ITAC Conference Call
February 19, 2014

Attendance:

Michael Lewis	Kate Flynn	Pete Cinotto
Bob Avery	Gary Krammes	Kim Martz

Agenda:

- Revised Charter discussion
- Member rotations

Minutes:

Charter –
Today's call focused on discussing the revisions Michael made to the ITAC Charter. ITAC members, in attendance, reviewed the updates Michael made in response to feedback from the February 19, 2014 call. Each section of the charter was reviewed. Suggested edits were made during the call.

- It was recommended that Jerad Bales see the revised charter.
- Michael will have Dane provide an AI statement (Section C addition).
- Kate mentioned adding something to the charter regarding social networking and a link to the SharePoint site.
- Additionally, Kate suggested that a listing of members (past and present) be put together. **NOTE**: Kim is working to pull this together.
- Spell out AEI

Members in attendance on today's call concur that the document is ready for approval pending minor revisions by Michael.

ACTION – Michael will make the minor revisions discussed on today's call and will distribute the charter for full ITAC approval.

Membership –
Michael noted that the Studies Chief, Data Chief, and GIS representative positions need to be filled. Michael asked ITAC for suggestions. Pete commented that Jeff Chaplin (PA WSC) would be a good choice for Studies Chief representative. Regarding the GIS representative, Michael commented that it would be good to get an energetic Center person. Kate asked if Nate plans on backfilling David McCulloch's position. Pete asked about Kernell Ries with Kate responding it might be better to go with someone who has worked with Kernell. Pete added that a tie to StreamStats would be good. Michael noted that ITAC could also get that representation from the Technical Offices. Michael will ask for input from Nate. No suggestions were provided for the Data Chiefs representative.

- Update during call – Kate contacted Kernell and Robert Mason by email regarding a GIS person. Michael suggested that the new representative be someone who has routine interaction with other Centers and has GIS experience.

Michael commented that the implied goal is to seek representation across our geographic landscape. Is this a game-breaker? Kate and Pete responded that it's important to have geographic diversity as Centers do things differently. Michael will add that as a goal in the charter.

Michael commented that he will take a more active role in encouraging members to interact with their constituents.

Discussion –
Kate commented that Katherine drove a lot of what happened on ITAC. Michael commented that this is a good discussion to have with Nate. Kate added that things were different when Water had control of their own resources. Kate also commented that ITAC could have a big impact on showing people how applications work (for example, SharePoint and Google Drive).

Bob Avery commented that Scott touched on the evolutionary role of ITAC noting that the Bureau has little say now. If OI loses the ability to say "this is how it will be done," then the role of ITAC will change. Bob added that ITAC should function as a portal for information between Centers and headquarters – serve as a conduit. Bob noted that this was a transitional year. ITAC has floundered with face-to-face meetings being preempted, Katherine's retirement, and other issues. Trying to implement a telepresence was a failure – Bob senses that there is still uneasiness about using the technology. Kate commented that it never lived up to the expectations and wasn't effective. Bob commented that telepresence resources are good if facilities have similar resources (like the Reston Bridge). Michael responded that ITAC could have taken this further and shared its experience with Centers.

Next Face-to-Face –

ITAC needs to target possible dates for a face-to-face meeting. Possible locations are New Jersey or New Mexico as ITAC was unable to meet in these Centers last year. ITAC will discuss on next call.

Monthly Calls –
ITAC has a brief discussion regarding scheduling of monthly calls. Do we keep our set schedule of meeting from 1 pm – 2:30 Eastern time or try a different approach? Kate suggested we schedule using Doodle polls with options for multiple days and times. We will reserve further discussion to when more people are on the call. Michael noted that it is critical for certain members to be in attendance.

Next Call –

- New Members
- Orientation
- Priorities