

# MINUTES FOR THE DSAC COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE

Friday November 3, 2003

Submitted by Andrei M. Reinhorn

- 1) **Roll Call:** In Attendance; A.M. Reinhorn (UB), D. Wilson (U.C. Davis), J. Hajjar (U. Minnesota), L. Van DenEinde (U.C.S.D.), P. Liu (Cornell), J. Bielak (Carnegie Mellon), Absent: Finley Charney (VPI), Cathy French (U. Minnesota).
- 2) **Review of tasks assigned to the committee:** AR reviewed the tasks assigned to the committee during the previous teleconference of 8-22-03, Sub-committee briefings included the following: “Data and Metadata”; “Site Specifications Data Base”; “Data Sharing and Archival Policies”, “Electronic Journal”
- 3) **“Data and Metadata”;** LVD briefed the committee on the activities and findings of this sub-committee (Working Group) during the past 6-weeks; The working group was split into sub-groups to evaluate several existing data models to suggest a model or models most appropriate for NEES. The Oregon State (ORST) model, currently under re-development by NEES-SI , was evaluated from the perspective as being the baseline and to determine what features of other schemas would be desirable to incorporate into the ORST model. Other schemas evaluated included; COSMOS, the ISO Standards, STEP, IEEE Standards, SensorML, etc....These data models were compared directly to the ORST model considering such factors as user interfaces, ease of use, engineering terms useful to NEES engineers (data dictionaries), file structures, data storage and retrieval methodologies, etc...The consensus of the sub-committee is that the ORST model is a viable baseline but that it is incomplete and is missing features that are important to the NEES community. The conclusion of the committee was that a significant amount of work would be necessary to develop data dictionaries, data model structures, etc. compatible with all of the NEES - equipment and non-equipment sites, well beyond the scope of volunteers, and would require a dedicated engineering professional to work with the NEES sites and with the SI-IT personnel currently engaged in these activities. On the basis of these findings a recommendation will be made to the NEES Inc. (Consortium) to hire a full time engineering professional to support these efforts in cooperation with the SI and submit a proposal to NSF to provide the necessary funding.
- 4) **“Site-Specifications Data Base”;** AR reported that Cohort-1 was completed and that Cohort-2 is to be reviewed to see how it relates to the consortium. It was agreed that representatives of the committee would review Cohort-2 with respect to their individual sites and provide their comments to AR by November 10<sup>th</sup> so that a summary could be submitted to B. Kutter by November 15<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers from the committee included JH (Large scale), DW (geotech), PL (tsunami), Ellen

Ratje (field geotech), AR and LVD (shake tables) AR will provide Bruce Kutter with the comments by Nov 14, 2003.

- 5) **“Data Sharing and Archival Policies”**; JB reported that he has completed his review of NIH and IRIS documents re-data sharing and archival policies and has submitted a preliminary report for review. JB commented that this is a new venture for NEES and that a culture within NEES needs to be developed that accepts and is comfortable with the whole process of data archiving and retrieval. The committee needs to come to a consensus of what is needed and when and needs to develop a plan for data sharing that is reviewed and approved by all NEES members. The two primary elements of this plan “policies” and “guidelines” and must address issues such as statements regarding data objectives, timelines for submittal and retrieval, intellectual property, conditions for the release of data (if any), acknowledging the originators of the data, etc...The committee was assigned the action item to review JB’s draft and to provide him with feedback and comments within one week. JB will provide an updated draft for the committee to review by the end of November. The revised draft is to focus on the major elements of the plan, i.e. “policies” and “guidelines” for data sharing and retrieval.
- 6) **“Electronic Journal”**; The discussion was postponed to next meeting due to time constraints.
- 7) Next meeting will be scheduled in first half of December
- 8) Meeting adjourned at 2:35 EST