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Highlights, Actions, and Decisions:

- **Next Council meeting – December 7-9, 2010 (travel on Monday, December 6th) – Pensacola, Florida.** Wendy, Doug, and Sheri will pursue logistics with Jane Caffrey.

Members are encouraged to send ideas for topics to Pixie Hamilton (pahamilt@usgs.gov), Susan Holdsworth (Holdsworth.susan@epa.gov) and Tracy Hancock (thancock@usgs.gov). Suggested topics to date include:

- Panel on monitoring in a time of diminishing budgets (impacts and opportunities)
 - Connecting monitoring and assessment with folks in departments of permitting, TMDL, criteria, etc.
 - Facilitate discussion among Council and EPA Region 6 and the Gulf of Mexico Program Office about integrated, coordinated, long term monitoring in the Gulf among federal, state, and other partners. Discussion can also help to promote Council goals and water needs for data comparability, common methods and protocols, data management and reporting, standardized labs, communication and collaboration, national monitoring network design, etc.
- **Next biennial conference tentatively planned in Portland, Oregon in May 2012.** Jeff Schloss will explore facilities, etc with Greg Pettit (and look at possibilities in Fort Lauderdale, FL as a backup). Doug and Cathy volunteered to help launch conference planning, etc. More detail on page 9.
 - **Summary of feedback from the 2010 conference** is available from Jeff Schloss – contact Jeff if you would like to see the survey results, available in EXCEL and summary of comments (jeff.schloss@unh.edu). **Highlights:** The online evaluation had good response (31 percent of attendees responded). Overall very positive. Some areas for change may relate to reevaluation of charges for certain sessions and workshops and eliminating the CD of abstracts. Jeff encouraged organizations to let the conference planning committee know about add-on meetings etc “sooner than later” to facilitate easier planning.
 - **Presentations from the meeting** to be posted on the NWQMC website (Wendy; Kim Martz; Pixie Hamilton)
 - **Council membership** and participation has been updated – available on the web at: <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/members.html>
 - **Council representatives are encouraged to communicate Council efforts/minutes/updates to counterpart States and colleagues** (such as within the academic community; watershed community; volunteer community; regional commission; etc).
 - **Collaboration and Outreach needs a Co-Chair** to work with Tracy Hancock. Interested individuals should contact Tracy Hancock (thancock@usgs.gov). Thanks to Dave Tucker for filling the spot for so many years! (**NOTE:** Since the meeting, Barb Horn has stepped up as Co-Chair – Thanks Barb).
 - **Council website** has been revised (<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/index.html>). Comments from the Council are encouraged. An alternate homepage also is available for review at: http://acwi.gov/monitoring/index_alt.html (which presents a view with products listed on the left vertical navigation bar). Comments should be directed to Dan Sullivan (djsulliv@usgs.gov), with a cc: to Kim Martz (kimmartz@usgs.gov), Tracy Hancock (thancock@usgs.gov), and Pixie Hamilton (pahamilt@usgs.gov). More detail on page 9.
 - **Webinars** are planned for State and Regional Councils. See notes on page 7. (Tracy Hancock)
 - Articles for next edition of **online newsletter due September 15th** to Tracy Hancock (see notes page 8).

- **Online “How-To Tool Kit” for creating and sustaining Councils is ongoing.** (See notes page 8).
- **Water Information Strategies workgroup will have monthly calls every 2nd Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.** Topics will include discussions on developing a national reference network; statistics/assessment workgroup progress; national assessment collaboration and integration; volunteer monitoring. Contact Peter Tennant if interested in participating (ptennant@orsanco.org).
- **Council feedback on USGS WaterSmart initiative** is welcome. Send comments to Wendy Norton (wennorton@usgs.gov). Power Point presentation by Eric Evensen will be posted online on the ACWI website. Fact Sheet is available at: <http://www.doi.gov/budget/2011/11Hillites/DH019.pdf>.

Members of the Water Information Strategies (WIS) workgroup will compile examples around the Nation where water quality has limited availability to support idea that water availability be defined in terms of quantity *and* quality. Council members are encouraged to contribute examples to Peter Tennant (ptennant@orsanco.org).

- **New members for the statistics/assessment workgroup are welcome.** Workgroup is especially interested in soliciting the interest of State and other practitioners who are involved in water assessment decisions. Please let your colleagues know of the effort. Contact Leslie McGeorge (leslie.mcgeorge@dep.state.nj.us) and (or) Doug McLaughlin (douglas.mclaughlin@wmich.edu) for more information. The workgroup will continue to define the “system” and possibly host a web seminar to solicit interest and feedback from water practitioners (in several months). The topic will be included on WIS monthly conference calls. More information on the workgroup plans is available at: http://acwi.gov/methods/wqsa/white_paper_Stats_WorkGroup_draft3.pdf
- **NEST efforts have been officially tabled** from Water Information Strategies (WIS) workgroup priorities because the multi-agency effort has ceased.
- **Reference sites:** The Water Information Strategies (WIS) workgroup decided to help coordinate efforts for a collaborative monitoring network of reference conditions.

Key questions addressed by the effort will be drafted by Bill Wilber (USGS), Susan Holdsworth, Ellen Tarquino, and Terry Fleming (EPA), and Neil Kamman (NH DEC). The questions relate to a comprehensive national roster/catalog of sites for multiple uses (including bio-criteria, implementing the Clean Water Act, assessing trends, etc); building a long-term network of sites; role and utility in metadata; developing a definition of “reference sites;” defining protocols for selection, etc. The topic will be further explored on WIS monthly conference calls. (Key contact: Peter Tennant (ptennant@orsanco.org)).

Highlighted efforts on reference sites at the meeting: USGS is spearheading efforts to build a collaborative monitoring network of reference conditions for streams and rivers – building from previous USGS networks, such as the Hydrologic Benchmark Network (key contact is Bill Wilber, wqwilber@usgs.gov). EPA is developing reference site networks for multiple water components, building off of NARS (key contact is Ellen Tarquino, tarquino.ellen@epa.gov). Information on the Oregon process for selected reference sites is available: www.deq.state.or.us/lab/biomon/reports/WSA04-002.pdf (Selecting Reference Condition Sites: An Approach for Biological Criteria and Watershed Assessment) (key contact is Greg Pettit, pettit.greg@deq.state.or.us). Key contact for information on Utah’s 120 reference sites, sampled with a rotating basin approach is Jeff Ostermiller (jostermiller@utah.gov). For information on the National Park Service vital signs monitoring network: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/water/infoanddata/index.cfm> (Contact Gary Rosenlieb for more information: Gary.Rosenlieb@nps.gov).

- **Collaboration of national water quality efforts:** The Water Information Strategies (WIS) workgroup decided to help coordinate efforts for integration of monitoring and assessment of federal, state, and volunteer efforts for national assessment of water quality. First step will be to draft a vision statement for overall national assessment and for improving communication on the role of different programs and the different questions they were designed to answer (such as USGS NAWQA and EPA NARS and State monitoring and assessment networks). The draft will be initiated by Susan Holdsworth, Terry Fleming and Pixie Hamilton, and reviewed by WIS members. Previous statements and articles will be used for background material, including the ITFM report and a USGS briefing sheet on monitoring (http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/briefing_sheet.pdf). Links to, and descriptions of, compatible programs will be added to websites (for example, NARS will be referenced and briefly described on the NAWQA website, and vice versa). Long-term efforts by WIS will involve developing a plan for collaborative implementation. The topic will be further explored on WIS monthly conference calls. (Key contact: Peter Tennant (ptennant@orsanco.org)).
- **CUAHSI has an internet based system (HIS) for sharing water information** (<http://his.cuahsi.org/>). The Council’s WQX is

among the 47 services available on HIS. Contact Rick Hooper for more information (rhooper@cuahsi.org). Recommendation by Rick is that the Council “package” monitoring and assessment needs based on available data for university stakeholders and possible graduate work (optimizing untapped data). Recommendation of Council is to continue advocating for academic data to be made more accessible, such as through WQXweb.

- **Climate Network:** Contact Pete Murdoch to learn more about Department of Interior and USGS efforts for developing climate change networks and assessments (pmurdoch@usgs.gov). Presentation will available on the Council website. NOTE: The US Forest Service has put together an annotated on-line bibliography of over 1,800 papers dealing with various aspects of climate change that you may find useful. Primary topic headings (that may be searched) include: Policy, Present Trends, Global Climate, Carbon Dynamics, Climate Variability, Climate Models, and Effects of Climate Change. The link is: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc/bibliography/>.
- **Oil Spill:** EPA hosts conference calls every other Thursday to help coordinate and communicate agency efforts in the Gulf. Many of the issues touch on Council priorities, including comparability in field methods; data management; health and safety protocols; sampling sites; standardized labs; web coordination, etc). Calls are open to interested parties. Key contact is Susan Holdsworth (Holdsworth.susan@epa.gov), Sarah Lehmann (lehmann.sarah@epa.gov) or Treda Grayson (grayson.treda@epa.gov).

The Water Information Strategies (WIS) workgroup will raise issues for consideration over the long term, such as related to comparability in methods and protocols, data management, etc. Key contact is Peter Tennant, working with Jane Caffrey and Steve Wolfe.

- **Ocean Policy Task Force:** Plans are initiated by the Council on Environmental Quality for a coastal and marine strategy. One objective relates to water quality and sustainable practices on land, which aligns with Council goals and the National Monitoring Network. The Council will continue to collaborate with strategic actions as the Plan moves forward. Key contacts are Jawed Hameedi (jawed.hameedi@noaa.gov) and Pixie Hamilton (pahamilt@usgs.gov). Online access to the Ocean Policy Task Force documents:

Interim Framework for Effective Coastal and Marine and Planning (December 9, 2009)
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/oceans/interim-framework>

Interim report
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/oceans/interimreport> (September 9, 2009)

Appendix A: Listing of Attendees and Participants

Sheri Alcalde (USGS; Office of Water Information)
Seth Brown (WEF; alternate)
Jane Caffrey (ASLO, representative)
Judy Campbell Bird (Environmental Consultant)
Maggie Craig (TetraTech) (by phone)
Jeff Deacon (USGS) (NAWQA and New Hampshire Water Science Center)
Don Dycus (TVA, representative)
Terry Fleming (EPA, Region 9, representative)
David Fuller (National Tribal Water Council, representative)
Doug Glysson (USGS, Executive Secretary)
Treda Grayson (EPA, OWOW)
Jawed Hameedi (NOAA, alternate)
Tracy Hancock (USGS, Collaboration and Outreach Co-Chair, NMN Executive Secretary)
Pixie Hamilton (USGS, NAWQA, Co-Chair)
Susan Holdsworth (EPA, OWOW, Co-Chair)
Barb Horn (CO Dept. of Environment; volunteer representative) (by phone)
Rick Hooper (CUAHSI, representative)
Jason Jones (Region 9, representative)
Neil Kamman (Region 1, representative)
Gary Kohlhepp (Region 5, representative)
Charles Kovatch (EPA, OWOW)
Gunnar Lauenstein (NOAA, representative)
Carol Lewis (USGS, Office of Water Information)
Barry Long (Forest Service, representative)
Kim Martz (USGS, Office of Water Information; Collaboration and Outreach Executive Secretary)
Alice Mayo (EPA; volunteer coordinator)
Leslie McGeorge (Region 2, representative)
Doug McLaughlin (NCASI, representative)
Dave Mueller (USGS, Conference Planning) (by phone)
Pete Murdoch (USGS, Climate Exchange Network)
Carl Myers (WEF, representative)
Donna Myers (USGS, Office of Water Quality) (by phone)
Jeff Ostermiller (Region 8, representative)
Wendy Norton (USGS, ACWI Executive Secretary)
Greg Pettit (Region 10, representative)
Gary Rosenlieb (National Park Service, representative)
Gary Rowe (USGS) (NAWQA Cycle 3)
Mary Ann Rozum (USDA, NIFA, representative)
Jeff Schloss (U. of NH – Extension; NALMS, representative)
Tony Shaw (Region 3, representative)
Dan Sullivan (USGS, Methods Board Chair) (by phone)
Peter Tango (USGS, Chesapeake Bay Liaison) (by phone)
Ellen Tarquino (EPA, OWOW; EPA reference site leader)
Cathy Tate (USGS; Conference Planning)
Peter Tennant (ORSANCO, representative)
David Tucker (NACWA, representative)
Julie Vastine (ALLARM; volunteer alternate)
Bill Wilber (USGS) (NAWQA; USGS reference site leader)
Steve Wolfe (GOMA, representative)
David Wunsch (AASG, representative)

Appendix B: Meeting Agenda

MEETING AGENDA
July 14 - 15, 2010
Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport
2200 Centreville Road
Herndon, Virginia 20171
(703) 471-6700

WebEx info: <https://usgs.webex.com>

Teleconference line: 218-844-0840 and passcode: 356188#

Wednesday, July 14, 2010

The Crowne Plaza offers a free breakfast for those staying at the hotel.

8:00 a.m. – Meet & Greet in Room TBA

8:30 – 8:45 a.m. – Welcome & Introductions (Co-Chairs)

- Housekeeping and logistics
- New Council Members and Alternates

8:45 – 10:00 a.m. **Updates on selected Council activities and priorities** (More detailed discussions may be pursued in breakout sessions)

- Collaboration and Outreach:
 - Webinars and Online Newsletter (Tracy Hancock)
 - Web updates (Tracy Hancock and possibly Dan Sullivan by phone)
- Methods Board and Sensors Developments (Pixie Hamilton and possibly Dan Sullivan by phone)
- Online Statistical and Assessments Package (Doug McLaughlin)
- National Monitoring Network and ongoing discussions with NOAA and IOOS regional associations (Pixie Hamilton)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. – **Data Integration with the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI)** (Rick Hooper)

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. – **BREAK**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. – **Follow-up from the National Monitoring Conference** - feedback and ideas for the future conference in 2012 (led by Jeff Schloss, Maggie Craig, and Cathy Tate followed by discussion).

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. – **LUNCH**

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. – **USGS Climate Effects Network: vision, status, and future directions** (Peter Murdoch, USGS)

1:15 – 3:15 p.m. – **Building a collaborative network of reference sites across the Nation** - USGS, EPA, and some states will be giving ideas, followed by discussion (Bill Wilber (USGS), Ellen Tarquinio (EPA), Greg Pettit (OR), and Jeff Ostermiller (UT)).

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. – **BREAK**

3:30 – 5:00 p.m. – **Status and updates on EPA/State Monitoring and Assessment Partnership** (Michael Scozzafava, EPA) and **USGS plans for the next decade in the National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program** (Gary Rowe, USGS). Discussion follows with ideas for collaboration among agencies, including EPA, NOAA, USDA, states, academia, industry, volunteer community, and watershed alliances.

5:00 p.m. – **ADJOURN**

Thursday, July 15, 2010

The Crowne Plaza offers a free breakfast for those staying at the hotel.

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. – **Ongoing efforts in the Gulf related to the oil spill, possible role of the NWQMC, and connections with NOAA’s National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science** (facilitated by Pixie Hamilton; panelists include: Gunnar Lauenstein (NOAA), Donna Myers (USGS), and Treda Grayson (EPA), and Steve Wolfe (GOMA)

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. – **Ocean Policy Task Force’s Water Quality Objective: Opportunity for Collaboration** (Jawed Hameedi)

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. – **BREAK**

10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Workgroup Breakout Sessions** with working lunch (brought-in)

2:30 – 4:30 p.m. – **Report outs by Workgroups, and closing comments; next steps; and actions with full Council** (led by Pixie Hamilton with Workgroup leads: Tracy Hancock and Doug McLaughlin)

4:30 p.m. – **ADJOURN**

WORKGROUP BREAKOUT SESSION	PURPOSE	PLACE
<p>Collaboration and Outreach Work Group <i>with 2012 Conference Planning Committee</i></p> <p>Room TBA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online newsletter • Webinars • State and Regional Monitoring Toolkit • Volunteer monitoring collaboration • Webpage and updating information • 2012 Conference planning, if needed 	<p>WebEx info: https://usgs.webex.com</p> <p>Teleconference line: 218-844-0840 and passcode: 356188#.</p>
<p>Water Information Strategies Work Group</p> <p>Room TBA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statistical and assessment methods • Clearinghouse • Continued discussions on a national reference site network, EPA monitoring initiation and partnership, NAWQA Cycle 3, and national water-quality collaboration 	<p>There is no teleconf/WebEx for this workgroup breakout session</p>
<p>Methods Board with Sensors Workgroup</p>	<p>There will be no Methods Board Breakout.</p>	

Appendix C: Water Information Strategies Breakout Session (to come)

Appendix D: NWQMC C&O Workgroup Breakout notes, Tracy Hancock

7/15/10

The Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup supports partnerships that foster collaboration among the water monitoring community, including State, Regional, and Tribal councils, as well as watershed groups, partnerships, and alliances. **We welcome new members to the workgroup. Also, we want your ideas for web seminars and articles for the newsletter!** Please contact: Tracy Hancock, Co-Chair, Collaboration and Outreach Workgroup. Email: thancock@usgs.gov; tel: 804-261-2618.

Major Products and Outreach Activities

- Web seminars for water community
- Online newsletter "*National Water Monitoring News*"
- Council Webpage updates
- Online "How-To Tool Kit" for creating and sustaining partnerships and councils
- National Monitoring Conferences

State, regional, and Tribal Councils: The National Council currently interacts with more than 17 Councils and partnerships across the Nation, including many other Tribal and Volunteer Monitoring organizations. Currently Utah and North Dakota are developing state councils.

Web Seminars

Past presentations included:

- Sept. 2009: Kickoff Webinar
 - Updates on the California, Florida, and Lake Michigan Monitoring Councils
 - Ideas to facilitate use of data and data sharing among the National and individuals councils
 - Status of Tribal monitoring groups
- Nov. 2009: Integration of citizen monitoring data into Virginia's state assessment report and an online database tool managed by the Virginia Monitoring Council
- Feb. 2010: New web technologies and social media tools for the water monitoring community by reps from Fed Gov, Trade Org, and Citizen/Vol Mon Group
- May/June 2010: An Introduction to Aquatic Sensors and the Aquatic Sensor Workgroup

Web Seminars - Goals

- Small packaged webinar (1 hr long, offer 2x)
- Promote charge of council
- Encourage formation and sustaining of other councils and monitoring groups
- Share success and challenges of other Councils
- Provide products of the Council and other tools for water practitioners (e.g. NEMI, stats, WQX)
- Keep Newsletter as PR with updates and overviews (Gulf Oil spill, Reference sites) – these may be facilitated discussions on panels at NMCs
- Council may help facilitate panels, workshops, and specialty conferences for hot topics (which need to occur sooner than NMCs)
-

Web Seminars - Some Suggestions for Future Topics

- NMC: hot talks, panels, and workshops
- NMN: updates and success stories
- More on web technologies and social media tools
- Other Councils: successes and challenges
- Methods Board & NEMI- overview – what it can do for you
 - Surface Water Quality guidance and training, panel to consider developing standardized methods (Peter Evans)
- Data Exchanges (examples of or demos and requests for review and testing)
- WIS Stats tool box (when they have a product or need to solicit testing)

- Clearinghouse of state & EPA data
- Collaboration between states/feds/academics
- WaterSMART Program (Evenson), grant program, implementation plan for review, products
- EPA Monitoring Assessment Partnership (MAP)
- Ancillary/supporting data to water quality, programs such as stream stats
- Request suggestions for topics during WebEx sign-in process and ask verbally during teleconf calls

“National Water Monitoring News” - an Online Newsletter for the Water Monitoring Community

- ✓ Launched in April 2010 at National Conference
- ✓ Selected Topics:
 - Success stories/challenges with State & Regional Councils
 - Data integration
 - Announcements (conferences, meetings, grants, projects)
 - Monitoring (volunteer, Tribal, national, coastal, groundwater)
 - Water Information Strategies (assessment tools)
 - Methods
 - Sensors
- ✓ **Newsletter Spotlights on Councils**
 - State Council: CO’s data sharing network on effective info exchange at watershed level through SWAPs
 - Volunteer Monitoring: VA Integration of Citizen Monitoring Data into State Assessment Report and On-line Database Tool
 - Tribal Monitoring Councils: National, Yukon, and Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Newsletter Articles - Suggestions for Fall 2010 issue (need by Sept 15)

- National Conference: (Jeff Schloss)
 - In review, who attended...
 - Announce power pts location
 - Promo for 2010 NMC
- Tribes: (Dave Fuller)
 - Columbia Intertribal Fisheries Commission (CRITFC) – coordinated monitoring or
 - Alaska Villages, protecting salmon streams and Pebble Mine Issue
- Vol Mons: (Barb Horn, Julie Vastine, Alice Mayo)
 - Marc. Shale
 - GA Adopt a stream database
- State and Regional Council highlight (need a story)
- SOGW update (Dave Wunsch)
- NMN updates and Ocean Policy Task Force (Pixie Hamilton & Jawed Hameedi)
- Methods Board (Dan Sullivan)
- WIS and/or Statistics Tool Box (Peter Tennant & Doug McLaughlin)
- Data Exchanges (Pixie Hamilton; Nate Booth)
- Highlight Council Member: Gunnar and Gulf Oil Spill (Tracy Hancock or Pixie Hamilton)
- General Announcements:
 - EPA Healthy Watershed Initiatives
 - National Surveys for Lakes and Rivers/Streams
 - USGS Climate Effects Network
 - WaterSMART
 - NAWQA Cycle III planning efforts
 - New Council Members
 - World Water Monitoring Day (WEF)
 - Other Council meetings and announcements
 -

Online “How-To Tool Kit” for creating and sustaining Councils

- Factsheet on “Accomplishing More Together”
- Power Point presentations for creating and sustaining partnerships and councils

- Examples of water quality monitoring collaborative efforts
- Power point presentations from Web Seminars

Action Items

- Consider student intern help to do the following:
 - Add presentations from NMC panel
 - Review and check links
 - Review timeliness of ideas
 - Product a model analysis (or matrix) of Councils including, organization/design and other features.
 - Review old matrix and create new (Alice Mayo to check with Abby Markowitz and EPA site & Kathy Tate to check with Robert Ward 's student work).
 - Consider EPA report on the status of state, tribal and regional councils (produced ~8 years ago) which provides analysis of challenges and approaches.
- Update successful collaborations (get from latest Newsletter)
- Create updated power point slide show which any Council member can take on the road from presentation Chuck gave to NH (Jeff S. to find) and from one Hancock gave to ND

National Council website update

- Estimated release: Aug. 1, 2010
- Current status:
 - Design complete
 - Undergoing browser compatibility testing
 - Some updates still to be done
- Added vertical link for webinars.
- The organization is different from our current homepage in that all the links from the current homepage are now arranged in the sidebar (click for arrow).
- In the center of the page we will highlight new items of interest to the Council and its membership. We hope that this part of the page will be fairly dynamic and include frequent updates. (click for 2nd arrow) Most everything that is here will reside long-term under one of the categories in the left-side navigation bar as well, so when it goes away from the highlights it will still be on the site.
- Secondary pages have the same left-side navigation. Updates are being made to many of the secondary pages to make them better organized and more visually appealing.

8th Biennial National Conference in 2012

- CPC: Jeff Schloss, Greg Pettit, Doug Glysson, and Kathy Tate
- Location: Portland (check Double tree)
 - Backup: FL: Ft. Lauderdale, Tampa
- Local Planning Committee to start in January 2011
- Include side meetings:
 - Fed: USGS, EPA, NPS, FWS
 - Greater involvement of other Feds: NOAA, Army Corp
 - States
 - Others: Vol Mons, Tribes
- Date: April or May (Note: Easter is April 15, 2012)
- Mon: Plenary with breakfast first thing in morning; at least 6 concurrent sessions in afternoon, evening session with posters with food & drinks
- Tues: concurrent sessions all day, with time in evening for small group meetings
- Wed: concurrent sessions with offsite social activity
- Thursday: half day of concurrent sessions, afternoon could be field trips and/or post meetings
- Extended Breaks for posters - networking with heavy snacks (instead of dinner time reception)
- Dinner (or lunch meetings) for small groups (Sensors, SOGW, Vol Mons) – don't schedule at same time as posters
- Dinner Cruise ship – pay a small fee
- 6 concurrent sessions
- 1-2 workshops/short course or 1 workshop and 1 interactive panel discussions
- Charge for workshops and courses; do not charge for interactive panel discussions