



EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM  
TO STIMULATE  
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH

Utah EPSCoR State Committee – July 29, 2013

**Attendees:**

Exec Committee – Rita Teutonico, Tom Parks, Mark McLellan, Alan Harker

General Committee – Ted McAleer, Liz Hitch, Tami Goetz, Dave Matty, Senator Lyle Hillyard

Ex officio – Todd Crowl, Joe Orr

Excused – Sarah Young, Kim Heimsath, Patrice Arent

**Agenda:**

1. Tom Parks, Committee Chair
  - Call to order – 10:03AM
  - Approval of minutes from last meeting (28Nov2012)  
***Motion: Approval of minutes – moved, seconded, and unanimous vote in favor***
  
2. Rita Teutonico, State EPSCoR Director Utah EPSCoR
  - Overview of agenda
  - Utah eligibility update (see attached memo) – not eligible; should we work on getting the limit raised above 0.75%; need to find out what TN and Iowa are doing
  - State Director – for FY2014, should we keep as is or change to NSF Director; Exec Committee appoints State Director with feedback from committee  
***Exec Committee will have brief session after the meeting to discuss***
  
3. Utah EPSCoR agency updates:
  - a. NSF EPSCoR – Todd Crowl, Utah State University
    - EPSCoR Cyber Connectivity award
    - In conjunction with UEN's NTIA BTOP award, this project has completed over 170 miles of optical network linking BYU, UofU, USU, and the national Internet2 backbone and leveraging the state's investment in UEN
    - This network will enable UEN's upcoming upgrade to a 100-Gbps connection to the Internet2 Network, the U.S. Research and education backbone (currently at 10 Gbps)
    - We feel this project has helped build key infrastructure for two NSF networking awards to the UofU (MRI and CC-NIE), both of which are on the verge of being funded.
    - Three-year award ends on August 31 – we are working to finish the project details.



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- PI (Corbato) will refocus on the data storage component of CI-WATER effort and continue to assist iUTAH on CI issues
  
- b. CI-WATER
  - Completed AAAS Review in March
  - Working on Year 2 report
  - Purchased 1 Petabyte of storage at UU Data Center
  - Currently working on high resolution downscaling of climate models
    - Using Wyoming Super Computer Center
  - Held High School Code Camp at BYU and USU
  - Assuming a no cost extension through 2015
  
- c. iUTAH
  - Strategic Plan accepted by NSF in April
  - First Annual Report accepted by NSF in June
  - Carry-over plan (approx. 600k) accepted
  - Vehicle purchase for UU and BYU permitted
  - Both iUTAH faculty hired
    - Courtney Flint – Social Sciences
    - Jeff Horsburgh – CI
      - Will be able to hire .75% iUTAH person
  - First Annual Symposium held
    - NSF
    - External Advisory Board
  - Reverse Site Visit will be held in mid September
  - First Joint CI-WATER-iUTAH joint modeling meeting being planned
  
- d. NSF
  - Biannual EPSCoR meeting – Nashville, TN Nov 3-7
    - 3 VIP's slots for UT (state committee, state legislatures)  
Sen. Hillyard recommended Sen. Steve Urquhart and Sen. Brian Shiwaza, as well as House Reps Val Peterson or Keith Grover  
Ted would go as State Committee rep for USTAR  
**Tom will draft letter of invitation**
    - **Sessions will include:**
      - Industry collaborations for STEM workforce development and research
      - Broadening participation in STEM
      - Role of science and engineering research in pre-college STEM



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- Infrastructure building for technology-based business development
  - University technology transfer and commercialization
  - Regional and national economic development
  - America's Science Idol (student competition)
- UT, TN and Iowa no longer eligible for EPSCoR RII awards
    - Congress typically increases limit...currently .75% of NSF's budget
    - Still eligible for cofunding – EHR and MPS are highest, so let PIs know
- e. NASA EPSCoR – Joe Orr, U Utah
- Utah was allowed to be in FY13 competition; Swenson at USU just awarded a CAN award (\$750k over 2 years); 2<sup>nd</sup> CAN ends in 2015; review process at state level to determine which proposal goes forward; also have funds for seed grants through 2015
4. By laws – T. Parks
- Current version – accepted at November 2012 meeting
  - Suggested edits from USHE
  - Discussed proposed edits, primarily in the section on Oversight
- Motion: Approval of revised bylaws – moved, seconded, and unanimous vote in favor***
5. Membership – suggestions for last General Committee members

### Industry suggestions:

Ted - Water management consulting firm

Liz - STEM action center industry rep

Tom - Ski industry

Lyle - Nathan Rafferty, ski industry

Mining industry – Kennecott (Piper Rhodes, sustainability)

Tami – Comcast

Tami – Cecilia Tso at UU is active with the Native American higher education community

Medical sector

Air quality study – Rob Pennine (Health) and Cary Kelly (Eng) chairs; ask if they have an industry rep on committee

Rod Castillo – Hispanic business association; Tami and RT can follow up

Ted - Suzanne Winters at Intermountain HealthCare



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EAB suggested more diversity on State Committee – ethnic, geographic diversity

***Ted and RT will contact recommended folks and compile a list of 5 suggested industry members; whole committee will then conduct an email vote for last 2 reps***

6. Cost share needed from State – T. Crowl  
20% required from State for Track 1 - \$800k per year USTAR, 100k is first step  
Should we talk to state legislature about possible cost share  
Which is best committee to approach – Economic Development, Higher Ed, Public Ed; econ dev is more one time funding then continuing; spans statewide institutions not just housed at one institution  
Would be good to see breakout of funds spent on each activity during year 1 of iUTAH (See annual report)  
iUTAH funds over 100 folks statewide already; lots of involvement from PUI institutions  
Tom – Would it make sense for state to set up a fund for matching funds that other institutions could use for match (besides UU, USU, BYU)  
Ted – makes sense for this matching fund to reside in GOED with State Science Advisor  
August it's the right time to talk to GOED about adding to their 5 year economic development plan (for December budget)

***Ted and Tami will look into where would fall under econ development subcommittee and talk to GOED about budget plans***

***RT working on materials on communicating about EPSCoR to legislature***

7. Other business – R. Teutonico
  - a. STEM Action Centers – is there a role for EPSCoR?  
Tami – looking for a Director for the STEM Action Center; Todd suggested Tom Walsh  
Spence Eccles, Jr. needs to be in the loop  
***Tami will be State Committee all the working groups***

b. No cost extension policy

***Todd will collate the draft policy from EPSCoR PIs***

8. Next meeting date – November 2013  
**Adjourned at 11:30am**