

RAISE International Science Steering Committee Meeting
DoubleTree Hotel Seattle Airport
16-17 November 2000

Summary Minutes

Thursday, 16 November

Present: Steve Forman (Chair), Lee Cooper, Vladimir Romanovsky, Nikolai Romanovsky, Len Johnson, Bruce Peterson, Igor Semiletov, Igor Melnikov, Sergei Pryamikov, Mike Ledbetter, Patricia Anderson

This RAISE International Science Steering Committee meeting preceded the full RAISE meeting on 16 December.

0800: Forman opened the meeting by stating that it is essential for U.S. scientists to learn more about how to work with Russians and do work in Russia. In this regard, we are lagging our European colleagues. We need formal agreements established. This is a goal of RAISE and this year's RAISE meeting.

V. Romanovsky added that another goal of this meeting is to familiarize Vasily Zhivago (Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology) and Vladimir Yakukhin (Roshydromet) with U.S. arctic research projects, and to start working on a guide for U.S. scientists.

S. Pryamikov observed that the World Ocean Agreement doesn't exist any more. RAISE can take a central role in a new agreement. One approach is to put RAISE goals in the new agreement. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs says there should be a new agreement, not just a renewal of the current World Ocean Agreement. RAISE is too broad to include; we need to develop a list of specific priorities.

I. Semiletov noted that RAISE is an important link between terrestrial and marine science and that Russia is ready for joint projects in this area.

S. Pryamikov stated that the World Ocean Agreement is between the Russian Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology and NOAA. The Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology is a policy agency and also a funding agency. It is the real analogue of NSF in Russia.

M. Ledbetter commented that NSF is working with NOAA on the new agreement and will probably be a partner. From the NSF perspective, they have a number of projects outside of RAISE that want to work in Russia, and these should not be neglected. The U.S. is looking for collaborative projects with Russia.

I. Melnikov noted that in Russia, RAISE is the real scientific umbrella to do collaborative work.

There was a general discussion of how RAISE could serve a role in coordination and information transfer even for projects not under RAISE through its web site. There is more than one logistics provider in Russian and who you select depends on your scientific needs. The RAISE web site could list points of contact for logistics across Russia. M. Ledbetter suggested that VECO Polar Resources (VPR) could develop such a list. S. Forman commented that VPR could contact groups in Germany, Sweden, etc. and ask how they have handled logistics in Russia. S. Pryamikov noted that other organizations such as FARO exist to help with logistics as well.

Terms of Reference for RAISE:

M. Ledbetter commented that Terms of Reference (“by-laws”) are important for RAISE to have. This is how most large ARCSS programs proceed. He would like to see new members moving onto the RAISE Steering Committee, especially younger scientists, and Terms of Reference would address rotation of membership. A specific set of goals for RAISE would help identify how large the Steering Committee needs to be and who needs to be on it. A draft Terms of Reference, prepared by L. Johnson and based on those of the ARCSS Ocean-Atmosphere-Ice Interactions (OAI) program, was handed out. RAISE Steering Committee members were asked to provide comments on this draft to the RAISE Science Management Office.

S. Pryamikov arranged for the RAISE Prospectus to be published in Russian. He showed copies to the Steering Committee. The Prospectus will be put on the RAISE web site in both English and Russian.

Steering Committee Membership:

A general discussion was held on current membership and who needs to be replaced. On the Russian side, two current members (Igor Krupnik and Sergei Lappo) should be replaced. Vladimir Pitulko was suggested as a replacement for Krupnik and Boris Levin was suggested as a replacement for Lappo. Since Leonid Timokhov missed the last two steering committee meetings, he may also be replaced. Other suggested members: Mikhail Grigoriev, Dmitry Gorokhov, Nina Savelieva.

On the U.S. side, Herbert Maschner is ready to be replaced as he does not do too much work with Russia. Stephanie Pfirman does not attend Steering Committee meetings and should be rotated off. James Syvitski also does not attend meetings, and although he is interested in RAISE, should be replaced. Suggested replacements: Ted Goebels (Nevada), Peter Schweitzer (Vienna), Owen Mason (Univ of Alaska), Hajo Eicken. (Univ of Alaska), Larry Smith (UCLA).

Chairmanship of Steering Committee:

On the U.S. side, Steve Forman and Len Johnson both resigned as co-chairs. The US will abandon the co-chair arrangement and Lee Cooper will be the new US chair. On the Russian side, it was decided that it is better to have co-chairs so that Moscow and St. Petersburg are represented.

The discussion on RAISE Steering Committee membership was continued at the evening Steering Committee meeting convened at 1930.

Meeting adjourned. The full RAISE meeting began at 9:30 AM.

1930: RAISE International Science Steering Committee – reconvened

Membership:

A discussion on RAISE steering committee membership was continued from the morning session.

Russian members:

Continuing Members: Igor Melnikov, Sergei Pryamikov, Nikolai Romanovsky, Igor Semiletov, Leonid Timokhov

Nominations: Boris Levin, Vladimir Pitulko, Nini Savelieva, Dmitry Gorokhov, : Mikhail Grigoriev

US members:

Continuing Members: Lee Cooper, Steve Forman, Bruce Peterson

Nominations: Ted Goebels, Hajo Eicken, Larry Smith, Kelly Falkner, Lynne Gualtieri, Ron Denner, Pat Anderson, Ann Gibbon, Pat Wheeler, Rich Lammers, Mike Steele, Andrey Proshutinsky, Sirpa Hakkinen.

After a discussion of the slate of nominations, the following US membership of the RAISE Science Steering was agreed upon:

Lee Cooper, Univ. of Tennessee (Chair)

Steve Forman, Univ of Illinois at Chicago – paleo

Bruce Peterson, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA – biogeochemistry

Larry Smith, UCLA – hydrology

Rich Lammers, Univ of New Hampshire – hydrology

Andrey Proshutinsky, Woods Hole Institution of Oceanography – oceanography, modeling

Sirpa Hakkinen, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center – modeling

Vladimir Romanovsky – Univ of Alaska Fairbanks (ex-officio as Director of the RAISE Science Management Office)

The Russian side will agree on their membership in the near future.

Other Issues:

V. Romanovsky stated that he thinks RAISE is reaching a point where NSF may call for more RAISE projects. For an announcement of opportunity, we need to develop more focused topics than in the Prospectus. We should think about a tighter relationship with LAII, e.g., in the area of how the coastal zone connects to land and ocean systems. M. Ledbetter commented that this would be a unique part of the ARCSS program and he is supportive.

B. Levin remarked that the Russian Foundation for Basic Research is planning for joint announcements under the umbrella of RAISE.

S. Pryamikov stated that first we need to put a block of focused RAISE goals under the new US-Russian agreement, and then RAISE will operate as a group to implement this block of topics. Pryamikov forecasts that we will have a new US-Russian agreement in the year 2001.

M. Ledbetter stated that RAISE needs a subcommittee to address RAISE priorities.

B. Peterson commented that RAISE should keep its pan-arctic scale.

2100: Meeting adjourned

Friday, 17 November

Present: Steve Forman (Chair), Lee Cooper (new Chair), Vladimir Romanovsky, Nikolai Romanovsky, Len Johnson, Bruce Peterson, Igor Semiletov, Igor Melnikov, Sergei Pryamikov, Tom Pyle, Mike Ledbetter, Patricia Anderson, Boris Levin, Vladimir Pitulko, Andrey Proshutinsky, Larry Smith

16:10: Lee Cooper, the new US chair of the RAISE International Science Steering Committee convened the meeting and introduced the new members present: Larry Smith and Andrey Proshutinsky. (The other two new US members – Sirpa Hakkinen and Rich Lammers – were not present at this RAISE meeting.)

L. Cooper stated that he feels RAISE has an opportunity to have a new announcement of opportunity. We need to identify points of focus for RAISE. RAISE needs:

- 1) A science plan that falls within the framework of the Prospectus.
- 2) An implementation plan.
- 3) An announcement of opportunity (AO) joint with Russia, hopefully.

L. Cooper is interested in coordinated activity in the coastal zone.

L. Johnson commented that the AO should not be geographically restricted.

B. Peterson commented that we should be able to have a focused initiative plus breadth.

L. Cooper will write a draft science plan and circulate it to the RAISE Steering Committee as a first step. The group discussed that this science plan should dovetail with SEARCH, LAII and also biocomplexity (e.g., the inner shelf area has been mentioned in biocomplexity papers).

B. Levin stated that now is a good time to develop a memorandum between the Russian Foundation for Basic Research and NSF in the framework of RAISE. Tom Pyle stated that if the RAISE Steering Committee will prepare this, including priorities for RAISE, then NSF is ready to sign.

S. Pryamikov stated that we need to examine RAISE priorities in the context of OAI and LAII, but that RAISE needs to be separate.

I. Semiletov raised the question if and how RAISE could be involved in preparation of English translations of the articles on RAISE-related topics published in Russian Scientific literature.

V. Romanovsky stated that publishing is a very complex and serious process and it is not in RAISE Steering Committee's purview. One idea would be to arrange for a special issue of a scientific journal in order to publicize Russian contributions.