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POLICY GROUP



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MEETING SUMMARY OF THE CCS IN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY TASK FORCE MEETING SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, USA 28 JUNE 2009

Note by the Secretariat

Background

The first meeting of the CCS in the Academic Community Task Force of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum was held on 28 June 2009 in San Francisco, California, USA. An initial draft meeting summary of this meeting has been compiled by the Secretariat and was circulated to the CCS in the Academic Community Task Force members for comments. Comments received were incorporated into this revised draft.

Action Requested

The CCS in the Academic Community Task Force is asked to approve this revised draft meeting summary.

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DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY CSLF CCS in the Academic Community Task Force Meeting San Francisco, California, USA 28 June 2009

Prepared by the CSLF Secretariat

LIST OF ATTENDEES

Australia: Brazil: New Zealand: United Kingdom: United States: IEA GHG CSLF Secretariat:

Peta Ashworth Marcelo Ketzer (Chair) Kate Riddell Bronwen Northmore Judd Swift Tim Dixon John Panek, Scott Miles

1. Welcoming Remarks

Task Force Chairman Marcelo Ketzer of Brazil welcomed the attendees to the inaugural meeting of the task force. He thanked everyone for their interest in this important activity.

2. Discussion of CCS Courses and Funding

The Task Force members discussed the parameters of the Task Force and were unsure if the areas of coverage are limited to CSLF members or if it is broader. The proposed initial mission for this new Task Force is to develop contacts within the academic community, identify academic perspectives and programs on CCS for universities in CSLF Member countries, and determine the path forward for the CSLF in this area. One possible activity for the Task Force would be to investigate the possibility of an exchange program for university professors in CCS curricula. This would result in creating a stronger CCS network and information exchange within the academic community.

Tim Dixon of the IEA GHG presented details on the IEA Summer School program for possible linkages with the task force. The IEA Summer School operates to fill a gap as there are no formal courses in CCS. Once CCS courses become part of university curriculums then the Summer School will cease. Dr. Ketzer commented that Brazilian feedback on the IEA Summer School was very strong. The program received 270 applications this year. The Summer School has a regional focus and will run the next 3 years. The program will be evaluated after that. Mr. Dixon recommended that Brendan Beck of the IEA GHG be invited to participate in the task force as he has experience with the IEA Summer School program.

Task Force members discussed CCS courses around the world. It was noted that Howard Herzog of MIT ran informal courses. Australia has funded one in China. A university in Scotland will start a master's course in CCS next year. One of the interesting outcomes of the program is that students tend to stay in touch via Facebook and other social networking sites after their time together is over.

The issue of how to attract students was raised. It was suggested that the answer lies in offering scholarships and research opportunities. The difficulty is to get the money for scholarships and research. Investments in scholarships and research grants provide a big return for the amount invested. Possible solutions included contacting international groups like the Clinton Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation or university programs like Columbia University's Earth Institute for funding for students. Another idea was soliciting industry for funding as companies in the CCS field would benefit form a larger student base in the field.

The unanswered question was how to increase interest among the Ministers for support.

The question of how to get more universities involved was raised. Dr. Ketzer stated that Brazil has three related courses in CCS. The Task Force could feature these universities to get other universities interested. These and other universities that offer courses in CCS education could be posted on the CSLF Website.

The Task Force identified a work activity to conduct a survey of existing programs in CCS. The task could be divided by region. Dr. Ketzer volunteered to address South America. Issues that could be addressed include

- Wording of the survey.
- Does it include online courses?
- Are these courses advertised over the Internet?
- Who is the Contact person?
- Academic program?
- What is the topic of the course?
- Length of course (1 semester)?
- Graduate or undergraduate or both?

John Panek of the CSLF Secretariat suggested sending e-mails out to CSLF Technical Group delegates for their support. The information which was hoped to be collected could be contacts, such as within departments of education, not just courses. Peta Ashworth of Australia volunteered to make contacts in her social network for leads. It was recommended to contact leading academics to share their contacts in the field. The issue of course focus was introduced, whether the focus should be on engineering or law or more broad, but it was decided that the course development could be addressed at a later date.

Another idea would be to take the 80 presentations given in the six capacity building workshops and repackage them as materials for coursework after receiving approval of the authors. This has inherent difficulties and the authors would need to give their approval.

3. CSLF Ministerial Meeting

The idea of creating a youth expo for the 3rd CSLF Ministerial meeting in London, October 12-14, 2009 was discussed. Such an event could attract considerable attention. This Expo could feature a poster session. One idea is to display student presentations from the IEA Summer School. Another idea would be to display art work from children on the CCS. The University of Rome did something similar. A student prize could be developed for the art work. The CSLF would judge the submissions and award a prize, such as a trip to next Cop meeting. The advantage of prizes and poster sessions is you attract attention of students and this could boost the student network.

4. Next Steps

The following ideas for future action were discussed in this Task Force meeting.

- Invite Brendan Beck to join this Task Force.
- Develop a survey of existing CCS programs and begin to collect the desired information.
- Send e-mails to CSLF Technical Group delegates for points of contact in academia and their respective departments of education.

Further develop ideas for Task Force contribution to the London Ministerial.

