iSGTW Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday February 2, 2012, from **09:00** to **10:15** (US); 16:00 to **17:15** (Central European Time); 23:00 to 00:15 (Taipei)

## Present

*Chair:* Catherine Gater

*Present:* Ruth Pordes, Paul Avery, Steven Newhouse, Bob Jones, Katie Yurkewicz, Vicky Huang

*Editors:* Jacqui Hayes

*Apologies:* SL, MB

*Minutes:* Jacqui Hayes

## Proceedings

#### Opening of the meeting and formalities

##### Approval of agenda

Agenda was approved.

##### Approval of previous minutes

The minutes from November 14, 2011 were approved.

## Review of actions

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ACTION | RESPONSIBLE | STATUS | REVIEW |
| 20111004:1 pursue the volunteer/desktop grid organizations to promote iSGTW.   | Jacqui Hayes | open | Next Board Meeting |
| 20111004:4 work with XSEDE & PRACE and others to get their level of engagement up to a level that the board is happy with.  | Catherine Gater/Steven Newhouse/Ruth Pordes | Open | Next Board Meeting |
| 20111114:1 Send the to-do list for Xenomedia to the Board for prioritization. | Jacqui Hayes/Miriam Boon | Closed |  |
| 20111114:2 Follow up with ASGC on the appointment of the Asian editor. | Catherine Gater | Closed |  |
| 20111114:3 Pursue people with large numbers of followers on Twitter. | Jacqui Hayes | Open | Next Board meeting |
| 20111114:4 Update the ToR with final edits on contributing partners. | Steven Newhouse | Closed |  |
| 20111114:5 Editors to explore availability of e-science and d-science related URLs and add to the name document. | Jacqui Hayes / Miriam Boon | Closed |  |

#### Status report and staffing

JH reported that the website traffic for December/January was strong, especially considering the two-week break in newsletters. There were about 54,000 visits, which is much higher than the 36,000 visits of December(2009)/January(2010). Traffic stats were not compared to the previous year because of the shutdown.

Top stories in the last three months were:

1. The Tevatron’s enduring computing legacy, 5689 views
2. The Royal Society opens up permanently, 5295 views
3. Emerging technology 2012-2040, 1791 views
4. The Muppets go to CERN, 1077 views
5. The red brick road of data management, 1038 views

The top two stories were picked up by Slashdot and Reddit, respectively. Because of a scheduled Tweet function, the iSGTW can now promote stories in all time zones, leading to an overall increase for all stories and an increase in followers on Twitter.

BJ reported that JH will not be continuing her fellowship with CERN, and will finish at the end of March. Different plans for replacements are being pursued, however a new editor is not likely to be in place by the end of March and the beginning of summer is more likely. The current science writer on the project, Adrian Giordani, intends to work until the end of the project.

RP stated that while iSGTW was in the original funding application for OSG, the expected budget for the next 5 year funding cycle is not yet confirmed, and is expected not to have room for non-priority projects, such as iSGTW. As such, MB will not continue her contract with OSG past March 31.

RP confirmed that Frank Wuerthwein and Miron Livny will be the future contacts in the OSG Council. The Board should also consider approaching members of the OSG Council individually eg Craig Stewart, Bill Barnett (Indiana).

KY stated that, in light of the issue created by JH also leaving, she would try to seek a one-to-two month extension for MB to continue working at Fermilab.

BJ asked if the US board members thought pressure from the EC about the collaboration would help the situation. PA suggested the EC to contact Barry Schneider (NSF) and Kevin Thompson (NSF) in particular, as they are project officers for NSF-funded projects. It would be advisable to stress the cross cyberinfrastructure nature of the publication, which aligns with the aims of XTENCI.

Other contacts are Ed Seidel (OCI), Gabrielle Allen (OCI), Marv Goldberg (NSF), Saul Gonzalez (DOE).

ACTION: EU board members to contact the EC to see if they can put pressure on US projects, especially with NSF-funded projects.

ACTION: KY to see about extending MB contract for one to two months.

#### Website hosting and Xenomedia costs

CG stated she expects QMUL to do the work moving the hosting from Tilted Planet.

KY said it would be preferable to no longer have iSGTW maintenance costs covered by Fermilab by the end of the fiscal year, which is September 2012. A maximum of 10 hours per month is preferable, out of an overall support package of 100 hours per month covering all Fermilab websites.

RP said that checking all emails have been sent after a newsletter send is governed by Tilted Planet, and RP has given Tilted a budget code to implement this, as it is a priority for the Board.

ACTION: CG to consult project structure to find costs associated with maintenance costs of iSGTW, and email QMUL/Tilted for a timeline in moving the hosting.

ACTION: CG, MB and JH to talk offline about prioritizing the list of things for Xeno, and agree a plan for the next 2 months, up to 10 hours work per month.

#### Terms of reference

DECISION: No changes to the terms of reference. This item is considered closed.

#### Naming the publication

JH reported that between e-science and d-science, e-science might be preferable, because d-science is associated with industrial design. The associated URLs are available, however, the term ‘weekly’ might be a constraint in the future.

ACTION: CG to buy four domain names: www.esciencemagazine.com and .org, as well as www.escienceweekly.com and .org

#### AOB

CG thanked ASGC for coming on board, and mentioned that she is looking forward to face-to-face meeting at ISGC in Taipei with Vivian Change.

KY and the Board thanked JH and MB for their work as editors of the publication.

## Summary of actions

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| 20111004:1 pursue the volunteer/desktop grid organizations to promote iSGTW.   | Jacqui Hayes | open | Next Board Meeting |
| 20111004:4 work with XSEDE & PRACE and others to get their level of engagement up to a level that the board is happy with.  | Catherine Gater/Steven Newhouse/Ruth Pordes | Open | Next Board Meeting |
| 20111114:3 Pursue people with large numbers of followers on Twitter. | Jacqui Hayes | Open | Next Board meeting |
| 20120202:1EU board members to contact the EC to see if they can put pressure on US projects, especially with NSF-funded projects. | Catherine Gater/Steven Newhouse/Bob Jones | Open | Soon |
| 20120202:2Explore possibility of extending Miriam Boon’s contract for one to two months. | Katie Yurkewicz | Open | Soon |
| 20120202:3CG to consult project structure to find costs associated with maintenance costs of iSGTW, and email QMUL/Tilted for a timeline in moving the hosting. | Catherine Gater | Open | Next Board Meeting |
| 20120202:4Prioritizing the list of tasks for Xeno over the next 2 months. | Catherine Gater/ Miriam Boon/Jacqui Hayes | Open | Soon |
| 20120202:4Purchase domain names for e-science weekly and e-science magazine | Catherine Gater | Open | Soon |