

ITAC Conference Call July 25, 2012

Attendance:

Scott Gain
Mike Lewis
Pete Cinotto
BJ Bour (for Susan)

Gary Cottrell
Terri Moore
Bob Avery
Kris Lund

Kate Flynn
Gary Krammes
Gary Fisher
Kim Martz

Minutes:

Scott confirmed that the next ITAC F2F will take place October 30 – November 1, 2012 in the New Jersey Water Science Center. He has confirmed this with Rick Kropp, Director, NJ WSC.

We will have conference calls in August, September, and October.

Issues –

HaWG position paper on table computers and PDAs -

Does this fit with the goals of ITAC?

- Mike commented that this issue does not fit with the standing action items. He suggested adding this as a topic for the next agenda.
- Terri commented that there is concern about the paper in the field. Terri noted that Katherine suggested having an Executive Summary of the document like was done with the Field Computing report.
- ITAC concurred that this is a good idea.
- Terri recommended that Gary Fisher brief ITAC at the next F2F meeting.
- The concern lies in that the position statement comes across as policy, but it is not policy.
- Suggestion was made for ITAC to provide a response to the document.
- Terri commented that she is concerned that people will purchase these with end of year money.
- It was agreed that October may be too late for ITAC to respond. This should be done sooner. Scott asked what ITAC's next steps should be. Mike recommended looking at the HaWG position paper and Field Computing report and do a side-by-side comparison. Scott asked if someone on ITAC can do that. Gary Fisher responded that he would send a link to the report to Kim (**COMPLETE**).

ACTION - ITAC will look at the documents and discuss the issues and its position on the August call.

Web Resources -

- Terri asked about the issue of Web resources that was brought up at the NE F2F. What are these resources? Where do we gather names? Where do we post this information? Terri noted that although this was brought up in the Town Hall questions, there was little to no discussion about it at the meeting. We need to decide, as a group, if this is ITAC's responsibility.
- Scott commented that he would like to see a format that lists expertise and provides longevity in its structure to maintain – so it does not become a one-time activity. He is not sure if ITAC is the correct group to maintain the list.
- Gary K. asked if this activity fits with Pete's efforts with the programming forum.
- Scott asked Pete if providing a clearinghouse for this information is an activity his group can do. Pete responded that the forum is geared toward coding issues.
- ITAC agreed that it would be good for WSCs to be aware of skillsets available to them.
- Scott suggested that someone talk to Howard Perlman about who his constituents are. Can he possibly help create this group.

ACTION – Gary K. will talk to Howard Perlman. Gary also noted that David McCulloch may know of other people.

Cloud hosing –

Terri recommended to Gary Fisher that it would be beneficial for David McCulloch to outline the proper procedures for working in the cloud environment. Gary suggested that David give a presentation to ITAC and then hold a webinar. Terri suggested documenting a checklist.

Next F2F –

- Confirmed travel from October 29 to November 1.
- Mike commented that we need to make sure Mike is aware that the majority of day 1 is presented by the WSC.

Other Business –

- Mike asked Gary F. about the status of Google. Gary responded that the license expires on September 30, 2012. DOI will not pay after that date, so people are putting themselves at liability to receive a bill – the total of which is unknown – “use at your own risk” after September 30. Gary emphasized that the recommendation is to do the conversion. It is not difficult. Gary noted that David McCulloch is willing to provide support for helping with the conversion.
- Concern was raised that WSCs may not be aware of the Google deadline. For the August call, we need to ask David if the status of Google is well known in WSCs. Gary commented that David has a better feel for this.

Actions –

- **ACTION** - ITAC will look at the HaWG position paper and field computing report and discuss the issues and ITAC's position on the August call.
- **ACTION** – Gary K. will talk to Howard Perlman about people with Web skillsets. Gary also noted that David McCulloch may know of other people.
- **ACTION** – Kim to forward ITAC request to visit Science Center letter to Scott. **COMPLETE**
- **ACTION** – Bob Avery to contact the IT person in New Jersey to discuss meeting requirements.
- **ACTION** – Terri will contact Sheri about hotel arrangements for New Jersey.