

# Palmer Area User Committee

*(PAUC)*

## ANNUAL MEETING

20 July 2005

Raytheon Polar Services Company  
Centennial, Colorado

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## Recommendations

**Topic:** Timely reporting.

**Recommendation:** RPSC will distribute meeting action items and list of attendees, including affiliations and contact information, within one month of the meeting date.

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**Topic:** The NSF has tasked RPSC to submit a plan to reorganize the Station Users Committees to clarify their mission, enhance their effectiveness, and improve their communication and focus across the USAP.

**Recommendation:** RPSC, as a follow-up to the NSF's recommendation in past years, will submit a revised users committee charter applicable across all stations, though by-laws will continue to be tailored to each committee separately. RPSC will include the committee members in the development of the new charter.

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**Topic:** A draft proposal to create a South Anvers Island Antarctic Specially Managed Area is being prepared by the NSF for submittal to the Treaty nations in austral summer 2006. Hugh Ducklow noted that the current science users should address strong scientific justifications, state of the research in that area, and list the most important science that is coming out of the area.

**Recommendation:** PAUC will solicit comments from scientists working in the Anvers Island area and provide to the NSF a report detailing:

- 1) scientific values of the proposed area
- 2) scientific highlights of past/current studies
- 3) future concerns

The sooner the report is submitted to Pam Toschik (NSF) the better. However, mid September is an acceptable date for her if sooner is not possible.

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**Topic:** There have been problems with reliably sending "keep chilled" samples through the cargo system.

**Recommendation:** RPSC will continue testing the sample packing and handling procedures to improve future "keep chilled" sample shipments. Results of the thermo-safe and blue ice tests will be reported to PAUC.

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**Topic:** Matrai noted how difficult it was for a PI new to Palmer Station to plan and effectively fill out a SIP.

**Recommendation:** RPSC provide more complete orientation materials and possibly bring in new PI's for POLAR ICE and SIP preparation training. Enhancements to POLAR ICE could include pictures of equipment and maps of station and science-use spaces.

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**Topic:** PAUC currently is comprised largely of ad hoc members with uncertain term lengths.

**Recommendation:** PAUC will resolve current members terms and work with RPSC to finalize full committee membership.

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**Topic:** There are a number of Palmer area operations and management issues that the PAUC would like to provide input and guidance to RPSC; including Meteorological data collection, science instrumentation, and diving/boating.

**Recommendation:** PAUC will create working groups for Automatic Weather Stations/Meteorology, Instruments, and Field Operations. The groups may include RPSC and NSF members. Their initial charge will be to identify specific issues under their subject area which require resolution.

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## Attendees

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