



Canadian Federation
of Earth Sciences

Fédération canadienne
des Sciences de la terre

117th CFES-FCST Meetings
Welch Room, YWCA 535 Hornby Street
Vancouver

09:00 - 17:00; Saturday, June 16, 2007;
09:00 - 15:00; Sunday, June 17, 2007

Draft Minutes

Attendees:

Anglin, Lyn GAC
Barrett, Catherine CFES
Bogstie, Doug CSEG
Bonham, Ollie CCPG
Boyd, John CNC IYPE
Burns, James CFES
Griffith, Lisa CSPG
Haidl, Fran CGEN
Holysh, Steve IAH
Lefebure, Dave NGSC
Lowe, Carmen NRCan
Moore, Richard PDAC
Mustard, Don Canada Prize
Ollerhead, Jeff CAG
Packard, Jeff CFES
Schreiner, Bryan CFES
Smith, Paul CCCESD
Thorleifson, Harvey CFES
Vavrek, Jean CIM
Wu, Peter CGS
Young, Ian CFES

09:00 Saturday, June 16 2007

1. Welcome & Introductions
Ian Young opened the meeting at 9:00 am.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda previously circulated was discussed and confirmed. A motion to approve the agenda was proposed by Lisa Griffiths and seconded by Jean Vavrek.

3. Approval of Minutes of the 116th Council Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the 116th Council meeting held in Quebec on November 18, 19 2006 as circulated on <http://www.geoscience.ca/minutes.html> was made by Peter Wu and seconded by Steve Holysh.

▪ *Facilitator: Jeff Packard*

4. The proposed By-Laws were discussed in overview by James Burns. 5 changes were suggested and incorporated into the draft to be considered on Sunday.

5. Ian Young provided an overview of the proposed Vision, Mission, and Principles and Objectives. Discussion produced changes in each area and all were agreed to. In particular, wording around a “unified voice” and the value of Earth science to Canadians were felt by a large group to be important additions.

Break

6. Richard Moore discussed the candidacy of Bill Mercer for the position of President-Elect. Support by various Council Members was given by those who knew Bill Mercer or who were knowledgeable of his reputation.

Candidacy of Jeff Packard for the position of Director of Internal Communications was also put forward by Ian Young.

7. Shared Services Working Group Reports, updated action items & timelines

Copies of the reports are available on www.geoscience.ca/nextMeet.html

Insurance and Liabilities

PDAC

Insurance rates have been established for PDAC that can be made available for other member societies.

- The researcher for PDAC will be in contact with other societies.

Memberships

CSPG

Reasons for investigating direct communication with CFES members included:

- There are messages of national importance to communicate
- Government must be assured that CFES speaks for and to our entire Earth science constituency.
- Website communication, on its own, is too passive.

Options were researched and findings presented. The following recommendations were agreed to by CoM in light of these findings:

- Wholesale downloading of membership lists from CFES' constituent societies associations will not happen primarily due to concerns regarding Privacy legislation. CFES will not approach those organizations that did agree to share information, for reasons of consistency with this decision. However, individual members visiting the CFES website will have the ability to submit their individual data on-line for the purposes of future communication..
- CFES will communicate messages of national importance through its member societies and associations. Communication will include the option of Ian Young making presentations to member Boards or their constituents, newsletter submissions, website links, and communication of CFES Vision, Mission and Principles and Objectives.

8. AGM

Minutes of the AGM available separately on www.geoscience.ca/nextMeet.html

9. New Strategic Business

- Funding
 1. Membership dues
 2. NRCan funding – how to proceed with CFES Domestic and International funding
 3. NSERC – the need for CFES-FCST to develop stronger ties
 4. CanGeoRef
 5. Managing Director recruitment
 6. Other funding mechanisms
 - a. Geocanada 2010
 - b. CAPP/MAC
- Galvanizing Issues
 1. Climate Change – should CFES-FCST adopt a position on the role of geoscience.
 2. Resource sustainability
 3. Public geoscience funding
 4. Research funding

The discussion on strategic business was brought forward due to the discussion during the AGM on the precarious financial situation of CFES. The topics from the agenda were grouped and expanded. Under the topic of funding it was agreed that both a long-term and short-term solution to the current shortfall in funding was a top priority. Carmen Lowe reported that NRCan is not in a position to fund any organizations at the moment, but remains very supportive in principal and has been very supportive historically.

It was further discussed that part of the solution to the long-term viability of CFES was dependent on focusing on a single issue that the member societies all support and can help generate publicity and raise awareness for Earth science in Canada. A number of topics were suggested but it was felt that

Climate Change was the most urgent in the public domain and the best place to start. This ties in very well with the proposed 2008 joint GAC/CSPG Nuna/Gussow conference. Jeff Ollerhead agreed to draft a two paragraph position as a starting point for the discussion.

Shared Services Working Group Reports, updated action items & timelines (continued)

Student Chapters

PDAC and GAC lead

CSPG

Both PDAC and GAC restated the importance of this Working Group's assignment. This was outlined in the November 2006 CFES-FCST meeting as including:

- Defining a mechanism for assembling a central registry for students in university departments where the Earth sciences are taught, and which allows for sector-specific messaging.
- Subsequently, ask societies and associations to evaluate the potential benefit of such shared services with the selected provider society.

The Working Group promised a report for the next meeting, but GAC informed of its progress with the creation of the Logan Trust Fund which has attracted significant funding (\$30,000 from GAC, \$50,000 from PDAC, and another \$50,000 expected to be given shortly), the intent of which is to consolidate under the broader banner of the Logan student chapters.

Jobs/Recruitment

GAC; Ian Young reporting

In Simon Hanmer's absence, Ian Young reported that surveys for Governmental, Academic, Mining, and Energy Resource sectors had been created and sent out. Responses are now being received and a report of compiled demographic statistics will be available at the next CFES-FCST meeting.

Lecture Tours

CGS

Peter Wu reported that a survey was previously sent out by Dennis Becker with a disappointing response rate. The larger societies have their lectures on the website, while others have more of an ad hoc approach. The Administrative Officer will look into combining the information that is currently available on line and posting on the CFES-FCST website.

Conventions

GAC

No report was available. However there was general agreement when 'Lyn Anglin noted that conventions are a significant revenue source for many member associations and societies and CFES-FCST could be seen as in competition if it were to pursue this objective.

Ian Young identified that a complete list of conferences had been posted on the CFES-FCST website but would need to be maintained and to be better located in order to be properly accessible.

Publications

GAC

'Lyn Anglin informed that no report was available. However publications were also noted as being widely considered a revenue source for many member associations and societies and CFES-FCST would be seen as in competition if it were to pursue this objective. It is noted that there may still be a coordination and facilitation role that CFES could play in the future should this area once again become a priority.

Internal Communications

IAH

Steve Holysh reported that a CFES-FCST newsletter editor had not yet been recruited. NRCan may be able to assist depending on anticipated workloads, but would not be able to assist with French translation. Jean Vavrek is to meet with Steve Holysh to discuss possible assistance with the translation. Steve will follow up with NRCan.

Working Group Priorities & Planning

Ian Young reviewed Working Group priorities as identified in the November 2006 CFES-FCST meeting. Discussion resulted in the following ongoing priorities:

- a. Investigation in shared insurance, especially with regards to field trip and Director liability, is to continue.
- b. A conference calendar had been posted on the CFES-FCST website and would be moved in the near future to make its location more obvious.
- c. An editor is to be found for a CFES-FCST newsletter. Steve Holysh to follow up as noted above.
- d. The Jobs/Recruitment survey will be completed and results distributed to all.
- e. Work on the CGEN Careers website is to continue. The Council was encouraged to review the power point prototype.
- f. The initiative to establish a panel of First Responders who, being experts in their field, could be called upon to provide information or opinion on behalf of CFES and Canadian Earth sciences, has had no progress to date.
- g. Hiring of the Administrative Officer, Catherine Barrett, has been completed.
- h. A Managing Director had been recruited but subsequently resigned when she accepted a full time job. Recruitment will begin again for someone approximately 2 days per week.
- i. Lecture tour calendar Catherine Barrett to consolidate information as noted above.
- j. New domain names have been secured (geoscience.ca and CFES-FCST.ca)
- k. A press kit has been mostly completed. A logo has been designed and is currently in use. The official name change is still being approved by the federal government but no issues are anticipated. Ian Young reminded all Members that he is available to address their Boards and/or members regarding CFES-FCST.
- l. An update from IYPE is to be provided by John Boyd tomorrow.
- m. The GeoCanada 2010 organizing committee has been approached with the proposal that CFES-FCST organizes an appropriate session that doesn't compete with those already spoken for by member societies. It was agreed that outreach would be an appropriate focus of a CFES session, with the possibility of expanding the Mining in Society event into GeoCanada.
- n. The National Advocacy and Advisory Panel discussion (now Earth Science AAP) will be addressed through a strategic task force on Advocacy.

Sunday, June 17

10. Motions

Motion 1: CFES-FCST will charge member societies and organizations \$2.00 per earth scientist, with a minimum of \$500 per society or association, for fiscal year 2008.

Moved by Doug Bogstie and seconded by Paul Smith

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion 2: The modified Vision, Mission and Principles and Objectives be accepted as presented.

1st Steve H 2nd Lisa G Carried

Moved by Doug Bogstie and seconded by Paul Smith

The motion was approved unanimously.

See attachment.

Motion 3: A nominating committee composed of representatives from CGS, IAH and CAG as well as the Past President be asked to nominate a Director for CFES-FCST for the November meeting.

Moved by Jeff Ollerhead and seconded by Jeff Packard

The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion 4: CFES-FCST will proceed with a strategic initiative that focuses on the role of Earth science in global change including climate change, water, and resource management.

Moved by Paul Smith and seconded by 'Lyn Anglin

The motion was carried.

Motion 5: Rescind Motion 4 and replace with "CFES-FCST will proceed with a strategic initiative that focuses on the role of Earth scientists in understanding and addressing global change including climate change, water, and resource management.

Moved by Paul Smith and seconded by Jean Vavrek

The motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discussion on the Earth Science Advocacy and Advisory Panel

It was agreed that the responsibility of forming a strategic plan for an Earth Science Advocacy and Advisory Panel should fall to the Executive. Ian Young, Richard Moore, Simon Hanmer, and Bill Mercer will assume this responsibility. Recommendations will be made at the next CFES-FCST meeting with an interim report for the end of September.

Break

12. Report from CGEN – Canadian Geoscience Education Network

- Fran Haidl advised that a report regarding the recent outreach workshop at the Yellowknife GAC Conference would be forthcoming. Highlights include a decision to towards increasing Earth science material in present science curriculums through the development of lesson materials and resources and holding workshops for teachers. This approach was viewed as more efficient than lobbying for new Earth science courses.
- It was also agreed that the first step towards moving Earth science outreach in Canada from its current “cottage industry” status would be to obtain funding to support the hiring of a minimum of 1.5 people to coordinate CGEN activities and assist volunteers with future fundraising.
- Over the last year, Fran H. reported that CGEN has grown from 180 to 220 members and presently had assets of \$17,149.60.
- Ian Young encouraged outreach personnel from Earth science societies to join the CGEN board.
- Fran H advised that a pdf mock-up of the anticipated Careers in Earth Science website had been circulated. The website is projected to be live by the next CFES-FCST meeting.
- Jean Vavrek encouraged all Earth science organizations to consider participating in the upcoming Mining in Society show, as well as a CIM Distinguished Lecture Series.

13. Report from IUGS CNC – International Union of Geological Sciences

- A report regarding IUGS and IGCP activities was distributed prior to the meeting.
- Bryan Schreiner reported that IGCP had undergone a recent restructuring from an academic focus to applied themes which included water, geohazards, climate change, resource sustainability, and deep earth.
- Canada is active in 4 of these themes.
- Funding is an issue with funding for projects seen as crucial. Two action items re this:
 - i. To ask financial support of internationally focused groups
 - ii. ‘Push’ NRCan and other federal bodies regarding funding for IGCP
- 2008 IGCP conference is in Oslo. IUGS is looking for new executive members, commissions, and a venue for the 2016 conference.

14. Report from IYPE CNC – International Year of Planet Earth

- A presentation was made by John Boyd regarding the mission of IYPE and \$1.6 million worth of anticipated projects.
- Fund raising will begin when printed material is ready – expected to be early July.
- John B asked for assistance in contacting CEOs of appropriate corporations.
- Opportunities for a concerted effort in fundraising were identified, including Jean Vavrek’s suggestion to coordinate with the Mining in Society fundraising and a suggestion by Ian Young that there might be opportunity to join efforts with the CSPG Educational Trust Fund

15. Report from the Foundation Sector – “Canada Prize”

- Don Mustard reviewed the history of the “Canada Prize” and gave an update regarding its current status.
- The initial private funding has been withdrawn and so the Foundation is looking for replacement funding. Government support is still uncommitted.
- The Foundation is looking for additional Board members.

16. Report from CCPG – Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists

- Ollie Bonham provided a written report.
- CCPG held its spring meeting and AGM on June 2. Hamid Mumin became President and Bruce Broster President-Elect.
- CCPG applied for and received \$140,000 funding for its P.Geo=P.Geo project: an initiative to address the mobility issue for professional geoscientists. The project has two aims:
 - i. To conclude work on achieving Canada wide acceptance requirements for registration, and
 - ii. To improve inter-provincial mobility for practitioners.

17. Report from CCCESD – Council of Chairs of Canadian Earth Science Departments

- Paul Smith gave a presentation on CCCESD activities
- CCCESD has two pressing problems:
 - i. Inadequate NSERC funding
 - ii. Student recruitment. While there has been a recent up-tick, many more students are needed. Recruitment is particularly poor for grad students as NSERC funding is low.
- Recent priorities have included:
 - i. Lobbying efforts in collaboration with other science groups to increase the size of the NSERC pie, and then highlighting the need for Earth science’s slice
 - ii. Highlighting the Earth sciences through initiatives such as posting “research stars” on the CCCESD website.
- Natural ties with CFES goals were noted. Richard Moore offered to discuss possible collaboration opportunities re lobbying.

18. Report from NGSC – National Geological Surveys Committee

- Dave Lefebure outlined current issues for NGSC:
 - i. Safety for field personnel given outfall from helicopter fatality. Specific concerns regarding university students on field trips having little safety preparation.
 - ii. Cooperative Geological Mapping Strategy is looking for \$500 million. Hoping for it to be included in the 2008/9 federal budget.
 - iii. Geoscience Accord – an accord has been struck outlining interprovincial homogeneity regarding project development. All provinces have signed except Quebec, which is following the spirit of the Accord.

19. Priority and action items from the meeting.

- Funding Committee to examine future funding opportunities. Funding Committee to be comprised of: CSEG, James Burns, Bryan S, CSPG. Recommendations to be finalized by next meeting, with an interim report ready by the end of September.
- Committee for Strategic Initiative on global change is to be comprised of: Jeff Packard, Lyn Anglin, Jean Vavrek, Jeff Ollerhead. Working plan is to be ready by the end of September.
- Committee to recommend a strategic plan for CFES-FCST advocacy will be comprised of Ian Young, Richard Moore, Simon Hanmer, and Bill Mercer Recommendations to be finalized by next meeting, with an interim report ready by the end of September.
- Four shared service working groups are to be shed: Conventions, Publications, Membership (1 action item remaining), Lecture Tours.
- It was agreed that Schedule A of the Bylaws includes the following members of CFES:
 1. CCCESD
 2. CSPG
 3. CSEG
 4. CAG
 5. CGRG
 6. PDAC
 7. CIM
 8. CGS
 9. CNC IAH
 10. NGSC
 11. GAC
 12. CWLS
 13. CANQUA
 14. MAC
- Decide whether to pay IUGS and IGCP \$20,000
- Finalize Vision statement – done
- Catherine Barrett and Ian Young to follow up on outstanding society fees by the end of July.
- James Burns, Ian Young and Managing Director to follow up re CanGeoRef by July.
- Ian Young to finalize press release and kit for distribution in August.
- Identify top 3 priorities- these were identified as the first three new committees listed under items 1-3.
- Establishment of membership portal on CFES – September
- Calendar for lecture tours –September
- Ian Young to recruit Managing Director. A job description with identified \$ to be sent to all.

20. Date and venue of next meeting: November 17, 18 2007, Toronto

Adjourn

Moved by Lisa Griffiths. Seconded by Jeff Packard.
Meeting adjourned.

14:45

Attachment:

Vision, Mission and Principles and Objectives

Vision:

Canada is recognized both at home and internationally as a world leader in the Earth sciences.

Mission:

CFES-FCST, as the unified voice for ES in Canada, raises awareness of the importance of Earth science in Canadians' every-day lives. It enhances the understanding and appreciation of the role of Earth sciences in environmental, natural hazard and climate studies, and its fundamental importance in securing and responsibly developing Canada's energy, mining and water resources.

CFES-FCST facilitates the ability of Canada's Earth science sectors to share data, knowledge and evolving ideas. It seeks to influence policy and public opinion based on science, serving as the principal contact and referral point for information, advice and advocacy on matters of concern to its disciplines.

Principles and Objectives:

- ▶ The CFES/FCST facilitates coordination of Canadian Earth science organizations in order to improve their efficiency and effectiveness in addressing the natural resource, environmental and safety needs of Canadians.
- ▶ CFES/FCST supports Canada's role in international earth science programs
- ▶ The CFES/FCST will focus on issues that are important to the broadest range of Earth science organizations and will be pursued on a consensus basis.
- ▶ The CFES/FCST will always attempt to avoid competing with its member organizations
- ▶ The CFES/FCST will represent the broad community of Earth scientists by:
 - Actively encouraging participation and membership by all Canadian societies, organizations and groups who are concerned with Earth science.
 - Ensuring broad representation on the Board of Directors.
 - Selecting successive Presidents from the major areas of the Earth Sciences.
- ▶ The CFES/FCST seeks to improve earth science literacy in Canada
 - By identifying national issues that require input from earth science
 - By increasing awareness of the knowledge Canadians need for informed decision-making
 - By increasing the awareness of Canadians of the importance of Earth science to Canada and in their daily lives
 - By supporting the Canadian Geoscience Education Network (CGEN) in its programs which include:
 - Providing teachers with enhanced knowledge and resources to teach Earth Science in their classrooms
 - Enhancing Earth Science content in school curricula
- ▶ The CFES/FCST seeks to maintain the health of Earth science skills capacity in Canada by working to increase enrolment in University Earth science programs
- ▶ CFES/FCST seeks to improve research capacity and funding to advance Canada's recognized position as an innovator and leader in Earth Sciences.
- ▶ The CFES/FCST advises public agencies
 - By advocating an optimal role for Earth science in our society

- By commenting on legislation and programs in earth sciences
- By advocating an optimal role for professional registration, continuing education, professionalism and ethical practice.

CFES-FCST, as the unified voice for ES in Canada, ensures Canadians take pride in their role as world leaders in Earth Science.