



**SEARCH Town Hall
AGU 2015 Fall Meeting
Moscone Center West 2011
22 July 2016, 12:30pm
Summary Notes**

Presenters: Brendan Kelly, Jennifer Francis, Ted Schuur, Ted Scambos & Hajo Eicken
Total Participant Count: 58

Link to SEARCH Town Hall presentation:

https://www.arcus.org/files/page/documents/23225/search_townhall_agu2015.pdf

Discussion Notes:

- Muyin Wang (NOAA) asked about SEARCH plans for integrating SIPN into the SEARCH Sea Ice Action Team Activities. It was discussed generally as part of SEARCH's larger aim to link scientific communities together.
- Cathy Wilson (LANL) asked about SEARCH plans to maintain the Observing Change Panel. Brendan emphasized that there was no way that SEARCH could turn it's back on SEARCH's observing coordination efforts and that the OCP plays an important role in moving the scientific community's vision for Arctic observing forward in a coordinated way. He said that it would be up to the SEARCH Science Steering Committee to figure out a path forward for the OCP but that SEARCH would not want to alter the OCP too much. Martin Jeffries (ONR) emphasized that there are "important people in D.C." who are very interested in Arctic Observing and that information such as that outlined on the AOOSM summary slide Hajo shared remained very valuable to those individuals.
- Volker Rachold (IASC) asked whether there was a way to use an OCP connection to SAON to move Arctic observing efforts forward. He referenced the recent efforts of the Polar Data Forum that took place in Waterloo, Ontario in October 2015, led by Peter Pulsifer who is also a member of the OCP. Hajo responded that SAON was indeed at the juncture of many important efforts related to Arctic observing & data but that bureaucratic challenges had, in the past, made it an unwieldy mechanism for getting things done. Better bottom-up and top-down approaches were needed and the Arctic Observing Summit would provide opportunities to develop links between them. The fact that 1/3 of the sustained observations in U.S. waters were conducted by non-U.S. countries emphasized the need for the international community to have a say in observing prioritization and data management. If SAON could serve as a broker to the international community and get them to put money behind their interests then it would result in win-win scenarios for all involved.
- Jonathan Bamber (University of Bristol) was interested in SEARCH ties/coordination within a broader international framework (for example,

connections to the European Space Agency’s Observing the Earth initiative or the UK’s national marine programs). Brendan said that SEARCH strives to keep up with all of these potential connections, however, making those alliances remains daunting with the program’s current capacity. He emphasized that there are international participants in SEARCH’s science efforts. Jonathan felt that these international groups would have resources available to support these international connections.

- Chung Hye Read (National Geospatial Intelligence Agency) asked if the observing network being discussed included social/economic/political observations also. Brendan clarified that SEARCH was interested in the social components of Arctic change, there were social scientists serving as co-leads on SEARCH action teams, and that the focus of AT activities was not purely physical science.
- Martin Jeffries (ONR) characterized each of the SEARCH Action Teams as a Research Coordination Network and reflected that he had recently heard from various sources that the Europeans were interested in funding into U.S./Canadian/European collaboration efforts. Another audience member (missed her name/affiliation) confirmed that these funding activities had already been initiated. The Arctic Observing Summit was referenced as a meeting where funding agencies would work to move these efforts forward.
- Cathy Wilson (LANL) asked about SEARCH products in development for the Arctic Observing Summit. Hajo emphasized the white paper submissions (which SEARCH is contributing to) as a way to synthesize ideas for observing and for providing engagement opportunities to various country representatives.

Participant List:

There were 58 total attendees at the SEARCH Town Hall including staff & presenters. Not all attendees signed in. Those who did are listed below:

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