

IARPC STAFF MEETING

White House Conference Center, Lincoln Room
726 Jackson Place
Washington, DC

Meeting convened at 11am, adjourned 1:05pm.

Co-chaired by Brendan Kelly (OPP/NSF) and Kate Moran (OSTP)

Attendees:

William Fitzhugh	Smithsonian
Tom Wagner	NASA
Adrianna Muir	STATE
Shella Biallas	DOI
Kathleen Crane	NOAA
Joel Parriott	OMB
Mike Kuperberg	DOE
Nikoosh Carlo	OPP/NSF
Jon Berkson	USCG/DHS
Brendan Kelly	OPP/NSF
Kate Moran	OSTP
Simon Stephenson	OPP/NSF

On the phone: John Farrell (ARC); Richard Corley (DOT); Lisa Matthews (EPA); Marya Levintova (NIH); Doug DeMaster (NOAA); John Stubstad (DoD)

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Potential IARPC activities to enhance agency goals
3. Update on plans for arctic budget crosscut
4. Update on Arctic Ocean Strategic Action Plan
5. Agenda for principles meeting on April 26
6. Development of national arctic 5yr research plan per ARPA
7. Set dates and schedule for future meetings

Summary of Action Items:

1. Think about the issue of the budget cross cut a future meeting may be dedicated to a discussion on this topic.
2. Send any additional comments about the 5 year plan to Brendan and Kate.
3. Next meeting will be at 3p on Friday, May 13th (location White House Conference Center, Lincoln Room)

Meeting Minutes:

1. Introductions around the table and phone.

2. Potential IARPC activities to enhance agency goals

Brendan asked members to discuss what activities would help your agency? Responses varied from infrastructure planning (unpiloted vehicle program) to the social and cultural dimensions of sea ice and other global change. Bringing unused satellite programs to help inform systems science was suggested, as well as integrating sea ice maps and with terrestrial maps. General consensus was that greater coordination was needed in order for the agencies to maximize opportunities. Members wanted to identify broad themes that were multifaceted in terms of research scope, established groups that could be networked together, and areas of potential conflict so that the committee can preventively work with local communities on, for example, hunting/fishing needs.

Programs mentioned:

- Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) – (<http://uas.noaa.gov/>) bridge the gap between the knowledge we can gather about the earth's surface and the information collected via satellite.
- Social Science Task Force – the "Principles for the Conduct of Research in the Arctic" were prepared by the Interagency Social Science Task Force in response to a recommendation by the Polar Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences and at the direction of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee.
- Arctic Social Indicators (published 2010) - a follow-up report to the "Arctic Human Development Report" (2004). Main project of the Sustainable Development Working Group, subcommittee of the Arctic Council
- Study of Environmental Arctic Change (SEARCH) – SEARCH activities are grouped by three objectives: Observing Change, Understanding Change, and Responding to Change. Responding is the least developed. Driving research from the responding side could provide a different perspective. This might be a good opportunity to build on the SEARCH framework, e.g. how is water valued and used. SEARCH website: www.arcus.org/search/searchscience/
- Climate Change Adaptation Task Force - On October 14, 2010, the Climate Change Adaptation Task Force, co-chaired by the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), released its report outlining recommendations to President Obama for how Federal Agency policies and programs can better prepare the United States to respond to the impacts of climate change. download report here: (www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ceq/Interagency-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Progress-Report.pdf)

3. Update on plans for arctic budget crosscut

The last time this information was compiled was 2007. We are not ready to produce a crosscut at this time. Chairs' goal is to convey this at the Principals' meeting. Questions were raised about what this crosscut would mean. Joel Parriott (OMB) mentioned that there are other agency crosscuts, which are formalized through OMB Circular A-11. He confirmed that it was too late to add an Arctic crosscut to A-11 for FY13; so we need to work toward FY14.

Action: Kate and Joel will speak to this topic and the difficulties of such a task at a future meeting.

4. Update on Arctic Ocean strategic action plan

The Arctic Ocean Strategic Action Plan group (National Ocean Policy) is in the process of preparing a full-content outline that will be submitted tomorrow. Principals will have a copy in their briefing books.

5. Agenda for principals meeting on April 26

IARPC staff reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Principals meeting. Suggestions were made to keep the budget crosscut (agenda item #4) short and simply introduce the idea and acknowledge the difficulty of the task. It is unlikely that Principals will engage in a discussion on this topic. May be useful to include the language from the Act that pertains to budget crosscut.

The NSPD-66 (agenda item #6) was reconfirmed last year and 3 meetings are being conducted during April 2011: Arctic Council's international role; security and transportation; and energy and environment. Suggestions were made to change the word "initiative" to interagency priority research themes and to use the word "understand" in the bullets (agenda item #7).

6. Development of national arctic 5yr research plan per ARPA

The discussion of the IARPC 5-year research plan will need to build from the stated goals of IARPC. There was some concern that core activities and out-year activities would need to be made very clear.

Action: send any additional comments to Kate and Brendan.

7. Set dates and schedule for future meetings

It was decided that the next meeting would be 3-5p on the 13th of May, so that we can recap from the Principals' meeting.

Action: The IARPC staff will meet monthly.