

McMurdo Area User Committee
(MAUC)
***ad hoc* Meeting**
11 November 2009
Crary Science and Engineering Center
McMurdo Station

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***ad hoc* McMurdo Area User Committee (MAUC) Meeting
11 November 2009
Agenda**

NB: All dates and times are in the New Zealand timezone

8:00 am **Welcome and Introductions**

Stacy Kim

8:15 am **Review of 2009 MAUC Meeting Items**

Staging Space

Infrastructure evaluation

Improved Communication

Streamlined Weather Observer Training

Other (e.g. ASPA/ASMA management plans, face to face MAUC meeting, webpage, AGIC, energy efficiency, ECW, journal subscriptions)

9:00 am **New Issues**

Housing

New Topics

9:30 am **Adjourn**

MAUC Committee:

Stacy Kim, Chair* **California State University**

Steve Barwick University of California, Irvine

Ginny Catania University of Texas at Austin

Peter Doran* **University of Illinois, Chicago**

Bruce Marsh Johns Hopkins University

Bruce Vaughn* **University of Colorado at Boulder**

Diana Wall Colorado State University

*these members will be in attendance

Attachments:

2008 *ad hoc* MAUC Meeting Notes

2009 MAUC Meeting Report and Recommendations

McMurdo Housing Policy (NB: this was originally intended as an attachment, but no written policy was located)

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Science	Peter Doran	B-211/B-426 PI, MAUC Committee Member
Science	John Fegyveresi	I-168 Team Member
Science	Geoff Hargreaves	I-478 PI
Science	Bess Kauffman	I-477 Team Member
Science	Stacy Kim	B-174 PI, MAUC Chair
Science	Mak Saito	B-243 PI
Science	Bruce Vaughn	I-477 co-PI, MAUC Committee Member
NSF	Jessie Crain	NSF Representative/Research Support Manager
NSF	Peter Milne	NSF Science Representative/Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences Program Manager
RPSC	Leslie Blank	Manager, Science Planning Support
NANA	Dawn Briscoe	Supervisor, Housing
RPSC	Don Brogan	Manager, McMurdo Area Operations
RPSC	Duffy Dyer	Director, McMurdo Area Operations
RPSC	Cara Ferrier	Asst. Manager, Field Science
RPSC	Sam Feola	Program Manager
RPSC	Rich Joss	Camp Manager, LDB
RPSC	Karen Joyce	Manager, Crary IT
RPSC	Steve Kottmeier	Director, Science Support
RPSC	Sally Moore	Material Controls Specialist, Crary Supply
NANA	Dan Pickett	Manager, Food and Beverage Operations
RPSC	Cara Sucher	Manager, Laboratory Science

ad hoc **McMurdo Area User Committee (MAUC) Meeting**
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Meeting Minutes

Review of 2009 MAUC meeting items

Staging Space

Solutions

- Long term
 - o OMB has been commissioned to conduct a study of all McMurdo -NSF
 - No new buildings until the study is complete
- Short term
 - o On station committee is looking at current structures and alternate solutions
 - o No immediate solutions identified at this time

Infrastructure Evaluations

- Infrastructure evaluation has been requested by the NSF
- Input on developing science needs or new research/support should be provided to Stacy Kim

Improved Communication

- Scientists need to know when a policy change occurs that impact their grant money expenditure
- Communication between NSF, the support contractor, and PIs has room for improvement

Weather Observer Training

- Time consuming
- Provides poor data
- Need to find other sources for quality weather data
 - o This would free scientists to focus on their science

Other Items

- ASPA management plans are under review
 - o Scientists would like to participate
- Face to face MAUC meeting should be reinstated
- MAUC web page has been updated and should continue to be kept current
- AGIC services are available to science groups
- Training on energy efficiency and solar/wind instrumentation at field camps would be beneficial
- ECW pants besides the wind pants should be made available to scientists; i.e. carhartts
- Scientific journals available at McMurdo have been coordinated with NSF

Travel

- Sydney route is no good
 - o Many delays
 - o Over 50% of luggage lost

- Formal survey will be conducted to confirm this number (NB: survey sent to 282 2009-10 deploying grantees. Out of 123 respondents, 59% of them had their luggage lost for at least a day.)
- Route worked for large groups traveling from Denver, but not for individuals traveling from other cities
- Would prefer the Christchurch route be reinstated

Cargo Tracking

- Scientists request that RPSC emulate the Arctic program and use a cargo tracking system that allows scientists to track their luggage via the web

New Items

Housing

Policies

- Transient residents
 - “Transient” now applies to people in town for 21 days or less as opposed to 14 days or less
 - This is the only policy change affecting scientists
 - Transient residents are housed in Building 155
- Dorm assignments
 - PI/co-PI placed in 208/209 regardless of length of time on station
 - Team members in 203C until dorm is full
 - Other dorms (203A, 203B, other uppercase dorms) used as overflow
 - All participants can request to be considered under RPSC policies
 - Scientists will compete alongside all RPSC and NANA personnel and on-ice time will be evaluated
- There is no written policy for scientists or RPSC available at this time

Housing Priorities for Scientists

- Scientists don't care about furniture quality, just getting a good night's sleep –Bruce Vaughn
- Housing priorities for grantees –Stacy Kim
 - 1 – sleep
 - 2 – health
 - 3 – work space

Problems/Issues

- Population vs. housing availability
 - There are more permanent residents (RPSC/NANA/Grantee) in McMurdo than available permanent housing
 - Too many people are on station at one time
 - Transient personnel continue to be transported to McMurdo with no clear plan to move them out to field camps
- Housing assignments
 - Grantees felt the written requests on housing forms were disregarded
 - Stacy Kim prefers her group be housed in the same dorm

- Eliminates running all over station to find her team members
- Room can be used as office space
- 6 person dorms not appropriate in this day and age –Bruce Vaughn
- Unexplained empty and underoccupied rooms exist in McMurdo
- Excess costs
 - Science groups must hold personnel in Christchurch while awaiting open bed space in McMurdo
 - This costs grant money that should be directed towards scientific efforts

Solutions

- Transient scientists to be addressed
 - Clearly define the word “transient” for the future –Duffy Dyer
 - Possible definition: ‘People prepping to head out into the field, not people in town for 21 days or less’
 - People heading to the field include people headed to Pole, field camps, or other bases, and home office managers, visitors, etc.
 - Transient science will not be placed in 155 in the future – Duffy Dyer
- Station housing changes
 - Looking into converting 2 closets in building 155 to 2-person rooms and 1 lounge in 203 to a room
 - MMI can now be used by the Grantees under RPSC rules –Duffy Dyer
 - Wireless is available for Grantees in 155 and a new second access point will make the signal stronger –Karen Joyce
 - Looking at designating space that has wireless
- Scientists to provide specific complaints and feedback on specific “problem” rooms is requested –Duffy Dyer
- RPSC should also hold personnel in Christchurch until staff can be moved to field camps and McMurdo bed spaces open up.