



5th Council of Presidents and 115th CGC Meetings
 09:00 - 16:30, Saturday, June 10, 2006; 09:00 - 15:00, Sunday, June 11, 2006
 Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Boardroom, Calgary, Alberta

DRAFT MINUTES

Attendees	Representing	Role
1. Anglin, Lyn:	Geological Association of Canada (GAC)	Vice President
2. Becker, Dennis:	Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS)	President
3. Bogstie, Doug:	Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG)	Vice President
4. Haidl, Fran:	Canadian Geoscience Education Network (CGEN)	President
5. Hanmer, Simon:	No affiliation for present purposes	Facilitator
6. Holysh, Steve:	International Association of Hydrogeologists, Cdn Chapter	President
7. James, Don:	Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC)	Director
8. Kubica, Peter:	Canadian Well Logging Society (CWLS)	President
9. Little, Ted:	Canadian Quaternary Association (CANQUA)	Councilor
10. Marquis, Robert:	Geological Association of Canada (GAC)	President
11. Moore, Richard:	Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC)	Director
12. Mummery, Bob:	Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC)	Executive Officer
13. Nieto, John:	Canadian Well Logging Society (CWLS) (Saturday)	Past President
14. Norford, Brian:	Canada Prize Foundation (Sunday)	Director
15. Ollerhead, Jeff:	Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG)	Representative
16. Packard, Jeff:	Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists (CSPG)	Past President
17. Raeside, Rob:	Council of Chairs of Cdn Earth Science Depts. (CCCESD)	Representative
18. Reimer, Jim:	Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists (CSPG)	President
19. Reinson, Gerry:	Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC) (Sunday)	Director
20. Schreiner, Bryan:	Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC) (Sunday)	Director
21. Stasiuk, Vern:	Cdn Soc for Coal Science and Organic Petrology (CSCSOP)	President
22. Strong, Geoff:	Canadian Meteorological & Oceanographic Society (CMOS)	President
23. Thorleifson, Harvey:	Canadian Geoscience Council (CGC)	President
24. Vavrek, Jean:	Cdn Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM)	Executive Director
25. Wright, Brenda:	Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists (CCPG)	President
26. Young, Ian:	EnCana Corporation	Observer

09:00, Sunday, 11 June 2006

1. Welcome, Introductions

Harvey Thorleifson opened the meeting at 9 am

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda previously circulated was discussed and some minor changes were suggested. A motion to approve the revised agenda was moved by Steve Holysh and seconded by Robert Marquis. The motion was carried. (CGC Motion #1.)

3. Minutes of the 114th Council Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the 114th Council meeting held in Ottawa on November 27th 2005 as circulated was made by Ted Little and seconded by Jeff Packard. The motion was carried. (CGC Motion #2.)

4. Report from the Council of Presidents

Council of Presidents (CoP) Roundtable: The Renewal Initiative

➤ *Facilitators: Simon Hanmer & Jeff Packard*

Agenda for the Saturday, 10 June 2006 Council of Presidents Roundtable

- CoP Meeting opens: Introductions 09:00
 - Agenda presented, Goals set for meeting 09:15
 - Working Group (WG) Reports with Action Items and Timeline 09:30
 - Break 10:30
 - Working Group Reports with Action Items and Timeline (cont'd) 10:45
 - Lunch 12:30
 - General Discussion on Priorities arising from WG Reports 13:30
 - Report of Search Committee 14:45
 - CGI Renewal Timeline examined and modified 15:00
 - Discovery Process for a potential Presidential candidate: 15:30
 - Adjournment 16:30
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Summary of the Council of Presidents discussion

1. Welcome and Introductions

Simon Hanmer and Jeff Packard called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM Saturday, and representatives present introduced themselves. Jim Reimer extended a welcome from CSPG to all participants. Simon reminded participants of the excellent sense of discovery and progress achieved at the November Council of Presidents (CoP) meeting, and reminded all of the need to maintain a sense of urgency with regard to laying the groundwork for renewed earth science community coordination.

2. Goals for the meeting

Jeff Packard then presented the proposed agenda, and reviewed anticipated goals for the meeting. He congratulated the group for their participation, passion, and professionalism, and stated that in this age of accelerated global change on a resource-challenged planet, earth science is not only relevant, it is simply vital, so we must be heard. The facilitators wished to ensure that the meeting would again represent a reaffirmation by member societies of their willingness to buy into and take ownership of the process of renewal for national earth science coordination, and to define concrete steps to be taken towards a consensus organizational structure, and thus the nature of core services and means for their provision to underpin the concept of a renewed national earth science federation.

Jeff thus proposed as goals for the meeting that we listen attentively to the shared services reports and help working groups flesh out their respective corroborative opportunities, in particular missing or incorrect data, unconsidered options, incentives and/or impediments, that we prioritize the shared service opportunities on the basis of short-term potential for implementation, that we put forward an implementation plan consisting of action items and timeline for one to three of these shared service opportunities, and that we thus maintain the positive momentum generated over the past year.

3. Working Group Reports

Simon Hanmer then introduced the shared services working group reports by first pointing out that fragmentation had been the key issue addressed at Geoscience Summit 2004. He reviewed extensive analysis and discussion conducted in the months following the Summit on mechanisms for enhanced coordination, including assessment of approaches used by other sectors that commonly are underpinned by shared services. At the November CoP meetings, therefore, working groups were commissioned to investigate the potential for expansion of shared services in fields such as liabilities, memberships, publications, communications, conventions, lecture tours, careers, as well identification of resources to support increased coordination.

The working groups reviewed our existing activities, identified areas in which increased sharing of services would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the community as whole, and assessed methods and resources needed to achieve the potential arrangement, such that a decision could be made on whether the shared service will be attractive. The analyses identified current negative impacts of the status quo, including inefficiencies in the form of duplications, unneeded expenditure of personnel effort, and financial costs. Ways to improve our effectiveness and efficiency were to be identified by addressing each point raised as an inefficiency, while concurrently acknowledging the

potential negative effects of sharing services, both on recipient organizations and on contributing organizations. Having assessed means for improvement and mechanisms for delivery, a determination was to be made regarding whether one or more Earth Science organizations currently have the capacity to provide the service more broadly, or if potential suppliers outside the community could be identified, and costs assessed. When complete, the analyses will determine whether a shared service will be an attractive proposition for collective action by Canadian Earth Science organizations.

During this part of the agenda, it was clear that many of the reports represented significant advances toward better understanding of the issues involved in providing shared core services within the community, while in some cases, it was evident that the appointed committees had been unable to commit the time required to discuss and examine the issues collectively. In most of the latter cases, the topic could still be constructively addressed by roundtable discussions. This enabled the participants to put forward an agenda of concrete next steps and target dates in order to move these dossiers forward in a tangible manner.

Liabilities (J. Vavrek, CIM)

Jean Vavrek led discussion on topics related to risk management, insurance, and safety. At the outset, he suggested a division between corporate liabilities, such as Directors' liability and event/field trip insurance, and individual professional liabilities. There was strong interest around the table in shared Directors' insurance, and Jeff Packard suggested that we could move forward quickly if this aspect was focused on. Jean indicated that he could lead further analysis on this topic, including who is doing what, and who needs what.

He also suggested that further analysis on event insurance could be conducted as an aspect of increased cooperation on conference planning, and it was clear from further discussion that there was recognition of the increasing need for adequate care to be taken in field trip planning, including sufficient safety manuals, and it was agreed that there is much potential for cooperation on this urgent topic.

There was further discussion on professional liability, also referred to as errors and omissions liability for individuals. Who should do what on this topic was recognized as a matter to be handled carefully, and Brenda Wright indicated that this very much is a matter that CCPG is addressing on an ongoing basis, including the potential for self-insurance. Richard Moore then indicated that PDAC could now take a turn at leading on this important topic, and he stated that the group could report by late autumn on assessment of the potential for shared insurance for corporate and individual professional liabilities, and facilitation of sharing of best practices regarding field trip safety & related topics

Actions:

- a. Evaluation of concrete actions to provide shared insurance for corporate and individual professional liabilities
- b. Prepare a field trip safety manual based on existing resources

Lead: PDAC

Contributors: GAC, CSPG, CCPG, CIM

Target date for next report: November 1st, 2006

Publications (R. Marquis, GAC)

Robert Marquis spoke for the publications working group by summarizing analysis initially done under the leadership of David Piper, and now Jeff Harris, both of GAC (Appendix A). He reported, and several meeting participants agreed, that while enhanced cooperation between Earth Science societies will be useful within several aspect of publishing, there is, in particular, excellent potential for common benefit in the fields of marketing and sales, such as a shared e-bookstore.

The Publications working group had examined Canadian public sector production of earth science technical publications, including journals, field trip guides, and short course notes. The analysis described how Canadian earth science needs a range of publication services as a means of communicating information both nationally and internationally, with the public sector appropriately complementing the role of private sector publishers.

According to the report, many constituent societies see publications as one of their key member services, while identification and preparation of content for publication will probably remain a grass-roots activity in which constituent societies, or even their divisions and sections, will continue to play a major role. Sharing of services therefore can be most effective in the provision of editorial, publication, and distribution services. The group examined several activities for opportunities for improved efficiency, including indications of duplication, and ways to optimize personnel effort, costs, and production methods.

Marquis indicated that many societies publish journals, books, and increasingly diverse digital products. In addition, provincial and federal government agencies publish earth science products. Examples of journals include *Atlantic Geology*, *Atmosphere-Ocean*, *Bulletin of Canadian Petroleum Geology*, *Canadian Geographer*, *Canadian Journal of Earth Science (CJES)*, *Canadian Mineralogist*, *CMOS Bulletin*, *Géographie Physique et Quaternaire*, *Geoscience Canada*, *GSC Current Research*, *Journal of Exploration and Mining Geology*, and *MAC Elements*. Examples of newsletters and magazines include *CGU Elements*, *CIM Magazine*, *Geolog*, *Reservoir*, and the newsletters of several specialist groups. Books and series include *CSPG Memoirs*, *GAC Mineral Deposits Division publications*, *GAC Special Papers*, *GSC Bulletins*, *Palaeontographica Canadiana*, provincial survey publications, and short course notes. We also produce outreach materials, as well as digital lecture tour notes and teaching images. In addition, data archiving and electronic supplements are an increasing field.

To prepare these publications, we solicit and prepare material, we referee, edit, copy edit and layout text and graphics, we print and post to the web, and we manage distribution, marketing, and sales. Currently, preventable duplication between organizations progressively increases along this workflow, although linkage to corporate identity also increases in this direction. To address inefficiencies, we need to work as a community, and consider whether we have too many journals and publication series. Most feel that current journals are successful, attract sufficient manuscripts, occupy important niches, and provide brand identity and member services for societies. Losing this link to a society, and instead being asked to contribute to the work of a larger organization, could result in loss of volunteer support.

According to the report, one approach would have CJES accept more regional papers, thus reducing the need for several journals. NRC Press could also conceivably expand its Monograph Series to

accommodate series now being produced by societies on an unsustainable basis, possibly resulting in higher quality but also higher cost than volunteer society publications. Much more analysis will be required to fully assess the future of data archives. The current view of the working group is that no change is needed in the fields of soliciting and preparing material, no change is needed in editorial management unless journals are amalgamated, there is a need for promotion of efficient volunteer effort in copy editing and layout through increased shared awareness, there could be further analysis of centralized printing contracts, and there is a need for increased help in web accessibility for smaller players through solutions such as GeoScienceWorld, along with sharing of experience in hard copy and web distribution and greatly increased co-marketing and coordinated sales.

This final topic was seen as having much potential, with GAC and MAC, as well as GSC and NRC Press, already working together on marketing. GAC has built an e-bookstore that accommodates publications from many groups. According to the report, however, most societies have some degree of on-line bookstore presence, and may be reluctant to lose the visibility that it provides, although there is potential for more linking. Augmentation of cooperation could perhaps be more readily done if startup resources are found. The group saw this as an attractive proposition, and success would perhaps be best facilitated by bolstering the work of an existing lead group, although it is unclear who would take this lead. The GSC, NRC Press, GAC, CIM, MAC, CAG, Canqua, CMOS, CSPG, and MDD are all active publishers. Resources should therefore perhaps be found for a coordination service, either at the HQ of the CGC successor organization, or in distributed locations, for coordination in copy-editing and layout services, co-marketing, and an annual meeting of Canadian Earth Science Editors.

The summary of the report indicated that if societies so desire, we could perhaps move towards one or more of the current major publishers providing publishing services for smaller societies. Members would perhaps be better served by a more cooperative approach to publication and marketing, although societies may be hesitant to lose their identity as a publisher, provider of member services, branding and revenue, if they are able to sustain these activities. It was stated that these sensitivities must be addressed in any coordination, and it may be necessary to find new money for coordination services if we are to move towards more cooperation in publishing. Experience with advertising in technical publications has been mixed, especially the potential impact of the transition from paper to web-based journals, and will require more in-depth analysis. While recognizing that publications are a key member service for many societies, it also was seen that cooperation will be beneficial - it was stressed that ideally all organizations will contribute something to an appropriate team effort that will achieve long-term critical mass in a field that several societies have a marginally sustainable presence in, and that we can move quickly on this. Anticipated follow-up will include broader evaluation of steps toward cooperation, with emphasis on marketing and sales, and analysis of the potential for increased revenue generation through advertising.

Actions:

- c. Evaluation of concrete actions for cooperation in marketing and sales of technical publications
- d. Evaluation of the potential for revenue generation through advertising in technical publications

Lead: GAC

Contributors: MAC, CSPG, CMOS, CANQUA

Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

Communications (D. Kontak, MAC)

The communications group led by Dan Kontak of MAC initially focused on interaction within the community. Dan's report (Appendix B), which was presented by Harvey Thorleifson, opened by stating that there presently is no vehicle for Canadian earth scientists to inform each other of their activity. It was suggested that the need for greater internal awareness is escalating, due to the need for greater collaboration and mutual interest. It was concluded that for us all to benefit from teamwork leading to intricate solutions to resource and environmental opportunities and challenges, there has to be an adequate means for interaction. It was acknowledged that conferences fulfill this need to a degree, but only every few years, or in reality once per decade, to the extent provided by the GeoCanada format. It was concluded that we need a form of interaction that addresses the universal interests and needs of the community. Having established the need, Dan then pointed to a success story that could serve as a model for what is needed, and how it can be achieved. In this case, a separate but overlapping community, the global minerals and materials community, saw a similar need. The result was the highly successful 'Elements' (<http://www.elementsmagazine.org/>). Initiated less than two years ago, this 10,000-copy, 6-issues-per-year, 64-pages-per-issue, peer-reviewed, well-cited magazine is a team effort by eight societies, whose logos appear on page three, and who contribute news for a section at the back. In between are well-illustrated, high-quality, peer-reviewed review articles on a theme selected from proposals a year in advance by an advisory board, and edited by a guest editor. Advertising sales have been good, and the full cost per member to the sponsoring societies, including mailing, is \$13 per year. Kontak asserted that this is a model for the earth science community, and he suggested that we consider whether *Geoscience Canada* could transform itself into this format.

The means to do so have been assessed by the *Geoscience Canada* leadership (Appendix B). According to this report, initially tabled in November 2005, *Geoscience Canada* is designed to serve the general information needs of a broad Canadian earth science community, but presently is only distributed to GAC members, less than 15% of Canadian earth scientists, along with 250 paying libraries. *Geoscience Canada* publishes articles written in a style to interest and inform non-specialist professional readers. Four types of articles are published – review papers commenting on recent progress, commonly as series that become a book such as *Facies Models*, topical articles discussing the interaction of the earth sciences and Canadian society, short notes on recent research, as well as conference reports, book reviews, letters, comments and replies. A hard copy of *Geoscience Canada* could be distributed to each of 15,000 Canadian earth scientists, at its present maximum size of 48 pages per issue, four times a year, at a cost of \$12 per member per year. Cost per hard copy would double if the number of participating societies was significantly smaller, or if members were given the option of digital only, thus reducing uptake of the hard copy. Costs would have to be controlled by carefully assessing how to handle administrative details such as who would deal with missing or misdirected issues. Colour figures would add \$1 per year per subscriber. There also are options for inexpensive digital delivery, although this would affect uptake and advertising sales. Peer-review would be strictly maintained, in part to ensure membership in GeoScienceWorld. While some societies have done well with advertising, current analyses imply that the cost in the case of *Geoscience Canada* would only be reduced from \$12 to \$10 per member per year for 4 copies, if an aggressive approach to advertising were taken.

A major hurdle for this project, according to Thorleifson, would be to obtain the concurrence of about 30 Canadian earth science societies and professional associations, as partial uptake would cause

escalation of per member cost. Possible inducements would be a fully representative Editorial Board and a free trial year, funded by some as yet undetermined means. Also required would be a reconciliation of membership databases, probably by an independent party working with limited member data under a strict contract. The 2001 CGC census indicated that the average Canadian earth scientist maintains over two memberships, and many keep up as many as a half-dozen. If a magazine were to be delivered to each member of each society without first going through a membership database reconciliation, the required number of copies and thus cost would double, and many members would be perturbed to receive as many as a half dozen copies in their mailboxes, five of which would be immediately discarded. This seems inconceivable, and thus membership database reconciliation would be essential. Thorleifson stated that it therefore is clear that there are major challenges for this project that some see as insurmountable. On the other hand, *Elements*, as pointed out by Dan Kontak, has been a success, due to the commitment of an analogous community that had a need similar to the one that presently lies before the Canadian earth science community. Discussion addressed where production of a shared journal would be managed, and made reference to earlier discussions on this topic. A show of hands was in favour of an internal news and review journal to promote shared awareness, and there were calls for an implementation plan to be drafted.

There also was discussion on a Council of Engineering and Scientific Society Executives (CESSE) assessment of the implications of potential open access requirements such as Bill C-21, in relation to communication with members. Discussion then addressed the next steps to be taken, including a broadening of the working group discussion to include external communications. Steve Holysh (IAH) offered to take the next turn in leading analysis and consultation on internal communications. It was agreed that there is equal urgency on external communications, and Ted Little (Canqua) offered to lead the next phase of analysis on external communications, from both the proactive and reactive perspectives, and also encompassing both focused advocacy meant for short-term impact, as well as much broader outreach meant to fulfill long-term objectives. Anticipated follow-up regarding internal communication will include formulation of a roadmap for Canadian Earth Science community internal communications, and evaluation of the potential impact of Bill C-21, Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (NPCA), and on external communication, will include formulation of a roadmap for earth science outreach, as well as advocacy, including positioning relative to controversial issues.

Actions: *Internal Communications*

- e. Formulate a roadmap for internal communications within the Canadian Earth Science community
- f. Evaluate the potential impact of Bill C-21 on open reporting to CGC/CGI membership

Lead: IAH

Contributors: MAC, CAG, NRCan, GAC

Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

Actions: *External Communications*

- g. Formulate a roadmap for external communications with respect to:
 - Proactive outreach
 - Reaction to controversial issues

Lead: CANQUA

Contributors: CSEG, CSPG, PDAC, GAC, CSCOP, CAG

Target date for next report: October 1st, 2006

Memberships (J. Packard, CSPG)

Jeff Packard provided an overview of the findings of the membership working group (Appendix C). He indicated that the group had initiated an assessment of whether increased shared services in membership management would result in the monetary cost for the service being less than is presently being expended, whether the real total cost including intangibles such as volunteer time would be less, whether the sophistication, flexibility, and/or efficiency of an enhanced shared service would allow for significant increases in society/member benefits, and whether the time and money usually spent on membership management could be beneficially redirected to other activities. The surprising result of the preliminary analysis was the suggestion that the larger societies seem to spend more per member on membership registration and database management than smaller societies. This would imply that there would be little advantage to be gained by the sharing of services with regard to economies of scale, and there was some question regarding whether smaller societies would find more intricate management to be attractive. However, the ensuing discussion highlighted the need to distinguish total costs from the incremental costs directly related to membership, which were thought to be significantly lower than those reported. In addition, smaller societies may be enjoying the benefits of large volunteer contributions that were not fully considered. J. Vavrek pointed out that CIM is currently undertaking this analysis internally and suggested that a real cost analysis remains to be done. The perception was that a single system could serve all societies at lower total cost. A broader concern is the widely shared challenge of maintaining membership numbers - there was broad interest in sharing knowledge on strategies for the three R's - recruitment, retention, and rehabilitation of lapsed members - an example is direct telephone solicitation to rehabilitate members. Jeff also pointed to David Piper's input regarding the point that, beyond consideration of costs, revenue, and a shared membership sales interface, we need further assessment of what it takes to truly function as a community. Piper suggested that reconciling membership procedures at some level is essential to obtain a single membership database for the purpose of communicating directly with Canadian earth scientists, to demonstrate who we are, and thus establish our importance to Canada - the importance of this point was recognized around the table. The view is that if the successor to the current CGC arrangement is to be successful, it not only must serve and be relevant to its member societies, but also demonstrate relevance to the individual members of those societies. This led to discussion of the potential for societies to share member information, while taking into consideration privacy considerations, and the sensitive question of balancing the independence of the societies with our firm desire to enhance our ability to engage in required collective action. The conclusion was that further effort could readily address shared awareness of best practices in provision of membership services, while the more fundamental question of achieving a membership list or census for the entire Canadian earth science community is a topic to be approached with caution and sensitivity.

Actions:

- h. Undertake an analysis of the real incremental costs of membership registration and database management and the potential benefits of the sharing of services in this regard
- i. Formulate a mechanism for building a common list of contact coordinates of membership in CGC/CGI member societies for the purposes of communications

Lead: CSPG

Contributors: CMOS, CIM, CWLS, GAC, Canqua

Target date for next report: October 1st, 2006

Lecture Tours (D. Becker, CGS)

Dennis Becker described the working group report (Appendix D), which highlighted the spectrum of Canadian earth science lecture tours, from academic to applied sectors, from professional development to recruitment, from external funding to endowments, and from applied work to research results. The Lecture Tour working group began by using CGS as a case study to assess criteria that need to be met to have successful a lecture tour. A questionnaire was then sent to the major technical societies, who were asked how many tours they have, how long they last, how many cities are visited, if local groups look after arrangements, what audience is targeted and which one materializes, how they select speakers, who funds travel, accommodation, and meals, whether local sections contribute to costs, whether the speaker gets an honorarium in addition to expenses, what the source of funding is, what the budget is, examples of positive experiences, and things that are needed.

The responses indicate that we need to identify the target audience carefully. Two patterns seem evident from the preliminary analysis. Some societies arrange their lectures through local affiliate groups, and aim them at the professional development of practitioners. Other societies aim their efforts more at attracting students into the earth sciences. This raised the questions of whether groups with similar objectives could work together, with the aid of an appropriate national organization. There would have to be sufficient similarity in interests to enable audiences that meet the full range of objectives to be assembled in various cities, and speakers would concurrently have to be found to satisfy the spectrum of interest. Having identified parallel efforts toward similar objectives, local groups across the county would have to be identified, possibly involving cooperative arrangements at the local level, to ensure adequate attention to speaker liaison, meetings arrangements, marketing, and costs. This would be achievable, if compatible interests and cultures in fact exist to the degree that co-sponsorship would be seen as attractive, and feasible. The working group also found that there is considerable variation in funding models. Some groups take no money from government or the universities for managing its tours, while attracting funding from industry, donations, and fees. Some tours are fully funded by industry sponsorships or endowments. It seems increasingly unlikely that government money can or should be used to fund such tours. The ensuing discussion focused on the potential for broader and larger lecture programs to reach the general public and students, bridging sub-communities, bringing lecturers from other fields into established programs, promotion, volunteer training, a network or teleconference of tour organizers, permanent staffing, sharing of best practices for lecture tours, coordination of timing, webcasting of lectures, and cross-fertilization between societies. Follow-up will include identification of the means to ensure increase shared awareness of best practices, and further assessment of the potential for amalgamated efforts

Actions:

- j. Locate and assemble existing materials for a best practices manual
- k. Identify existing lecture tour coordinators within member societies and associations and set up a coordination network for logistics, timing, and the evaluation of possibilities for the sharing (cross-fertilisation) of topics between subsets of the Earth Sciences community
- l. Investigate the logistics and legalities of regional to nation telecasting of lectures

Lead: CGS

Contributors: CSPG, CMOS, CIM, CWLS, GAC, CGS, CWLS

Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

Conferences (R. Marquis, GAC)

R. Marquis spoke for the working group, led by Kevin Ansdell of GAC (Appendix E). Ansdell described the essential role that conferences play for us all, whether academic, industry, or government, professional or student. There is increasing success in coordinating and cosponsoring conferences, to ensure that we have the right mix of large and small meetings. Keys to success are an appropriate, exciting and attractive technical program, along with attractive venue, excellent facilities, partnerships, marketing, timing, critical mass, and short courses, that together will attract the maximum number of participants at a reasonable cost. Meetings permit exchange of ideas and knowledge, professional development, and networking, while financially sustaining sponsors. Conferences serve academic, government, hydrocarbons, minerals, or environment, or a combination. Small meetings are best for advancing topics, while large, multi-society conferences are most successful in impact and profit. Conferences tend to be organized by interested volunteers from academia, government or industry, with variable levels of support from association professional staff, if any. Existing professional staff, however, tend to only have experience in their home bases. While it is good for technical programs to be developed by passionate individuals and organization leadership, logistics such as accommodation, space, AV, promotion, website design and provision for abstract submission and registration, financial issues, and risk management could perhaps more efficiently be done by dedicated professional staff, ideally through a shared service arrangement that would allow experience to be more broadly shared. A goal for the Canadian Earth Science community therefore might be to have a professional staff who would assist in the logistics of conferences, large and small, across the country. Our calendar tends to be Roundup in January, PDAC in March, CIM, GAC-MAC, CGU, and CSEG in May, and CSPG in June or so. Most provinces and territories hold lively mining open houses in the fall, and interspersed among these dates are specialist meetings such as CANQUA, nearby US-based meetings, and international conferences. GAC-MAC with their partners typically attract 500 to 1000, CSPG with partners attract up to 5000, while PDAC attendance now exceeds 14,000. Upcoming multi-society meetings include a mining theme in Québec City in 2008, an environment theme in Toronto in 2009, and all partners are striving for the widest possible participation in GeoCanada 2010 in Calgary, which will be broad and will include a substantial energy theme. Meeting choice is driven by technical program, interest, location, cost, as well as loyalty, and the ability and willingness to attend multiple meetings seems to be diminishing. We all therefore struggle to choose which meetings to attend, and funds for travel compete with professional registration fees and other expenses, so we tend to choose one conference to attend, thus commonly resulting in missed opportunities for broader collaboration. A key factor in permitting attendance at multiple conferences is timing, and organizations do their best, with imperfect information, to avoid conflicts. With increased co-hosting and enhanced awareness, coordination of timing will be optimized. Ideally, we would plan the best suite of conferences, including multi-society GeoCanada meetings around a theme, major meetings in the resource business, and smaller thematic conferences – planned on a five-year cycle. We can start toward this by maintaining an up-to-date, web-accessible conference calendar, years in advance. In summary, the report highlighted the benefits of increased awareness through web-based information and perhaps an annual conference chairs teleconference, and challenged us to consider the efficiencies of a shared professional staff to assist with conference logistics. CSPG and CIM, for example, have capacity and might be able to share it on a cost or profit sharing basis – they were encouraged to make a proposal on how these services could be more widely utilized, while considering varying needs.

As a contribution to the conference topic, CSPG led preparation of a report on joint conventions, focusing on the frequency of multi-society GeoCanada meetings that will follow the model established with the 2000 meeting, ideally with the addition of several more societies. The next GeoCanada is scheduled for 2010, and the question of whether to hold such meetings on a more frequent basis has been raised. If the meetings are held in Calgary, it might be possible to do so every five years, with the approval of the original Geotriad Group - CSPG, CSEG and CWLS. A GeoCanada every 2-4 years would not be feasible, according to the report, as it would put too much pressure on volunteers and Calgary-based office staff. Partner societies would also have to look very closely at the impact of the arrangement on their profit split. An alternative approach would have the GeoCanada format in multiple sites, with the central theme varying - we are now part way to this format, with the upcoming multi-society mining theme in Québec City in 2008, and the broad multi-society environment-related theme in Toronto for 2009. The advantages of the format were cited as promotion of a sense of community, potential for higher profit if staged appropriately, opportunity for increased exhibitor exposure and profitability, and potential for development of excellent field trips. On the other hand, the format can strain the volunteer base, tedium would emerge if we return to the same city repeatedly, there could be decreased revenue for societies that typically meet in the host city, there could be resistance from out-of-town exhibitors, some competing conventions will run anyway, and a limit on repeated field trips would be reached. The report also assessed the potential for CGC or its successor to function in part through the profits of major multi-society meetings. It was stressed that such an organization would be welcome as a partner. In reality, however, the concept of generating revenue for this organization, or any other, would depend on the ability of that organization to assume a commensurate share of the risk, the up-front costs, and staffing, and furthermore there would have to be consideration of whether the organization would deliver increased attendance by delegates and exhibitors, thus justifying a profit share. The report authors were freely willing to consider innovative approaches, or relatively painless mechanisms for making a donation to an umbrella organization, such as volunteering to donate something like 10% of their profit, or perhaps a sliding scale. Currently, CGC does not have adequate staffing or headquarters resources to contribute substantially to conference planning, but it was acknowledged that this could change. At very least, multi-society conferences would permit a stage for the coordinating body to be more visible. To make a real contribution and hence legitimately derive revenue, the coordinating organization would have to act as co-host, and staff would have to devote significant effort to planning and executing convention. A potential distinction could relate to the ability of the CGC successor to solicit government sponsorship dollars and sponsorship from sustaining members.

Actions:

- m. Revise the Report with formal input from Contributors
- n. Identify the existing resources capable of offering these services within the Earth Science community
- o. Prepare a proposal on how to provide the multi-faceted logistical supports that may be required by different parts of the Earth Science community in Canada
- p. Draw up a detailed 5-year calendar of regional, national and international conferences relevant to the Earth Science community out to 2011.

Lead: GAC

Contributors: CSPG, CSEG, CMOS, CIM, CGS, PDAC

Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

Jobs/Recruitment (J. Vavrek, CIM)

Jean Vavrek described CIM efforts in major *Mining & Society* events held in Toronto and Vancouver, with the Mining Industry Human Resources Council (MiHR). A published MiHR study of highly qualified personnel (HQP) needs in the mining industry did not adequately address earth science, as was the case for the report by the Petroleum Human Resources Council of Canada. Ensuing discussion pointed to the need for an equivalent study of immediate and future human resource requirements of the Earth Science sector in Canada – a major undertaking that would require funding on the order of \$1M and an appropriately-structured lead body and/or contractor(s). The crucial importance of data was noted, such as recently-updated CCCESD data on post-secondary student enrollment.

Actions:

- q. Prepare a letter from CGC/CGI member societies and associations, to potential sponsors and eventually consultants, to put the case for the funding and undertaking a survey of geoscience needs in Canada.
- r. Document best practice experience gleaned by CIM from their Mining & Society events

Lead: GAC; **Contributors:** All

Target date for next report: August 1st, 2006

Resourcing and In-Kind Support (B. Mummery, CGC)

Bob Mummery presented the report (Appendix F), which laid out a scenario for a half-million dollar 2007-2008 budget for a CGC successor with office space, and options for doubling of this amount. Working group discussions had focused on sustaining broad support from the Earth Science community, effective representation for and service to all sectors - environment, mining, oil & gas, academia, business, profession, and government. Success will be facilitated by an improving image, as well as bold, fresh approaches to development of a credible business plan with measurable results. This said, it is acknowledged that decisions to join a cause commonly are emotional rather than business decisions based on facts, so an impression that a fresh, new start is being taken is important. But needed services will sustain financial and in-kind support in the long term, balanced ideally with financial backing from large industry and individual benefactors who now have substantial funds and a desire to support earth science and our role in social issues. Membership fees are unlikely to ever be a significant portion of ongoing funding, although organizations may provide one-time or short-term seed money to establish a new organization with a clear vision and mandate. Conference profit-sharing could result from development of a headquarters staff. A staged budget that would build over 3 to 5 years is needed, pending the direction provided by new leadership, and there is an immediate need to clarify options. It was noted that the required funds could probably be liberated through the efficiencies of increased cooperation. There was faith that funds are available to do what is needed.

Actions:

- s. Prepare a forward-looking budget that reflects the reality of the CGC/CGI as of November 2006
- t. Prepare an brief analysis of the CGC funding cycle and its inherent limitations
- u. Prepare a brief analysis of the options for the provision of both in-kind and sponsorship resources within the Earth Science community

Lead: CGC

Contributors: NRCan, CSPG, GAC

Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

Student Chapters (M. Douglas, CANQUA)

Ted Little spoke for the working group, whose work had been led by Marianne Douglas (Appendix G). A key theme was the need for a single point of contact for student clubs to interact with the Earth Science community, perhaps building from existing GAC/PDAC Logan Student Chapters, while recognizing that existing societies need to market and compete. A central registry for students could be a dry-run or beta-test for more comprehensive membership services. Ensuing discussion highlighted the need to be proactive with respect to students. Jim Reimer, for example, pointed out that CSPG undertakes a very general earth science outreach strategy in the schools, but clearly focuses on attracting students to the oil and gas sector at the university level. A central point of contact system would have to allow for this kind of sector-specific messaging by associations. We may wish to become more aggressive in making students members. Discussion also addressed awards and the need to effectively communicate the opportunities for awards and recognition that are open to students across the entire community. The approach taken by the working group was to consider how to best serve students and student chapter groups, and to determine whether there are inefficiencies in our current approach. A survey of organizations regarding services, awards and fees available to students indicated that a wide range of services is available at varying costs. Some duplication exists, although many organizations are specialized in their focus and are maintaining long-standing traditions, so it will be best for us to acknowledge and support these activities. Concurrently, however, the need for increased coordination is apparent, and a one-stop portal or student registry into the Earth Science community would be ideal. From this site, students would obtain easier access to the existing excellent programs, events and services, including funding for conference travel and research, career planning, mentors, job postings, short courses, safety training, and group rates for insurance, travel and accommodation. Once a more active successor to CGC is established, a coordinated student chapter strategy will be needed. A registry could be run on contributions from member organizations, or it could require a membership fee from registered students.

Support to student chapters could be augmented on a coordinated basis, as GAC and PDAC are now doing. David Piper of GAC, as a member of the working group, indicated that numerous earth science societies have a student chapter program, and most were originally set up to attract new members, as well as to support student activities. There is now a growing awareness that student chapters could better serve, inform and support students, rather than simply competing for their attention. There is thus a need for cooperation among societies in supporting student clubs. At present, students may be confused by the range of options from different societies and may have a considerable bureaucratic burden just to interact with all the societies. Furthermore, we might not be reaching all student clubs and campuses, particularly in fields of geography, atmospheric sciences and oceanography. At the same time, there is duplication of effort by societies maintaining contact with student clubs, and basis of the engagement varies. We could perhaps better help students if they had one point of contact with a national student chapter office, which could also address the specific requirements of sponsoring societies. Individual societies could still offer financial or educational support in specific areas, such as CSPG in petroleum geology. The single point of contact would have up-to-date information on the full range of services. Our attractiveness will be enhanced by augmenting benefits, as PDAC and GAC are now doing through their grants. GAC and PDAC welcome additional Logan Student Chapter Trust Fund partners, based on a payment of \$50K or more to the fund, while other options can be negotiated – it was stated that this could lead to the Logan program becoming an instrument for the entire community. Societies that wish to promote a particular area of earth science could continue to do this,

but it would be easier for the students if the information was to flow through a central office. GAC, as partner in the Logan program, has organized a system of faculty reps on each campus. If costs could somehow be covered, perhaps through transfer of some GAC HQ functions elsewhere, GAC would be willing to coordinate a central point of contact for all student clubs. This proposal would not diminish the direct contact that member societies can have with student clubs, but would make things easier for all societies by having a central point of contact with up-to-date information, would allow smaller societies to enter into the student chapter activities, and would make life much less confusing for students. On the other hand, according to the report, member societies would not be able to seek out new student members as aggressively, as students would be better informed about the range of options available. The group will now focus on design of an ideal earth science student service registry that allows for sector messaging

Actions:

- v. Define a mechanism for assembling a central registry to act as a single point of contact for students in all university departments where aspects of Earth Science are taught, that also allows for sector-specific messaging
- w. Assemble a web-based access point for all student-oriented scholarships, awards and bursaries in all aspects of Earth Science

Lead: CANQUA

Contributors: GAC, PDAC, CSPG, CIM, CCCESD, CAG, CMOS

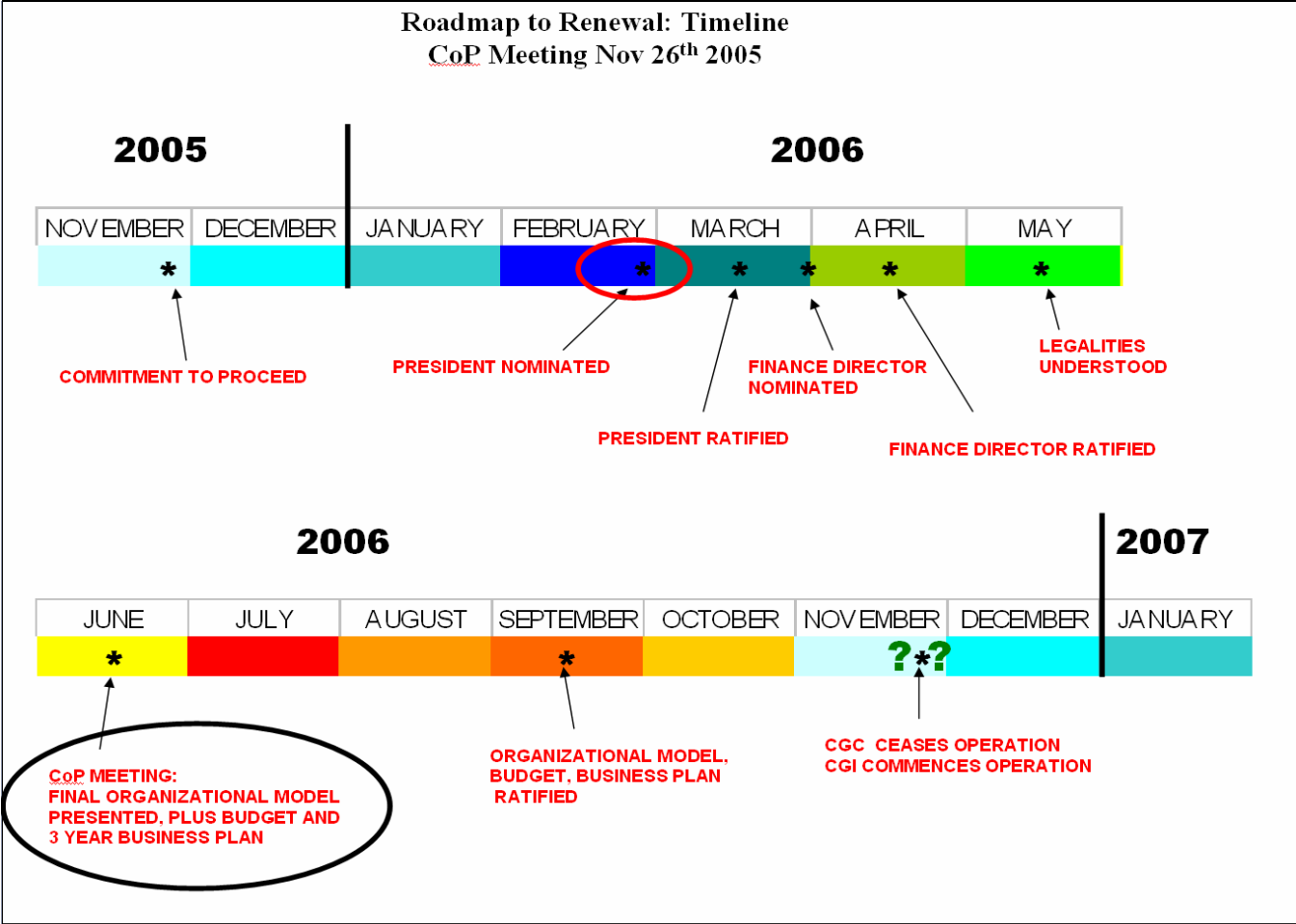
Target date for next report: September 1st, 2006

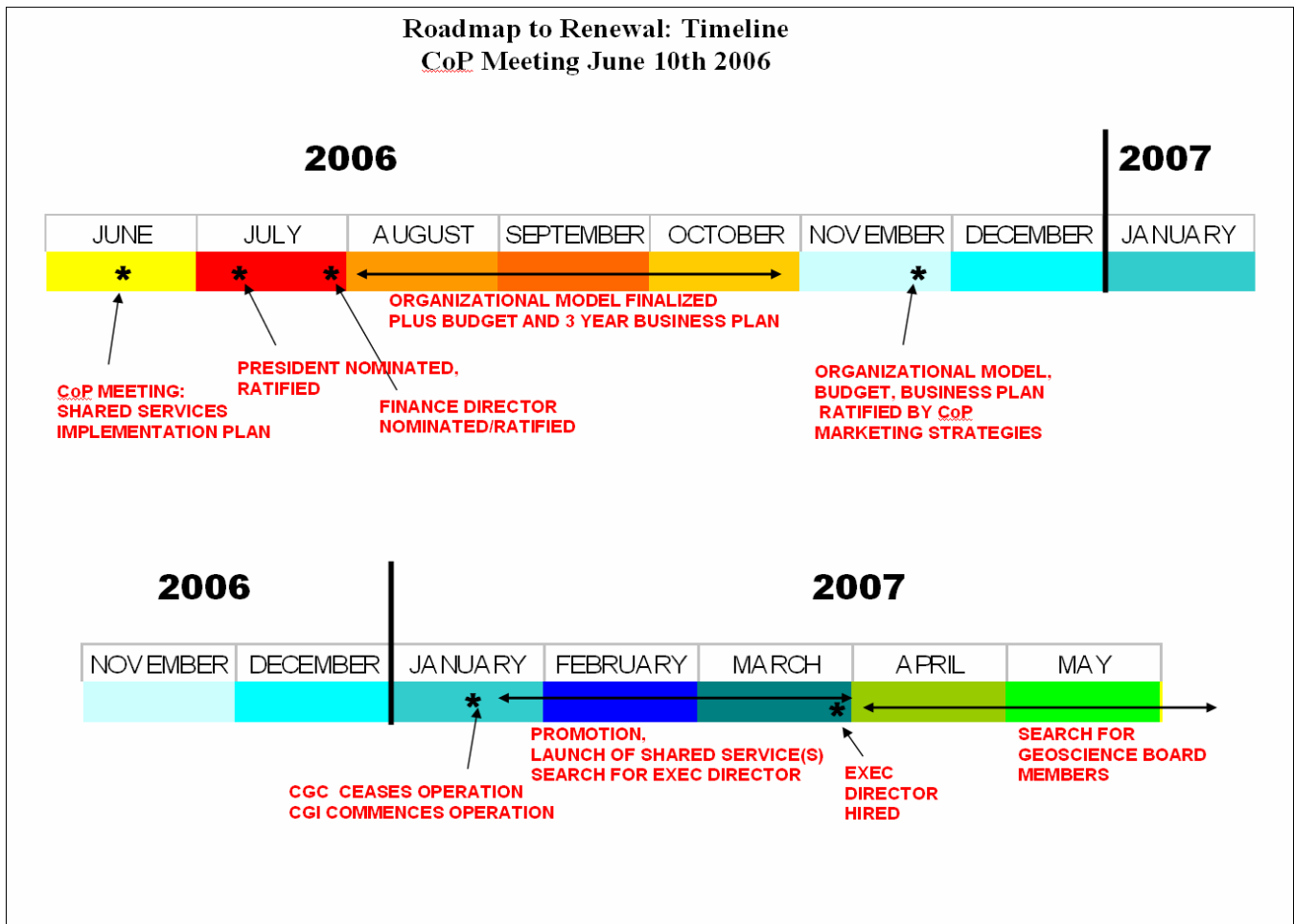
4. Report of the Presidential Search Committee

Jeff Packard then described the search for a new president for the renewed CGC/CGI from within the Energy Sector, as had been agreed at the November 2005 CoP meeting in Ottawa. The vital role that the new President will play requires that the highest quality candidate be found, and the timing also was seen as important, to ensure that there will be no loss of momentum, although it was thought to be more important to find the right candidate and delay his/her inauguration than to adhere to a timetable too strictly. A personal approach, with endorsement from key players was being taken, with ongoing contact with the candidates. A high degree of cooperation had been obtained from the societies and organizations. Desired qualifications and attributes being sought included available time, intra-sector recognition and respect, passion/motivation, communication skills, consensus building, organizational experience/skills, as well as innovative problem solving, negotiating skills, language skills, and some consideration of multi-sector experience, and higher education.

On this basis, in February 2006, Jeff Packard, Simon Hanmer and Energy Sector representatives assembled a short list of five potential candidates, and distributed the list for comment and endorsement. A nomination letter was crafted for a candidate, who was approached and with whom meetings were held in April 27, although the candidate regretfully felt an obligation to decline due to health issues. A second nomination letter therefore was prepared for a candidate who enjoyed the strong support of the search committee – this person was approached on May 30th, and the discovery process was reported to be on-going with the candidate. The group was very much pleased that the individual accepted an invitation to sit in on the Saturday CoP meeting, in order to better assess the challenges facing a revitalized CGC/CGI, and the role that a chief executive officer in this organization would play. The letter to the candidate was sent by the energy-industry-based team on behalf of the Council of Presidents of the earth science societies and associations of Canada (CoP), and stressed that

the issue at hand is leadership at the highest level for the Earth Science community in Canada. The letter noted that despite the current economic upswing in the energy and mining sectors, the Canadian Earth Science community as a whole is not faring as well as it might be, as reflected by, for example, recruitment levels, the status of earth science education, and funding levels at NSERC and the geological surveys. This underperformance was attributed to a lack of effective national representation for our community, and consequently the under-valuing by both governments and the public of the contribution of Earth Science to Canada's economic and societal well-being. It was pointed out that the CGC has not achieved the desired buy-in and effectiveness, hence the recent comprehensive efforts toward renewal that were strongly endorsed at the June 2005 and November 2005 CoP meetings. The letter went on to state that the CoP unanimously believes that this restructuring of the CGC/CGI, coupled with the taking of ownership of key issues by the CoP within the governing circle of a new national federation, will be capable of truly making a difference to the status of the Earth Sciences in Canada. It was on this basis that the candidate was invited to consider being President of the renewed organization. The original timetable, indicated in the first graphic as set forth in November 2005, required modification. The revised timetable, in the second graphic, was proposed by Packard. It was generally agreed that this revised timetable represented an ambitious but feasible schedule.





5. Discovery Process for Presidential candidate

An optimistic and constructive discussion session ensued wherein the candidate for the presidency, having attended the meeting throughout the day, made a broad range of observations about the workings of the earth science community. Discussion around the table was broad and philosophical, and after addressing community structure, then included topics such as selection of lead persons for advocacy roles, including leadership from the atmospheric and meteorological community, as well as recognition that groups such as CCPG and GSC must position themselves carefully relative to advocacy. There was a strong sense of a business-like and realistic approach being taken by all, and good recognition of the needs that we all have a duty to address, as earth science seeks to better fulfill its potential in the Canadian innovation system.

6. Adjournment

Simon Hanmer and Jeff Packard then expressed their thanks to all present for their enthusiasm and commitment to this process of renewal of the CGC/CGI. The meeting was formally closed at 4.30 pm

In his summary presented Sunday morning, Jeff Packard described the previous day's highly successful Council of Presidents (CoP) meeting. He stressed that turnout had been good, and that there was strong collective desire to go forward on clear and manageable goals. He provided an overview of the progress, refined objectives, and updated leadership of the crucial shared services working groups (Appendix H). He stated that the discussion had been extremely positive, and much additional progress can be anticipated. Strong support for quick action on key items, such as web services for students (Appendix I), was expressed around the table.

5. Report from Council of Chairs of Canadian Earth Science Departments

The CCCESD Report (Appendix J) was then presented by Dr. Rob Raeside. He indicated that statistics on university education have been brought up to date, and are available on the CCCESD web site. There was much constructive and optimistic discussion about the positive trends that he described.

With respect to total undergraduate and graduate student enrolment, Rob indicated that the downward trend in undergraduate program registrations from 1998-2003 appears to have bottomed out at about 60% of the peak values in the late 90's, and has increased slightly since 2003, mainly as a result of increased enrolment in Ontario and the West, while Quebec has seen a decline in undergraduate enrolments since 2003. He went on to state that, considering only Geology/Earth Science majors, thus excluding programs such as Environmental Science, Atmospheric Science, and Geophysics, the enrolment in undergraduate programs has increased significantly in 2004 and 2005, 5% and 15% respectively. The 1990-2001 upward trend in B.Sc. graduations appears to have dropped to about the 1998 level, and stayed constant. Numbers of first year and service course registrations, are increasing very rapidly again after a decade in the 20,000 range. This increase is most dramatic in Ontario in 2005, with a 66% increase in one year, presumably representing the bulge from the double entry cohort in 2003 related to the end of Grade 13, now seeking elective courses in science to complete degree programs. The number of registrations for graduate work is rising modestly. Of note is the 33% growth in PhD registrations from 2002-2005, although graduations don't show any change. There is no obvious correlation between enrolment in undergraduate programs and M.Sc or PhD registrations. Ratios of numbers of students registered in M.Sc and PhD programs to the numbers of students graduating, over a period of time during which registration and graduation numbers do not change rapidly, is a macroindicator of time in program. It must be noted that students who drop out of program will skew the values toward higher numbers. Of note in the past decade is an increase in "time in program" for PhD students, but this may be due to the recent increase in new enrolments in PhD programs described above. Faculty numbers are level over the past 4 years, after a 10% climb from 2000 to 2002 which might have been the result of Canada Research Chair (CRC) appointments. If so, more recent appointments have been balanced by losses elsewhere. The steady decline of support staff from 1988 to 2000 appears to have leveled off, while the number of post doctoral assistants is showing a steady rise with a 60% increase since 1998. The ratio of support staff to faculty continued a steady decline to 2004, but has rebounded in 2005 as a result of appointments of technicians in Ontario and the West.

Professor Raeside then indicated that meetings would be held on research planning with NSERC and GSC in the autumn, and that there also is great interest in ensuring adequate promotion of earth science as a career option.

6. Report from Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists

The CCPG Report (Appendix K) was presented by Brenda Wright, and much discussion ensued regarding the very active progress being made in the optimization of professional registration. Brenda indicated that CCPG was pleased to contribute to these important meetings, and she brought greetings on behalf of CCPG. She described how CCPG is a national coordinating body created in 1997 by the provincial and territorial geoscientist associations of Canada that deals with professional geoscience issues on the national and international scenes. In Canada, professional registration of geoscientists falls under the legal jurisdiction of the provinces and territories, so CCPG is not a licensing body and cannot license individuals, and it has no legal authority over the various associations. The CCPG is responsible to its ten constituent associations only, and these provincial and territorial associations are the only members of CCPG. Professional membership numbers now exceed 7600. Two weeks before the CGC meetings, CCPG held its annual general meeting in Saskatoon, hosted by APEGS. This year, CCPG is pleased to announce the appointment of Oliver Bonham, P. Geo., as the first CCPG Chief Executive Officer, whose office is now based in Burnaby, hosted by APEGBC. With Ollie in this role, CCPG can now move forward on key strategic initiatives, including provision of support for the work of the Canadian Geosciences Standards Board in creating a geoscience syllabus meant to be adopted by Constituent Associations as the National Standard for fulfilling educational requirements for registration. Brenda also reported that the member associations have signed a two-year extension on the existing Inter-Association Mobility Agreement (IAMA), and have struck a task force that will examine ways to improve mobility. In addition, renewal of the CCPG governance model will be a priority during her term. Brenda then indicated that she will look forward to continuing the close association between CCPG and CGC, and offered to assist in renewal of Canadian earth science community coordination arrangements.

Lunch

7. Report from Partnership Group for Science and Engineering

In response to a request from the floor, Harvey Thorleifson provided background information on PAGSE (<http://www.pagse.org/>) activities. He indicated that more recent and detailed information is available from Simon Hanmer and Denis St-Onge. He indicated that advocacy - communications designed to influence policy decisions over the short to medium term – is very active, through the highly effective activity of the business groups, and through Parliament Hill mechanisms such as the Partnership Group for Science and Engineering (PAGSE). While business-based groups and those responsible for professional registration tend to their own advocacy, activity in support of science is primarily carried out through PAGSE, a cooperative of more than 20 national Science and Engineering (S&E) organizations who speak for fifty thousand individuals. PAGSE communicates the economic benefits of research in Canada, sponsors analyses, addresses intellectual property issues, showcases the international dimensions of research initiatives, and supports decision makers with information on the importance of S&E to Canada. PAGSE meets regularly with the Presidents of the principal S&E funding agencies, as well as senior officials in federal science-based departments, and with the National Science Advisor. PAGSE holds an annual fall symposium in Ottawa, and submits a brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance each fall. In partnership with NSERC, PAGSE sponsors the widely-acclaimed Bacon and Eggheads breakfast lectures held monthly since 1998 on Parliament Hill while parliamentarians are in session.

8. CGC Annual Meeting

The CGC Annual Business Meeting for FY 2005 to 2006 was held from 1:30 until 2:15 pm. In addition to the more formal proceedings, the meeting included much general discussion regarding ways to optimize CGC governance, given the importance of our many tasks and opportunities at hand. Separate minutes for the annual meeting were prepared, and are available on the CGC web site.

9. Report from Canadian Geoscience Education Network

Fran Haidl presented the CGEN report (Appendix L). Enthusiastic discussion ensued, addressing the great need and numerous opportunities to enhance awareness of earth science throughout the Canadian general public.

Fran reported that there are now 178 CGEN members, and that CGEN is in good financial health, so that funds have been allocated to create a French version of the CGEN website. A new CGEN plan for education, outreach and communications in Canadian Geoscience is now being revised after a consultation period. For EdGEO Teachers' Workshops, 2005 was a record year - 322 teachers attended 22 workshops across Canada, held at an average cost of \$91.11 per teacher. For 2006, eight workshops have been completed, five have been approved, and three have been proposed. Teacher feedback at the workshops has been very positive. For 2005/ 2006, EdGEO has received funding from CSPG, CGF, CGC/CGEN, GAC Pacific, and CRYSTAL Pacific. Additional funding is being sought to support the increasing demand for workshops. Limited GSC support to EarthNet in 05/06 has allowed content development, and funding is being sought to support continued development of this excellent site.

A new Careers website prototype has been developed with support from CGF and GSC, and a fundraising campaign this Fall will hopefully permit completion. Four Geoscape posters were released in 05/06, and local initiatives continue in several areas. The Friends of Canadian Geoheritage Ottawa chapter is very active, and efforts are underway to make this a national program. The What on Earth newsletter editors will retire in 2008 or 2009, preliminary discussions are underway to find a new editor(s). At GAC/MAC 2006 in Montreal, EdGEO sponsored a Special Session on Learning styles and teaching strategies: getting Earth Science to stick. More than 70 people attended. An EdGEO Workshop for teachers and outreach geoscientists also was held, with 32 teachers participating. CGEN priorities for 2006-2007 include continued support for EdGEO, by soliciting additional funding to meet increased demand for workshops across Canada, by encouraging more workshops for student teachers, and by encouraging workshop organizers to include a field component in workshops. Secondly, development of the CGEN Careers website will be supported, through a fundraising campaign, continued requests for in-kind support from earth science organizations, and work with partners such as CSEG. Thirdly, CGEN will move forward with a revised Plan for education, outreach & communications in Canadian Geoscience, with priorities clearly identified. In addition, funds will be sought to support EarthNet, outreach activities will be held at the Yellowknife GAC/MAC meetings, regional CGEN meetings will be held, and CGEN will contribute to IYPE planning.

10. Report from the International Director

Bryan Schreiner described current International activities, as summarized in his Report (Appendix M). He indicated that the IGCP is in transition, with greatly increased emphasis on applied geoscience for societal benefits.

Schreiner then described preparations for International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE), and reported that the CNC-IUGS is acting as the Executive Committee for IYPE and that GAC is willing to act as facilitator in forming an CNC-IYPE. IYPE was seen as an excellent platform for major earth science outreach activities across Canada. There was strong support for the approach being taken, and several societies indicated a willingness to work with GAC in forming the CNC.

There was strong consensus that CGC members will increase their role in International Geoscience activities. Within this context, it was reported that NRCAN now has a requirement to administer their financial contribution to international affairs directly, rather than channeling funds through CGC. To accommodate this administrative consideration, it was moved by Bryan Schreiner and seconded by Bob Mummery, that CGC arrange for NRCAN to administer their financial contributions to International activities directly. The motion was unanimously approved. **(CGC Motion #3.)**

In addition, meeting participants were again reminded that Canadian membership in the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP) will be reduced or terminated in coming months, unless new opportunities to take advantage of ICDP support emerge. Richard Grieve of NRCAN has coordinated consultations on this topic, in order to ensure an adequate level of awareness in relation to the options and opportunities.

11. Report from Canada Prize Foundation

Dr. Brian Norford then reviewed the current status of efforts to establish a Canada Prize in Earth and Environmental Science. It was moved by Robert Marquis and seconded by Ted Little that CGC President Harvey Thorleifson send a letter of endorsement for the Canada Prize to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, encouraging Federal financial support and linkage with the IYPE so the initial Prize can be awarded in 2008. The motion was unanimously approved. **(CGC Motion #4.)**

12. Other business

Professional Mobility: Richard Moore (PDAC) then led a discussion regarding earth science professional mobility in Canada. The issue has been addressed in discussions related to agreements between provinces such as Ontario and Québec, and in agreements to reduce barriers to mobility between provinces, such as the one between Alberta and BC. As an outcome of the discussion, it was moved by Richard Moore, and seconded by Gerry Reinson, that CGC supports the efforts of CCPG to break down existing barriers to the mobility of registered professional geoscientists, to allow for unimpeded practice of professional geoscientists between provincial and territorial jurisdictions as expressed in the Intergovernmental Agreement on Internal Trade. The motion was approved. Harvey Thorleifson will write a letter from CGC to CCPG expressing CGC our support for their initiatives in the area of professional mobility. **(CGC Motion #5.)**

Priorities for Short-term Goals: Jeff Ollerhead proposed that we prioritize action items from the working groups and identify quick wins that could be achieved, for example in improving the CGC website in relation to student services. His proposed priority list, which received support around the table, is included as Appendix I, along with suggestions for improvements to the CGC web site, including Web resources such as posting available safety manuals, E-bookstore, lecture tours, conventions, links to organizations, CGEN Careers in earth science information, and promotion of donations for Logan Awards to student chapters.

‘Lyn Anglin indicated that she would ask GAC to support the initiative on Safety Manuals, insurance and student chapters. Jeff Ollerhead volunteered to put together a business case for a Student page on the CGC website. Fran Haidl will check on the status of the Geoscience Careers web prototype.

A suggestion was made to have a conference call before the end of June to discuss these action steps. The call would include GAC (‘Lyn), CAG (Jeff O), CGEN (Fran), CANQUA (Ted), IAH (Steve H), and representatives from the CGC Directors and CoP facilitators. There also was agreement to ensure quick progress on the most important readily achievable outcomes emanating from the CoP meeting on Saturday, including investigation of economies of scale benefits for topics such as corporate liability insurance – topics that CIM and CCPG are very active in.

13. Date and venue of next meeting

Meeting participants were pleased to receive two invitations from potential meeting hosts for meetings over the coming year or so, one presented by Robert Marquis for a meeting in Québec City this fall, and also from Richard Moore for a meeting in Toronto at the PDAC offices next year. Both invitations were received with enthusiasm and appreciation

14. Adjournment

Jeff Ollerhead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m.
