

October 3, 2006

A Note from the Executive Director
Russell Jackson

Aloha Kakou,

It was a pleasure seeing everyone again at the PRiMO Navigators/Steerspersons Meeting last month at the East West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. Mahalo to everyone for taking time from your very busy schedules to discuss how we can collectively build a stronger PRiMO. I believe we had some very lively and constructive discussions that will help us to navigate the PRiMO canoe in the right direction. We also had the opportunity to express our gratitude to Kalani, John, and Marina for the very important roles they have each played in the development and progress PRiMO has made in the past few years. Unfortunately Marina couldn't join us in person, but some of us in Hawaii will be getting together with her soon to thank her once again in person.

As you will see in the meeting notes, there are many action items that will need to be addressed in the near future. I hope everyone will approach each of the actions with the same passion and enthusiasm that was displayed during our recent meeting. In actuality some of the action items have already been addressed. Even with all of the changes, such as new positions for some of our Navigators, combined with our already overloaded work schedules, I have tried to set a little better example and get the meeting notes out to each of you in less than a month this time. A vast improvement for the example we set with the notes from the PRiMO Annual Meeting in March. Hopefully, we can all continue to make PRiMO one of our top priorities.

So, as I prepare to send you the notes, I can honestly say that I think many more great things will come about as a result of PRiMO in the coming year. I look forward to working with all of you on some of the more pressing issues like documenting our previous successes, completing the DVD, and planning the next annual meeting. Mahalo nui loa for all of your continued dedication and support to PRiMO.

Aloha,

Russell

September 7-8, 2006

PRiMO Meeting of Navigators and Steerspersons

ACTION ITEMS

ADAM STEIN has agreed to talk to each of the Hui Steersman regarding the new community resilience focus in an effort to initiate discussions about the next steps and identify future tasks/projects.

CHRIS CHUNG, KALANI SOUZA, RUSSELL JACKSON, CHERYL ANDERSON, AND ED YOUNG will do some exploration of willingness and readiness of a community to participate – perhaps build on an existing relationship (e.g., Waianae) and perhaps establish a new relationship with a community willing to help us explore some of the concepts that we want to pursue.

KRIS MCELWEE, LYNN NAKAGAWA AND ADAM STEIN will discuss the appropriate nature of addressing education, outreach, and training in the context of the Hui structure.

RUSSELL JACKSON AND EILEEN SHEA to follow-up on Ed Young’s call for greater information exchange among the navigators between meetings.

- **RUSSELL JACKSON** to reinstitute regular calls among navigators (like Adam is doing with the Steersman)

MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE – Bill Thomas suggests exploring opportunities for professional development/training in key areas such as communications training, issues/crisis management, conflict resolution, cultural competency (e.g. “talk story” as a formalized style of greeting), etc. The meeting planning committee will look for opportunities to integrate some type of professional development into the March meeting agenda.

MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE will consider opportunities to inform planners (or some other professional community) of what we’re doing (e.g., in terms of Indian Ocean coastal community resilience efforts)

- Meeting Planning Committee: Chris Chung, Jessie Huart, Cheryl Anderson, Bill Thomas, Russell Jackson, Jeff Payne, Eileen Shea, and Sally Ziolkowski/David Kennard

ALL – look into finding a PRiMO East West Center representative to replace Eileen Shea.

ALL – look over the March 2006 meeting notes from Eileen and add any thoughts or missing information.

ALL – send Russell Jackson at least one accomplishment that can be linked back to PRiMO (try to incorporate some kind of visual).

- **RUSSELL JACKSON** will send out e-mail about how to format

RUSSELL JACKSON AND EILEEN SHEA will send a PRiMO letter of support to Karl Kim before the November Board Meeting

ANYONE INTERESTED – Navigators and Steersmen to send “expressions of interest” regarding serving as lecturers and/or affiliate faculty for (1) courses that are part of the new UH certificate program and/or (2) the distance learning seminar program that Christina Higa is coordinating. Include name, position and institutional affiliation, contact information, areas of personal expertise and topical areas of interest (i.e., possible lecture topics). NOTE that interest in serving as Affiliate Faculty requires submission of a Curriculum Vitae that will be reviewed by the UH faculty and administration. **LYNN NAKAGAWA** is the focal point for this input.

EILEEN SHEA will send a letter to SOPAC and SPREP inviting them to join PRiMO. Eileen will send a draft letter to the Navigators before sending it out.

SALLY ZIOLKOWSKI will send out a job description for Ken Brown’s replacement with FEMA

KARL KIM will provide access to PDF file of the UH Program proposal and the **NAVIGATORS** will provide technical review comments directly to Karl.

RUSSELL JACKSON will provide access to the Coastal Hazards Management graduate-level curriculum developed through FEMA’s Higher Education Program with support from the NOAA Coastal Services Center.

- To access the Coastal Hazards Management curriculum, along with numerous other hazard related courses please access the following URL:
<<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/edu/completeCourses.asp>>

SALLY ZIOLKOWSKI will provide Karl Kim with access to the FEMA Higher Education program.

JESSIE HUART AND CHRIS CHUNG will explore options on Maui and Big Island for the annual meeting in March.

RUSSELL JACKSON AND EILEEN SHEA will post a number of the resilience examples/write-ups that were discussed during the meeting on an FTP site for everyone to review and consider.

MEETING NOTES

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- Welcome Kristina Kekuewa, as the future Director of the NOAA Pacific Services, to the Navigator’s Council
- Unanimous decision to have Bill Thomas remain a navigator when he transitions to his new role as the lead for One NOAA Integration in the Pacific
- Eileen Shea should stay in her current PRiMO position when she moves to her new position, Director of the new NOAA Integrated Data and Environmental Applications (IDEA) Center

Update on PRiMO-wide Activities

- Summary of the annual meeting in March was included in the meeting materials for final review and will be posted on the PRiMO website shortly after the meeting.

- Contract in place to develop a new PRiMO Web site
 - Have received a draft and given feedback
 - It will be hosted on the East West server and will have an easy address to market
 - Updated site should be up and running in a month or two
- PRiMO brochures and materials are on hold so that the look and feel and be consistent with the new Web site
- Working on PRiMO letterhead

Highlights of Hui ‘Ohana Activities

Adam Stein – Data Analysis and Decision Support Tools Hui

- Hui hasn’t convened since March
- Working on the tools inventory for the online searchable database
 - Can be available as a template for other hui
 - Need to work on populating the database with new tools and updating the existing entries

Kris McElwee – Training Hui

- Nothing since March 2005
- Good time to “reactivate” Hui now that there are tools coming out and training to be done

Kalani Souza and Chris Chung – Traditional Knowledge Hui

- Kalani to step in as Co-Steersman

Ed Young – Communications Hui

- For the purpose, goals, and accomplishments of the Communications Hui, see handout.

Lynn Nakagawa – Education and Outreach Hui

- Working on Speakers Bureau
- Plans to develop calendar of events

Cheryl Anderson – Risk Reduction and Post-Disaster Evaluation Hui

- Cheryl needs justification to continue PRiMO activities

Eric Wong – Observations and Data Management Hui

- Four task effort
 - PRiMO Wave and Water Level Hazards Data Framework Workshop (12/05)
 - Refining data structure
 - Implement PRiMO framework into search engine
 - Gathering global tide station data – working on metadata standards

General Discussion about Hui activity:

- What is formal Hui activity?
- Creates a problem when your regular work activities don’t overlap with the PRiMO work
- How are we defining “training”?
- Particular challenges related to cross-cutting hui (e.g., training, education/outreach, traditional knowledge and practices)
 - Some specific problems with individuals being able to justify their travel to and engagement in PRiMO meetings and activities
- Need for resources (human and fiscal to support hui activities)

- Need to improve communication of activities within and among hui
- Complete/ maintain inventories of ongoing programs/activities within each hui
- Should the Risk Reduction and Post-Disaster Evaluation Hui stand alone or is it part of decision support tools and training and education?
 - Comment (John Marra) – if the hui were to focus on the post-disaster evaluation component of the task, it could stand alone.

Premier Screening of PRiMO Video

Comments

- Need more diversity (gender, race, and agency)
- Take off position titles
- Interview people from non-federal organizations
- Emphasize why this is needed on a national level
- Give more local/community examples
- Need a consistent message while maintaining different perceptions

“Core team” to help Kalani with video:

1. Jeff Payne
2. Sally Ziolkowski
3. David McKinnie
4. Russell Jackson
5. John Marra
6. Eileen Shea

Emerging Opportunities for PRiMO

Opportunity: Creation of materials that help demonstrate the importance of building resilience to coastal inundation – whether from tsunamis, hurricanes (e.g., Katrina), heavy rain events, multi-hazard community resilience. Contributing efforts:

- NOAA Coastal Storms Program – contribute to development of a Pacific regional pilot program
- Pacific Regional Integrated Climatology Information Products (PRICIP) program – expand/enhance multi-agency engagement; secure resources to support initial science plan; contribute to user engagement component
- International Tsunami Training Institute
- University of Hawaii certificate program

Opportunity: Engage in planning for and implementation of the new Finland SIDS initiative for climate and hazards (ED YOUNG as PRiMO focal point)

Opportunity: Support for transition of disaster management responsibilities in Compact Countries from FEMA to USAID; also an opportunity to engage USAID in PRiMO. SALLY ZIOLKOWSKI to be sure to engage USAID

Opportunities for Cross-Hui Collaboration: vulnerability assessment methodologies; exploring integration of traditional knowledge and practices; collaboration in the development of educational materials

Opportunity: tropical beaches conference in/for the Pacific – with links to coastal hazards, risk management and vulnerability/resilience; issue of links to Solutions to Coastal Disasters

Opportunity: CZ07 PRiMO panel presentation and “café session” and possible exhibit. RUSSELL JACKSON taking the lead in submitting abstract(s) for PRiMO involvement; will want hui and individual involvement

Opportunity: Renewal of state disaster mitigation plans – coming due in 2007 – and there may be some things we can learn in regards to new requirements – SALLY ZIOLKOWSKI TO FURTHER DEVELOP THIS IDEA FOR INCLUSION AS PART OF THE MARCH 2007 MEETING WITH OUR FOCUS ON COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

- NOTE that this includes an opportunity to encourage jurisdictions to broaden the assets that are addressed in hazard mitigation plans – understanding and using a broader definition of community resilience and integrating new considerations such as climate adaptation, chronic environmental risks (e.g., coastal erosion)
- NOTE per further discussion, David McKinnie suggested possibility of a focused training or seminar on how one might take a broader perspective on building resilient communities building on other activities such as NOAA’s Coastal Community Resiliency efforts in the Indian Ocean Region
 - Opportunity to present a PRiMO face – how PRiMO can help integrate amongst hui and help communities broaden their efforts
 - PRiMO as the “resilience visionary”
 - Designation as a PRiMO hazard-resilient community – certificate/recognition – work with David McKinnie, Russell Jackson, and Adam Stein on their plans for this kind of thing in Indian Ocean countries; NOTE the tie-in to FEMA planning – meeting minimal standards as the core
 - Facilitating the development of useful/meaningful multi-hazard, community-resilience indicators – helping the academic community understand the Pacific context for such indices and, therefore, helping to guide the research

Opportunity: Strong PRiMO engagement in/contributions to the Pacific Climate Information System (PaCIS); PRiMO as a group and PRiMO agencies individually

Opportunity: USGS/DOI multi-hazard initiative is another opportunity to be aware of and engaged in – possibility of seed funds.

Opportunity: Engage with Coastal America both in terms of individual initiatives – e.g., the coastal education/traditional environmental knowledge Coastal America Coastal Ecosystem Learning Center project with the Waikiki Aquarium – as well as a vehicle to bring some other agencies to the PRiMO table (e.g., USFWS and NMFS and perhaps even HUD?).

- Thinking of Coastal America as a similar, multi-agency partnership with regional implementation teams. Focus on coastal community resilience perhaps in connection with a habitat restoration project in the context of community resilience - approach with caution, though.

Opportunity: Bill Thomas’ new position as a one-NOAA integration lead; looking for opportunities in (1) education/outreach; (2) NOAA IDEA Center; (3) information technology and the planned NOAA Pacific Regional Center; (4) PRiMO. Possibility of developing projects and

initiatives that contribute to shared interests with PRiMO and, in fact, a NOAA budget proposal for PRiMO support is still in the NOAA PPBES process for funding. Jeff LaDouce suggested PaCIS could/should be another item to be pushed forward and Bill noted ongoing discussions about recognizing that PaCIS is the climate canoe for PRiMO and there are plenty of opportunities for at least joint meetings and joint projects.

Resilient Communities – Defining/developing the PRiMO Role

First, we need to document what we already ARE doing (success stories) – we actually are moving in/toward action as well as continuing our shared dialogue and mutual support.

- Each PRiMO agency should identify one example of something that they've done as a result of PRiMO
- Each hui steersperson to do a summary of actions/accomplishments
 - Decision support tools that made a difference in Kauai (and other places)
- PRiMO holistic examples of what we have done and what we are going to do:
 - RANET Pacific
 - Wave and water level product line – valuable in its own right and helping to guide national data management efforts in ocean observations
 - PRICIP – new activity
 - Being asked to serve as the technical advisor to the new University of Hawaii Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance program – new activity
 - Helping the International Tsunami Training Institute evolve – new activity
 - Engagement and new partnerships that couldn't have happened without the PRiMO process/framework
 - Develop guidance materials for the Pacific based on guidelines being developed in the context of the Indian Ocean tsunami coastal community resilience effort

PRiMO as the “community resiliency visionary” – use this as a focusing theme for the March meeting? Helping to envision community resilience in the broadest sense:

- Guidance materials emerging from the Indian Ocean tsunami multi-hazards, resilience guidelines effort
- Development of indices of community resilience
- Supporting the emergence of a community of practice
- Exploring cultural aspects of community resilience
- Exploring the broad, community resilience context as the American Flag Islands undertake their next three-year state hazard mitigation plans for FEMA
- Articulating the roles of each of the hui and the Navigators – i.e., how are they now and how can they contribute to the overarching theme of community resilience; in other words, developing work plans
- Exploring the evolution of PRiMO and its structure and approach (e.g., the operation of the hui) – how sustainable is the PRiMO structure and operations
- Engage local decision-makers actively in the March meeting – regardless of where we are
- Use the March meeting planning to actively engage the State of Hawaii bodies like Earthquake Hazard Committee, Statewide Hazard Mitigation Forum

Brainstorming on Resilient Communities

Start with the Characteristics that we discussed in March but add:

- The ability to measure the (relative) state of resilience – need to recognize your capability of maintaining an existing structure and/or reorganizing after a disruption

Consider some existing definitions of resilience such as:

- Identify community goals, prepare for disaster, manage disaster and recover from disaster without jeopardizing those community goals
 - Start with a shared vision of values and goals (education, environment, cultural, economic, health, food security), followed by an initial assessment of how well a community is doing in each of those key areas – i.e., what’s broken and/or what components are strong – self-assessment

KEEPING A HOLISTIC VIEW IS REALLY IMPORTANT IN THE PRiMO CONTEXT

David McKinnie offered some insights from Indian Ocean tsunami coastal community resilience work:

- Coastal hazards are a fact of life, but disasters can be mitigated, managed and reduced in scope if a community “accepts the disaster fact.” Elements of resilience include:
 - Governance (CHERYL ANDERSON AND EILEEN SHEA WOULD ADD LEADERSHIP)
 - Economies and Livelihoods
 - Coastal resource management
 - Land use management
 - Risk assessment
 - Building design to enhance resilience
 - Warning systems and evacuation
 - Disaster management infrastructure
- NOTE that there are Pacific-based hazards and risk management and resilience programs and activities with very similar approaches as well.

Russell Jackson and Eileen Shea will post these examples on an FTP site for everyone to review and consider.

Relationship to PRiMO Organization and Activities

Per David McKinnie and others – from a PRiMO standpoint, serve as an inspiration/facilitator for communities to undertake their self-assessment, provide access to materials, tools and experts and support their own efforts. In this context, PRiMO:

- Inspires
- Facilitates
- Informs
- Promotes
- Discovers
- Develops
- Trains
- Educates

Consensus that PRiMO as a whole needs to develop a shared work plan and there was a sense that Cheryl Anderson and Nate Wood (and that hui) could take a lead in developing that work plan but it’s clear that neither Nate nor Cheryl has the time (or resources)...conversation stalled a bit...

What about a PRiMO-organized workshop to develop a Pacific community resilience approach?

What about a pilot project in which the full suite of PRiMO agencies to demonstrate/apply some of these elements in a real community?

- Pilot project doesn't have to be a big, new project – use activities that were already planned and just try to focus them on one community
**NOTE: Need for some caution with respect to engaging the state (and other partners) as well as making sure we get it right because this has the potential for a lot of visibility.

Bill Thomas mentioned the pending NOAA Pacific Services Center/National Marine Fisheries Service joint position focused on resilience and their plans for a pilot project related to fisheries and resilience/risk management; and

Bill Thomas also mentioned the possibility of building on the Waianae characterization project to jump it into the next phase – broad resilience and sustainability.

Organizing the 2007 PRiMO Annual Meeting

PRiMO annual meeting will be March 14-16 preceded by the Navigators Council meeting on March 13.

Venue: Big Island or Maui

- Note Walt Dudley's invitation to the Australian journalist coming to Big Island the first two weeks of March that could be an opportunity and Kalani Souza's Laupahoehoe effort might be interesting.
- Conversely, Maui has a new county civil defense director and has the Pacific Disaster Center and some interesting issues and examples of community-based efforts.
- Oahu should be considered based on the experience of the past two meetings where it was extremely difficult to get hui members to come but preference from the group was for a neighbor island.

JESSIE HUART AND CHRIS CHUNG WILL EXPLORE OPTIONS ON MAUI AND BIG ISLAND AND REPORT BACK TO US.

MEETING ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: CHRIS CHUNG, JESSIE HUART, CHERYL ANDERSON, BILL THOMAS, RUSSELL JACKSON, JEFF PAYNE, EILEEN SHEA, SALLY ZIOLKOWSKI /DAVID KENNARD