

MINUTES OF THE ARRCU SIG OPEN MEETING

Date: February 7, 2019 (videoconference)

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND ADVISORY BOARD:

Paul Kushner (chair), Adam Monahan (vice-president) Pierre Gauthier (secretary-treasurer), Paul Myers, Sylvie Roy, Kim Strong, Roland Stull, Peter Taylor

PARTICIPANTS:

Kristina, Archibald, Michel Béland, Barrie Blonsal, Alex Cabaj, Lo Cheng, Marcus Dejmek, Katherine Gibbs, Ellen Gute, Jennifer Lukowich, Anne-Marie MacDonald, Shawn Marshall, Dominique Paquin, Thomas Piekutowski, Bob Sica, Karen Smith, Aldona Wiacek

REGRETS: Hind Al-Abadleh, John Gyakum, Randall Martin, Rebecca Saari

1 Adoption of agenda**2 Canadian Centre for Climate Services**

Lo Cheng of ECCC presented the objectives of the Canadian Centre for Climate Services (CCCS). The dissemination of reliable climate information is the main objective. An external advisory panel has been formed to identify and define the climate services for different applications. A climate services working group will provide guidance on how to use the information on climate made available and the training needed on how to use this information.

The ARRCU community contributes to the improvement of prediction of the evolution of climate both in terms of reliability and usefulness. It can also identify information gaps regarding the Arctic for example. The presentation is available at

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kx0GQ-wzdjAAB4I04nKoyCr7b58rCUV4>.

ECCC provides information but relies on the industry to develop applications for specific user needs. For regional climate information, CCCS is establishing links with organization like PCIC (BC) and Ouranos (Qc).

This will be further discussed at the next ARRCU Open meeting during the IUGG conference.

3 CMOS/IUGG Congress

Dominique Paquin updated us on the organization of the IUGG General Assembly July 8-18, 2019 in Montréal held jointly with the CMOS annual congress. Topics related to the atmosphere will take place during the first week and the ARRCU town hall has been scheduled for July 10 at lunch time. She has urged the organizers of sessions to publicize them. The deadline for abstracts was February 18. CMOS and NSERC are holding their

meetings as usual in CMOS congresses. The program displays already the theme of the different sessions.

4 Evidence for Democracy

In a presentation by Katie Gibbs, she reported that E4D is completing a study to identify gaps in funding of research in Canada. A comparison is being made of the situation prevailing in Canada with respect to that in other countries.

5 Toronto Science Policy Network (TSPN)

The presentation by Ellen Gute introduced the TSPN, a recognized student group at the University of Toronto (Saint-George). Its objective is to provide a platform for students (undergraduate/graduate) and postdoctoral researchers to learn and engage in science policy to promote discussion on the science behind key policies. It organizes workshops, panel discussions and establishes links with other groups with similar interests.

More information on upcoming activities is available on their website (<https://toscipolicynet.ca/>).

The presentation is also available at

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kx0GQ-wzdjAAB4I04nKoyCr7b58rCUV4>

6 Canadian Space Agency

In his presentation, Thomas Piekutowski summarized the current activities at CSA on Earth observations. There are ongoing satellite missions (MOPITT, OSIRIS, ACE/SCISAT). A joint announcement of opportunities (ECCC-CSA-ESA) has been made for the Earth Watch Program:

<http://www4.asc-csa.gc.ca/transparence-transparency/eng/grants/2017-2018/1/3426.aspx>

AIM-North is an innovative satellite mission concept that is under consideration by the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) (<http://aim-north.ca/>). It would provide observations of density and quality for monitoring greenhouse gases (GHGs), air quality (AQ), clouds and solar induced fluorescence (SIF) from vegetation in northern regions.

A workshop was held at McGill University (September 27 ,2018) with an invited presentation on NASA's strategic plan by Michael Freilich, director of the Earth Science Division at NASA Headquarters. This plan relates to missions identified in the Decadal Survey of National Academies of Science as priorities. This provided input to CSA for its own planning and it has identified the AACP mission (Aerosols (A) and Clouds, Convection and Precipitation (CCP)) as being one having common interests for the two agencies.

CSA held also the Earth Observation Forum on November 20-22, 2018 at the John H. Chapman Space Centre in Saint-Hubert. More on this at

<http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/events/2018/national-forum-on-earth-observation-from-space.asp>

7 ARRCU on Education, Training and Outreach

Paul Myers gave an update on the status of the ARRCU white paper on *Education, Outreach and Training*. A first draft should be distributed soon for comments.

Note. A first draft has been recently completed (March 11, 2019) and is being circulated for comments.

8 ARRCU and Industry

Peter Taylor presented a summary of the ARRCU white paper on collaboration between industry and research in universities. The paper is also available at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kx0GQ-wzdjAAB4I04nKoyCr7b58rCUV4>

First, he pointed out that there is not much industry/university collaboration in ARR, its main interests being with land management, agriculture or road security. There are not that many links with universities even though NSERC's Collaborative Research and Development (CRD) program offers support for such collaboration. However, it has been noted that in recent years there was a significant drop in CRD grants in Atmosphere Related Research (ARR). The question was raised about the organisations that qualify as partners for CRD. NSERC now allows municipalities, not-for profit organizations, Crown corporations, and federal departments to be partners in CRD projects.

9 News from NSERC

Kristina Archibald mentioned that the 2018 NSERC Budget has been increased and planning is ongoing regarding the impact this will have on the research programs. As mentioned already, the revised CRD program now accepts municipalities, not-for profit organizations, Crown corporations, and federal departments as partners but with different rules (see NSERC's website on the CRD).

10 Next meetings

- a) April 11 - ARRCU-SIG Executive-Advisory
- b) July 10, 2019: IUGG-CMOS 2019 - ARRCU-SIG town hall
Palais des Congrès, Montréal (Québec)