



Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics SCOSTEP General Council Meeting, Prague Congress Centre 26 June 2015

Attendees: The list of the Attendees is given in the Appendix

1. Opening Remarks of President

In his opening remarks the SCOSTEP President *Dr. Nat Gopalswamy* pointed out that 2014 has been a busy year for SCOSTEP with the launch of the SCOSTEP scientific program VarSITI and the 13th Quadrennial Solar-Terrestrial Physics Symposium (STP13), held in Xi'An in October 2014. The STP 13 was a great success with reasonable external funding. The activities of the completed in 2013 CAWSES II program were summarized in 40 scientific articles in the Earth, Planets, Space (EPS) Journal and 6 review papers the Progress in Earth and Planetary Science (PEPS), which are published or are awaiting publication. Work is underway for the publication of the PEPS articles also as a book. A VarSITI special issue in the Journal of Geophysical Research, comprising articles presented during the STP13 is awaiting publication.

Further N. Gopalswamy reported on the development and the launch of the SCOSTEP Visiting Scholar (SVS) program. A SVS Selection committee was appointed for the 2015 competition. A new Awards committee was also appointed and they have finished the selection of the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award. N. Gopalswamy informed the General Council that an all-hand General Council workshop will be held in 2016 in Istanbul in cooperation with COSPAR. Dr. Gopalswamy informed the General Council about the selection of the host for the next, 14th Quadrennial Solar-Terrestrial Physics (STP14) Symposium. The STP14 in 2018 will be held in Canada.

2. SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Award 2015

The SCOSTEP Awards Selection Committee chaired by Prof. Archana Bathacharyya (and members Vladimir Kuznetso, Mark Miesch, Andreas Ludmany, Marco Milla) selected Dr. Brigitte Schmieder, (former SCOSTEP Vice-President) as the recipient of the SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Award for 2015. The award recognizes a unique contribution to SCOSTEP activities, to realization of its programs and events. SCOSTEP's President Nat Gopalswamy presented Dr. Schmieder with the SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Medal acknowledging her leadership and long service, spanning several decades, within the SCOSTEP community, while serving on the SCOSTEP Bureau as a representative of IAU and as a vice-President.

Dr. Schmieder responded by briefly outlining the achievements of SCOSTEP in leading the international STP community during the time of her tenure.

After the award ceremony there was a brief reception to honor Dr. Schmieder, when a group picture was taken. Following Dr. Schmieder's departure the General Council meeting resumed.

3. Status Report on SCOSTEP activities since last General meeting in Xi'An 2014

Marianna Shepherd gave a preview on SCOSTEP activities during 2014 and 2015 to date. In 2014 SCOSTEP through its Capacity Building program and VarSITI organized and/or supported financially 21 international meetings and workshops, the most significant of which was the 13th Quadrennial Solar-Terrestrial Physics Symposium (STP13), held in Xi'an, China, in October 2014.

To date, June 2015, SCOSTEP & VarSITI have supported 7 international workshops and conferences, including 2 symposia (Symposium A15: "Long-term trends in the stratosphere, mesosphere, thermosphere, and ionosphere", and Symposium A16: "Energetic Particle Precipitation into the Atmosphere: Sources and Atmospheric Impacts") of the 26th IUGG General Assembly, held in Prague, Czech Republic.

a. General

- i. New SCOSTEP Adherent Members and Bureau Members – Prof. Craig J. Rodger – URSI (New Zealand), replacing Prof. Lee-Anne McKinnell (South Africa)**
- ii. An update on Science Discipline Representatives (SDR) – their role in SCOSTEP's activities**

In 2014 – 7 new SDR were appointed from countries, which are Adherent Members of SCOSTEP, but did not have Science Discipline Representatives (*Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Israel, New Zealand, Slovakia*). Two SDRs were also replaced.

In 2015 – 21 new SDRs have been appointed effective June 25, 2015 replacing scientists who have served since 2008. (*Brazil, Bulgaria, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Russia, Taiwan, USA*).

Franz-Josef Lübken read the names of all newly appointed SDRs.

iii. Election of SCOSTEP Executives - 2015

Marianna Shepherd described the procedure and how it was implemented. The deadline for nominations was December 31, 2014. There were four nominations and all were contacted by the Secretariat. By January 31, 2015 only 2 nominees (Nat Gopalswamy and Franz-Josef Lübken) agreed to stand for election. During January 31, 2015 - February 15, 2015: N. Gopalswamy and F.-J. Lübken agreed to remain in their earlier positions as SCOSTEP's President and Vice-President, respectively, thus leading to an election by acclamation with the consent of the contestants.

iv. New SCOSTEP Members

Switzerland was provisionally approved in Nagoya, in November 2013. Now all application process has been completed, a National Adherent Representative has been appointed, Dr. Marina Battaglia, and financing of the membership subscription has been granted. Therefore Nat Gopalswamy asked the Bureau to approve Switzerland's membership. At its meeting on June 8, 2015 the SCOSTEP Bureau unanimously approved Switzerland's membership to SCOSTEP.

4. Financial state of SCOSTEP to date:

Marianna Shepherds presented the SCOSTEP Financial report to date. This included a summary of the Financial Audit report for 2014 and up-to-date financial summary for 2015. The organization's finances are in good standing with all planned activities within budget.

Nat Gopalswamy presented the proposed 2015 Budget and the projected budgets for 2016 and

2017.

5. SCOSTEP Visiting Scholar (SVS) program

Marianna Shepherd briefed the GC on the objectives of the SVS program and its status to date.

The program was initiated by the SCOSTEP President in the fall of 2014 with the objective of providing training for periods of 1 to 3 months to young scientists and graduate students from developing countries in well-established solar-terrestrial physics (STP) laboratories. The aim is to fund 4 scholars each year, one related to each of the four SCOSTEP/VarSITI themes (<http://www.varsiti.org/>). The training will help the young scientists to advance their career in solar-terrestrial physics using the technique/skill they acquire during the training. SCOSTEP will provide the airfare while the hosting laboratory will provide the living expenses.

All applications were sent to the SCOSTEP Secretariat by May 31, 2015 and immediately forwarded for consideration by the SVS Selection Committee, chaired by Prof. Nicole Vilmer (France) (members: Maura Hagan (USA), A. Yoshikawa (Japan), Babatunde Rabiun (Nigeria), Jean-Pierre Raulin (Brazil)).

6. SCOSTEP General Council All-hands workshop – 2016

Nat Gopalswamy informed the General Council about his discussion with COSPAR's President Prof. Len Fisk about the possibility for holding an all-hands General Council workshop during the COSPAR Scientific Assembly to be held in Istanbul (Turkey) in August 2016. The discussion was followed by a letter sent to the COSPAR Secretariat and the COSPAR President. The response has been positive.

The purpose of the All-hands General Council Workshop is to revitalize the General Council and find new way(s) for broader and meaningful involvement and participation of the Science Discipline Representatives in SCOSTEP's activities, to engage them in new scientific projects which would lead to new science program after VarSITI. It is proposed that this 2-day workshop is held every two years. As the program of the COSPAR meeting is already very busy it is proposed that the GC workshop is held on the last day of the meeting.

7. VarSITI Program Updates

The VarSITI Co-Chair Prof. Kazuo Shiokawa presented a brief summary of the activities carried out the program and its four projects.

8. Announcement of the host for STP14 in 2018

Nat Gopalswamy informed the GC about the SCOSTEP Bureau's decision to hold the STP14 Symposium in Canada. There were two competing bids, Irkutsk (Russia) and Calgary (Canada) to host the STP14 symposium in 2018. All materials related to these competing bids were made available to the Bureau members for consideration. The Bureau members voted by e-mail sent to SCOSTEP's President, with a copy to the Secretariat.

The Bureau voted for Calgary, Canada based primarily on the following reasons: 1. Geographically Irkutsk and Xi'An, where the last STP13 symposium was held in 2014, are pretty close; 2. The 42nd COSPAR Scientific Assembly in 2018 will be held in Pasadena, California, so having the STP14 adjacent to it may be helpful in facilitating the participation of broad range of STP international scientists in the SCOSTEP symposium.

However, recognizing the high level of scientific activity at the Institute of Solar-Terrestrial Physics,

Siberian Branch, RAS in Irkutsk and acknowledging the merits of their proposal, SCOSTEP recommended that the ISTP SB-BAS hosts a regional VarSITI (Variability of the Sun and Its Terrestrial Impact)-wide meeting in 2017.

9. Additional matters

All topics of the Meeting's Agenda were addressed.

The President thanked all for attending the Bureau meeting and the meeting adjourned.

Appendix: List of Attendees

Name	Position	E-mail address
Nat Gopalswamy	President	nat.gopalswamy@nasa.gov
Franz-Josef Lübken	Vice-President	luebken@iap-kborn.de
Brigitte Schmieder	former Vice-President	brigitte.schmieder@jobspm.fr
P. Henzel	Czech Academy of Science	pheinzel@asu.cas.cz
Sarah Gibson	SDR	sgibson@ucar.edu
Kalevi Mursula	Finland, NAR	kalevi.mursula@oulu.fi
Vladimir Kuznetsov	Bureau, IAGA	kvd@izmiran.ru
Peter Ammosov	Yu. G. Shafer Inst. Cosmophysics & Aeronomy, SB RAS	p.p.amosov@ikfig.sbras.ru
Ahmed A. Hady	Cairo Univ, Egypt	aahady@yahoo.com
B. Grison	IAP, Czech Acad. Sci.	grison@uifa.cas.cz
A. Chambodut	EOST, France	auae@unistra.fr
Craig J. Rodger	URSI, Bureau	craig.rodger@otago.ac.nz
Ivan Dorotovic	SDR	ivan.dorotovic@suh.sk
David Siskind	NRL, IAMAS	david.siskind@nrl.navy.edu
Jürgen Sheer	SDR	jurgen@iafe.uba.ar
Marina Battaglia	SDR, NAR Switzerland	marina.battaglia@fhnw.ch
Peter Stauning	COSPAR/SCOSTEP NAR	pst@dmi.dk
Pierre Kaufmann	NAR, Brazil	pierrekau@gmail.com
Archana Bhattacharyya	Indian Inst. Geomagnetism, NAR	abh@iigs.iigm.res.in
Annika Seppälä	SCAR, Bureau	annika.seppala@fmi.fi
Ester Sztein	NAS, Ass. Director	esztein@nas.edu
Fred Menk	NAR, Australia	fred.menk@nwccastle.edu.au
Katya Georgieva	VarSITI Co-chair	katyageorgieva@msn.com
Kazuo Shiokawa	VarSITI Co-chair	shiokawa@stelab.nagoya-u.ac.jp
Takuji Nakamura	COSPAR/Bureau + NAR	nakamura.takuji@nipr.ac.jp
Marianna Shepherd	Scientific Secretary	mshepher@yorku.ca