

## EC telecon - 2013-07-11

Participants: Matt Pritchard, David Schmidt, Shimon Wdowinski, Franz Meyer, Paul Vincent, Eric Fielding, Scott Baker, Christopher Crosby, Chuck Meertens.

Minutes by Shimon Wdowinski, edited by Matt Pritchard

Called to order at 12:05 pm EDT

- WInSAR funding – Chuck gave an update on the current funding status for WInSAR activities and plans for the future. Main points:
  - The current funding by NSF/NASA for supersites will run out in the fall.
  - The GAGE proposal will soon kick in. It has a small component for WInSAR operation, but the GAGE proposal has been cut 23%, so it is unclear exactly what can be supported – certainly not at the level in the GAGE proposal.
  - In order to maintain the same level of activity we need to raise ~\$150K a year for a software engineer and technician to task satellites and update supersites, as well as travel money for WInSAR representative/s to attend meetings and engage space agencies to contribute data.
  - In the long run (~ a year), WInSAR should submit a NSF and/or NASA proposal to raise that amount.
  - In the past, NASA has provided about \$50k/year for support, but getting another increment this size seems unlikely
  - There is a need to contact NSF program managers to find a solution – this may happen during Chuck’s visit to DC on July 29
  
- NGA SAR data – Franz suggested to contact NGA and check to see if they are willing to share their SAR data, as they did with optical data. As Franz has a project with NGA, he will use his contacts there to check this possibility.
  
- TSX quota and tasking – Main points:
  - Scott asked how to resolve tasking conflicts between WInSAR requests (conflicting track/beam in same area). Suggested solution: WInSAR should flag such problem and notify the involving parties, who should seek a solution suitable for both. If cannot find a solution, the problem will be resolved by the EC.
  - There is a need to notify John Bell about possible conflict with his tasking requests.
  - The new three background tasking requests presented in the agenda were approved.
  - There is a need to add more text in the WInSAR page about TSX tasking request evaluations. Requests will be evaluated during semi-annual EC meeting except high priority request (e.g., emergency response or during the summer season) that should be treated much faster.
  
- Action items from last meeting were mostly done – those remaining are still on the list

of action items.

- Franz informed the EC of the possibility to order ALOS-1 data outside the Americas by requesting the data from NASA. Most requests have been approved.
- Meetings – Shimon will attend ESA's Living Planet meeting and may give an oral or poster WInSAR presentation. No member of the EC has plans to attend ALOS-2 meeting yet.
- Out reach material on WInSAR (presentations, posters) is available on the WInSAR webpage, but it needs an update.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm

Action items:

Franz: Contact NGA to determine who we might contact about access to SAR data

Chuck: Before the July 29 meeting, talk with Matt and others about developing a "white paper" describing the WInSAR needs that cannot be met with existing resources

Scott? Notify those who have requested tasking that their tasking requests are approved

Chris: 1) Find out how many ALOS-2 proposal he is signed up for and which include requests for ALOS-1 and JERS data. Send list to Matt who will then write to JAXA about storing this data at UNAVCO

2) Update EC on the need to write WInSAR annual reports to NSF

Falk: Will write to JAXA to see if ALOS-1/JERS data acquired through PI ALOS-2 proposal can be stored at UNAVCO and shared

Matt: Coordinate creation of WInSAR outreach material