



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Science Council

NOAA SCIENCE COUNCIL MEETING

March 5th, 2024

10:30A-11:30AM ET

Google Meet

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Executive

Sarah Kapnick, Chair
Steve Thur, Vice Chair
Emily Nocito, Exec Sec
Isha Renta, Exec Sec

Principal

Sean Corson, NOS
Gary Matlock, OAR
Douglas Howard, NESDIS
Trika Gerard, NMFS
Randall Tebeest, OMAO
Hendrik Tolman, NWS (alternative)

Advisory

Hendrik Tolman, Council of NOAA Fellows Representative
Casey Stewart, NOAA Science Advisory Board Executive Director
Frank Indiviglio, NOAA Chief Information Office
Cynthia Decker, Scientific Integrity Officer
Natasha White, Office of Education Liaison

Other Attendees

Greg Frost, OAR
Eric Bayler, NESDIS
Kenneth Vierra, OAR
Brooke McHansen, NESDIS
Shelby Butz, NOS
Terence Lynch, OAR
Ishrat Jabin, OAR
Laura Newcomb, OAR
Debbie Sinmao, OFA
Jessica Morgan, NESDIS
Victoria Moreno, OAR
Joseph Casola, NESDIS
Victoria Luu, OAR
Abigail Arnold, OAR
Fiona Horsfall, OAR
Joseph Fillingham, OAR
John Cortinas, OAR
Suzanne Weeks, SIAM
Zillah Elcin, SIAM
Carolina Behe, NOS
Mark Graff, OGC
Wayne Mackenzie, OAR
Trika Gerard, NMFS
Lauren Wenzel, NOS
Jessica Morgan, NESDIS
Katelyn Robinson
Abby Addy, SIAM
Annie Imperatrice, SIAM
Curtis Alexander, OAR
Roxie Allison-Holman, OGC
Michael Kruk, NESIDS
Tony LaVoi, CIO
Becky Lizama, OGC
Jennifer Mahoney, OAR
Andrew Peck, OAR
Zach Penney, USEC
Tonya Ringgold, SO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

Notify Exec Sec at science.council.execsec@noaa.gov within two weeks of the following meeting if any changes to the minutes are needed.

CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Science Council chair welcomed John Cortinas, the new OAR representative.
- The Chair also thanked everyone for their work on the FY26 SRGM, noting that that finalized version is available online on the Science Council website - Council Products section.
- Regarding RDEC Updates, the Chair noted that the updated RDEC terms of reference will include term limits for all members. The Chair recommended that line offices whose current members have served three years or longer should solicit new members, and encouraged Science Council to nominate new members from the band III/IV level with an emphasis on providing leadership opportunities for staff members with interest and expertise in science policy that are willing to actively contribute to the group. The Science Council Chair has reported that they are asking the RDEC to continue to shorten the NOAA Science Report and explore different methods to tell the story of our unique R&D through metrics and impacts in a succinct manner.

MINUTES

- Minutes from the February 13th Science Council meeting were **approved**.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW

- The Exec Sec reviewed all current action items.

BRIEFINGS: Briefing materials are available in the 2024 Science Council Meetings folder on Google Drive.

- **Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) & NOAA:** Suzanne Weeks

10:35 AM – 10:55 AM (20 min)

Informational

Suzanne presented on the work and outreach of the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (herein SIAM), of which she is the CEO. She noted that as an interdisciplinary organization, SIAM has a lot in common with the efforts and interests of NOAA, and that she hoped this presentation would lead to increased partnerships. She noted that SIAM is a non-profit, professional society aimed to promote research, programs, and opportunities for people interested in the advanced application of mathematics and computer science. She noted that SIAM is an international organization, the majority of members of whom work in academia and focus on mathematics. Suzanne highlighted subset membership groups that exist within SIAM that may be of interest to people in NOAA, namely groups dedicated to geosciences, data science, the mathematics of planet earth, and others. She also highlighted a 2022 event held by SIAM through funding from NSG focused on climate science, sustainability, and clean energy. The event consisted of 58 participants who came up with 9 recommendations on clean energy innovations and increasing the resilience of the USA

Suzanne also highlighted SIAM's work with students. SIAM offers travel aid to college and graduate students to attend conferences, as well as summer schools and student chapters of SIAM. She mentioned that SIAM hosts career fairs and would like to see a NOAA presence there. SIAM also hosts early career fellows including a fellowship dedicated to early career professionals from historically underrepresented groups. Lastly, she reported on an event that had recently occurred, called the Math Modeling Challenge, where 3000 students were challenged to work on a math modeling problem.

NWS provided some background as to how SIAM came to the Science Council, noting that they met at a meeting focused on NOAA efforts to engage with students. NWS noted that there is a want in NOAA to get more involved in classrooms and lower-school education, which SIAM has excelled at.

NOS asked for additional information related to the Mathematically Gifted & Black-SIAM Fellowship. Suzanne responded that that was an already existing partnership, but recommended that people look into NAM fellowships.

NOS also suggested that SIAM connect with NOAA Education, which Suzanne was excited for.

The Chair thanked Suzanne and her team, noting enthusiasm for following up on new partnerships.

- **NOAA Tribal Policies and a discussion on Indigenous Knowledge (IK):** Zach Penney

10:55 AM – 11:25 AM (30 min)

Discussion

The Chair reminded members that this presentation was prompted by the last meeting's discussion on safety and fieldwork.

DSK: this came up from the last meeting on safety and fieldwork discussion last meeting.

Zach introduced the presentation with some context on indigenous knowledge and NOAA, noting NAO 218-8A and the Consultation Handbook, which align (but existed prior to) the 2022 White House guidance on relationships and collaborations with indigenous governments and communities. Zach also provided background on the various ways of knowing, noting that indigenous knowledge exists on a spectrum. He also highlighted the Tribal Liaison team, providing contact information for each member.

After this background, Zach highlighted two questions for discussion among the Science Council: How can we better institutionalize and guide NOAA's existing tribal engagement efforts and policy? How can NOAA actually invest, reset, repair, and grow. To facilitate these discussions, Zach provided some discussion points, such as a focus on invasive science, western science, the ethics of stewardship, indigenous data sovereignty, and the role of the ivory tower.

In the chat, LaVoi noted that the General Counsel was working on an appendix focused on FOIA and privacy for the Indigenous Knowledge document. Decker provided a link to the SAB report on Indigenous and Local Knowledge in the chat. Lizama also provided a link to the documents tab of the NOAA Tribal and Indigenous Guidance page. The Chair also noted that they will be working with USPTO on next steps related to training and guidance for IP and how this can be brought into work with tribes, especially with Sea Grant and NMFS research. The Vice-Chair requested that the Tribal Liaisons receive explicit invitations to the next meeting, as due to time constraints, there was not sufficient time for a discussion. Because of this, the Chair tasked members to reflect on the presentation and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting. The Chair asked that members also focus on what policies exist, and if gaps exist, how to best address those gaps.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next NOAA Science Council meeting is April 9th via Google Meet.
- 2023 Science Report will be coming out later that week.
- Tonja Ringgold announced that 16 nominees require rating for the PECASE awards, and that OSTP wants all agencies to nominate. She tasked the Science Council to select 6 of the nominees. The Vice-Chair noted that many years ago there were several bureaus who did not send nominations, resulting in unfilled spots. He asked Tonja if they could nominate extra in case there were openings, which Tonja agreed with. Tolman seconded this, stating that they previously would do an extra nomination as backup.

ACTION ITEMS

Science Council: This spreadsheet lists all current open action items currently assigned to the Council. Additional information for each entry can be found in the original email assigning this task. If you have any questions, please email science.council.execsec@noaa.gov.

Date Assigned or Action Number	Subject Line	Assigned To	Status
20220510-01	Cooperative Research Committee ToR	Group of NOAA Science Council principals and advisory members	The group is following up on the motion proposed by Gary Matlock at the May Science 2022 Council meeting.
20220830	Science Council ToR	SC/NEP	Needs NEC comments to be addressed and send back to the NOAA Administrator for approval
20221104-2	SoS Fact Sheet - Drought	NIDIS	POC working on updating first draft.
20230716	SoS Fact Sheet - NOAA's Greenhouse Gas Activities	OAR CPO	In review and due on March 6th
20230920	SoS Fact Sheet - Climate Intervention for CDR and SRM	OAR	In review and due on March 6th
20240109	2024 Work Plan	Exec Sec	SC reponses received. Work Plan document needs to be developed.
20240216	Review of the draft NAO-201-105 (MOU/A)	MOU/MOA Task Force	In review and due on March 1st