. Scott Mackay, SUNY University at Buffalo X
Kamini Singha, Colorado School of Mines X
Scott Tyler, University of Nevada, Reno X

**Term expires 12/31/2018**
Matt Cohen, University of Florida X
David Genereux, North Carolina State University (Chair-elect) X
Gordon Grant, Oregon State University X
Erich Hester, Virginia Tech X
Steve Loheide, University of Wisconsin-Madison X
Jeanne VanBriesen, Carnegie Melon University X

**Officers & Staff Present:** Adam Ward (Secretary), Martin Seul (CUAHSI), Rick Hooper (CUAHSI), Noah Schmadel (assisting Secretary)

Minutes prepared by Adam Ward & Noah Schmadel

**Wednesday, April 13, 2016**

13:00 EST Call to Order

1. Status of March minutes (Ward)
    a. Schmadel reported votes were not yet complete for approval by action without meeting. He requested BOD members follow-up to be sure they have registered their votes.
2. Status of Search for Executive Director (Valocchi)
    a. Valocchi reported that phone interviews were completed with 4 applicants. On this basis, he expects to follow-up with interviews with three applications for in-person interviews. He emphasized the need to maintain confidentiality during this process. He hopes to organize the interview format in May or June, with plans to bring applicants to CUAHSI headquarters. The group discussed interview logistics and plans.
3. Biennial Meeting Update (Hooper)
    a. Hooper reported that he is currently working on a proposal to the DoE that would support graduate student travel. He noted that the conference website and registration are currently open. He also reported that the CZO community intends to have a large group of students in attendance.
    b. Hooper has received three nominations for the CUAHSI community service award. The group discussed those nominations, and Hooper requested votes be sent directly to him for 2 awardees.
4. WDC Update (Hooper)
    a. Hooper reported a major release in early April including a new client and new catalog structure. Additional updates include integration with existing Google sign-in credentials and a new and more stable catalog release.
    b. Hooper discussed two additional use cases for the WDC, to be reviewed by the User Committee.
        i. Case 1: Data Discovery
            1. One important advantage of HydroClient is finding data from multiple data sources. Hooper noted that data published by universities will be sparse in space and time. As such, he recomended that the WDC should invest in assembling data from various networks including USGS, EPA (largely done), Ameriflux, NWS, LTER, etc.
            2. Hooper identified three different levels of integration with the WDC including: (1) Location only (i.e., dots on the map); (2) Metadata only (searchable by criteria but doesn't return data); (3) Full service (e.g., "transducer" as we provide for USGS data)
            3. Hooper suggested this use case should show progress relatively quickly. He led a discussion of how the data discovery tool could be improved.
            4. Hyndman supports the idea of the data integration. Another solution is to first load metadata (with contact of data owner) and then load the rest when ready.
        ii. Case 2: Multi-site Reference Data

1. Hooper reported a common problem for users is the desire to test a hypothesis across many sites where the appropriate data are available. What becomes useful, then, are data that can be assembled across sites (possibly using HydroShare). An idea or hope is to publish a dataset once, but use the data many times because many sites can be assembled.
2. Mackay described a sap flux application. He reported a global effort to assemble sap flux, and a former PhD of his has volunteered to take the lead. These data become very useful because little can be done from a single site. The idea is to compare sites globally.
3. Hooper noted that from a data publication perspective, a future direction for the WDC is to publish any type of data, not just time series. (e.g., rasters or spatial datasets, and that is a current direction of WDC).
4. Additional examples include:
    a. Reference data set defined by a scientist to test hypotheses about processes (such as plant-water interactions)
    b. HIS technology would allow each site to assemble data following specifications and register with catalog
    c. HydroServer Collection can reference time series from HIS and assemble that into a basin-level collection
    d. Use HydroServer Collection of collections can assemble basins into reference data set
5. Gordon asked how this might work for large data systems/programs (e.g., CZO). Hooper suggested that moving towards open source software could save costs. He hoped that coordination would be possible moving forward, as the CZO program develops databasing standards and protocols. He is also looking into replacing cloud services with a more predictable environment.

5. CUAHSI Senior Management Structure (Hooper)
    a. Background provided by Hooper: When Martin remained as Acting WDC Director, we discussed possible senior management structures. This was tabled in consideration that the new Executive Director may wish to arrange management structure according to his/her wishes. However, as part of our request for a new indirect cost structure, an administrative office at NSF is looking at our business structure and has expressed concerns (informally) that the Deputy Director position is not filled and that the Executive Director serves as PI on the main grant. They are concerned about separation of duties. Hence, we may need to propose a Senior Management Structure before a new Executive Director is hired.

b. Hooper reported that a concern by NSF is that the deputy director position was not filled. The NSF has concerns about the exective director serving as the lead PI on the cooperative agreement. As such, a senior management structure is desireable and roles of each postion need to be better defined. Having an additional PhD-level scientist on staff will be helpful. Hooper does not want to concentrate too much adminstrative power with one person.
c. The group discussed this issue, including several possible structures and complications of them. The group will address this issue more in future meetings.

6. Motion to adjourn
    a. Motion: Van Briesen
    b. Second: Hyndman
    c. Discussion: (none)
    d. Vote: Approved (unanimous)

14:00 EST Adjourn