

IHMC Board of Directors Teleconference Meeting Minutes
Monday February 9, 2015
8:30 a.m. CST Meeting; 9:30 a.m. EST

Roll Call	Chair Ron Ewers
Chair's Greetings	Chair Ron Ewers

Action Items

1. Approval of December 8, 2014 Minutes	Chair Ron Ewers
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Chief Executive Officer's Report

1. Update on Pensacola Expansion	Dr. Ken Ford
2. Discussion of Ground Floor Renovation in Ocala Bldg	Dr. Ken Ford
3. Research Update	Dr. Ken Ford
4. Federal Legislative Update	Dr. Ken Ford
5. State Legislative Update	Dr. Ken Ford

Other Items

Groundbreaking Ceremony

Board Photograph

Lunch

Adjournment

IHMC Chair Ron Ewers called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. CST. Directors in attendance included: Dick Baker, Carol Carlan, Bill Dalton, Ron Ewers, Eugene Franklin, Chris Hart, Hal Hudson, Jon Mills, Eric Nickelsen, Mort O'Sullivan, Alain Rappaport, Martha Saunders, Gordon Sprague and Glenn Sturm. Also in attendance were Ken Ford, Sharon Heise, Row Rogacki, Phil Turner, Ann Spang, Alan Ordway, and Julie Sheppard.

IHMC Chair Ron Ewers welcomed everyone in Pensacola and thanked all who dialed in for the meeting. He also thanked everyone who attended the wonderful dinner last night and added his compliments to Chef Blake Rushing and Type on the food and atmosphere.

He then asked everyone to take a moment and congratulate Ken on his recent award, adding that as most knew, the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) has awarded one of its highest honors, the AAAI Distinguished Service Award, to Ken. Chair Ewers continued his discussion of this honor adding that the Distinguished Service Award, established in 1999, recognizes a single individual each year "for extraordinary and sustained service" to the artificial intelligence (AI) community and mentioning that Dr. Ford is the 14th honoree and he was honored for his contributions to the field of artificial intelligence through sustained service, including the founding of the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition (IHMC), leadership roles at NASA,

and his work on the advisory boards of federal science and technology research organizations. He then added his own congratulations to Ken.

Chair Ewers then reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is an in person meeting scheduled for June 7th and 8th, 2015 in Pensacola and that similar to this meeting, Sunday night June 7th will be a dinner event with the Board meeting scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to noon central time on Monday the 8th. He asked everyone to note both of these meeting dates on your calendar and adding that more information would be forthcoming. With those comments, Chair Ewers moved directly into the meeting and announced Action Item 1 being the Discussion and Approval of the December 8, 2014 minutes.

Director Sprague made a motion to approve the December 8, 2014 minutes with was seconded by Director Hudson. Hearing no objections, the motion carried unanimously.

Chair Ewers then announced that that concluded the action items adding how exciting it was to meet in Pensacola in February and see this expansion initiative moving forward. He then turned to Dr. Ford and asked him to provide his report.

Dr. Ford thanked Chair Ewers and announced that his report would be relatively concise as the ceremonial groundbreaking for our new building is scheduled for shortly after this meeting adjourns. He began his report by discussing the state legislative update adding that IHMC's message in Tallahassee this legislative session is a positive report on the ground breaking in Pensacola, expansion in Ocala, and successful recruitment of world-class talent and that we continue to highlight IHMC's exceptional performance and ongoing work in the DARPA robotics challenge. In addition, he added that IHMC is hopeful that the Legislature may also place a priority on providing funding for water infrastructure in downtown Pensacola that would help repair flood damage and better protect the property site and neighboring properties and that we will encourage the Legislature to allocate these funds. Timing wise, Dr. Ford informed the Board that the House and Senate will develop and pass their budgets by the middle of session, anticipated to be late March with the budget conference to take place in the final weeks of session or late April.

Dr. Ford then turned to the research update informing the Board that now that a fiscal year 2015 omnibus spending bill finally passed in December with the special case of a continuing resolution for homeland security until the end of February, our first federal FY15 research projects have continued to steadily move through the award process, as have several privately funded efforts. He mentioned that since the most recent board meeting two months ago, IHMC has received over \$3.2M in new funding, and has approximately \$824K of additional approved new research funding in the negotiation process. He briefly mentioned that the newly approved research projects include funding from the Office of Naval Research, NASA, Cornell University, and two private sector corporations, adding that among the new awards, the most significant in terms of scope is a substantial award from the Office of Naval Research to Dr. Niranjan Suri to continue his development of adaptive middleware for information management and dissemination in tactical environments.

Dr. Ford stated that in looking ahead as the federal budget heads into the fiscal year 2016 planning process, national research priorities in areas such as cybersecurity, autonomy, health sciences and neuroscience indicate promise for growth in several IHMC research directions and indicated that IHMC is developing new strategic partnerships in each of these areas.

Dr. Ford then mentioned the grant process explaining that before a research project is funded, a team is assembled and a competitive proposal is written adding that although we normally do not handout kudos while a proposal is still in review, I would like to mention the terrific leadership and teamwork displayed on a proposal effort led by Dr. Bonnie Dorr in which she assembled an all-star team that produced a compelling proposal. He stated that this \$25M proposal to DARPA was a complex multi-institutional undertaking, involving 10 universities, and on a scale of effort seldom seen in the research and development community. Dr. Ford credited Diana Thacker and Gail Dorsey in the grant office that supported a large team of researchers, pulled from both Ocala and Pensacola, mentioning that both Diana and Gail really burned the midnight oil on this project. To give some perspective on the level of effort, Dr. Ford added that just the budget volume alone was more than 500 pages and needless to say, preparing a highly technical proposal on this scale was an all hands on deck effort across much of IHMC, and win or lose, he stated how proud he is of this group and the first rate submission they produced asking the Board to keep their fingers crossed!

Dr. Ford continued on stating that on a local note, today approximately 25 participants will be arriving for a NASA Blue Sky meeting focused on innovative technologies for exercise-based countermeasures for the bone and muscle loss astronauts experience in long-duration spaceflight.

Dr. Ford then turned the discussion to recruiting and informed the Board that he was very pleased to announce that Dr. Archna Bhattia has recently received her H1B immigration approval to work for IHMC and should be arriving from India soon to begin working with Bonnie Dorr's team in Ocala. He added that Archna most recently worked as a Visiting Postdoctoral researcher at Carnegie Mellon University and that she completed her PhD in Linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and her research areas include computational linguistics, natural language processing and second language acquisition. He added that there is also at least a handful of new hires in the robot lab in preparation for the DARPA Robotic Challenge finals that will take place this summer in California. Dr. Ford mentioned that at the upcoming June meeting, he would share one of his favorite lists, being the list of students joining IHMC for the summer from all walks of life, including those in high school, undergraduate science programs, Masters level students, and PhD students from around the globe.

Dr. Ford then asked the Board to turn their attention to their place at the table where they should find 2 publications. One, being the recent recruiting ad that IHMC is pleased to be running with Tulane University advertising for several joint research/faculty positions in Artificial Intelligence. He mentioned that this advertisement was prominently featured in last month's national conference and is now appearing full-page in AI Magazine. He also

discussed the second publication, an advance copy of the latest IHMC newsletter, which is currently being professionally printed but that an in house printed copy has been provided for your perusal. He added that hopefully, everyone would enjoy it and the content and that this will be the edition of the IHMC newsletter that is shared with legislators this session.

Dr. Ford then turned the discussion to education and outreach mentioning that the January Science Saturdays sessions have successfully come and gone, and we are now gearing up for February and March. In Ocala, he informed the Board that the January Science Saturday was presented by Dr. David Atkinson and the topic was “Paper Helicopters”, and was a resounding success. He explained that paper helicopters is the perfect example of a very simple idea and setup making for a super fun experience and that it is right up there with Bottle Rockets and that kids love all things that fly! He added that we continue to have about 45 students register each session per session, with approximately half being girls. In Pensacola, he mentioned that the January program was presented by Dr. Matt Johnson, who put a fun new spin on electric circuits and that in Pensacola, we register about 36 students per session, usually with around 40% being girls.

Dr. Ford discussed that February would bring a session on Holograms and Lasers being run by UWF faculty at our Pensacola facility and at IHMC-Ocala, Adam Dalton will lead a session on Bridges. He continued by informing the Board that March is Pendulums in Pensacola and Dolphins in Ocala with our evening lecturer Dr. Lori Marino staying in Ocala to lead a Science Saturdays session. He concluded by discussing April in Ocala will be a session on Food, what’s in it — and we will undoubtedly have a large group in Pensacola for running robots with Dr. Sebastien Cotton and he will also travel to Ocala in May to do a repeat performance with the running robots.

Dr. Ford mentioned that we are excited to have a number of sponsors continue to support Science Saturdays adding that in Pensacola, both the Kugelman and Baroco Foundations continue their strong support and in Ocala, Chuck Koch continues his season support and also encouraged a friend Chuck Vigne to also sponsor a session. He mentioned that these two individuals join Ocala season sponsors Ron and Phyllis Ewers, Oak Lane Farm and Lockheed.

Turning to the Evening Lecture Series, Dr. Ford remarked that the Spring Evening Lecture Series is off to a great start with close to 400 rsvps at both locations adding that January in Pensacola featured Apollo Lupesco on the Science of Investing with Dr. Shalesh Kaushal in Ocala discussing Metabolic Control and the Retina. He continued by mentioning that this past Thursday night in Pensacola, we had a record audience to hear Roger Smith discussing Birds of Prey and their Habitat adding that we have Director Glenn Sturm to thank for having made the introduction to Roger. He informed the Board that the February lecture in Ocala will feature Dr. Thomas Seyfried discussing Cancer: A Metabolic Disease with Metabolic Solutions and that all the remaining Spring season Evening Lectures will be terrific in both locations and IHMC anticipates a full house at every talk. He concluded this discussion saying that this should be a fascinating season

and to let him know if anyone is interested in attending, sponsoring or meeting any of these speakers or Science Saturdays.

Turning the discussion to other Education and Outreach Activities, Dr. Ford informed the Board that planning was already underway for the 2015 Robotics Camp program in Ocala noting that it will be the 4th year for the program and will convene the second and third weeks in July and that this year, Publix has generously agreed to help sponsor this event.

Dr. Ford also mentioned that recently IHMC hosted Leadership Florida Class XXXIII on their visit to Pensacola and that in addition to touring the Flight Academy, spending time at Gulf Power, staying at Pensacola Beach, and dining at the Fish House, they all enjoyed their last day in Pensacola at IHMC with an overview and visit to the Robot Lab. He commented that from all reports and feedback, the Pensacola visit was overwhelmingly positive. Dr. Ford continued his outreach discussion by adding that on January 28th, Row Rogacki spoke about IHMC to over 700 students at Lecanto Middle School in Citrus County. In addition, as part of our continuing partnership with Tulane University School of Science and Engineering, IHMC is also once again helping to sponsor the Tulane Engineering conference on April 17th in New Orleans. He concluded his discussion of outreach by mentioning that once again, IHMC will again be hosting the Robotics open house during Robotics week and that as everyone may recall, last year there were over 800 visitors to the Robot Lab and Matt Johnson did a half-day robotics seminar for local area high schools students. He added that it is a well-received event in the Pensacola community and IHMC is looking forward to a repeat performance.

Dr. Ford then turned the discussion to the Ocala expansion and informed the Board that the radon mitigation system for the Ocala facility is currently being installed to depressurize the soil below the ground floor slab and exhaust the gas to the exterior of the building. He added that the system is the EPA-recommended method to permanently reduce radon exposures in buildings and is typically highly effective and that the installation of the system will be completed and activated in a few days. He also stated that this radon mitigation system is expected to result in radon levels well below the EPA action level. Dr. Ford updated the Board on the renovation of the ground floor area noting that this is being priced by the General Contractor and that once acceptable levels of radon are reached, the contractor will initiate permitting and begin the project. He mentioned that the possible use of the DIRTT wall system is also being investigated and priced.

Dr. Ford then turned to the Pensacola Flood Repairs adding that recovery from damage to our buildings caused by the April flood has nearly been finished with the final work for the relocation of the HVAC units currently being completed. He added that the replacement and refinishing of the interior doors is nearly complete and the remodeling of the ground floor restrooms is complete pending some corrective action on the floor material and that we continue to work on details and punch-list items. Dr. Ford mentioned that FEMA is in the final steps of writing and approving the itemized sub-grant applications for the IHMC main building and contents damage and that the total value of the building damage and lost contents will be the basis for the flood wall and

flood gate mitigation project we discussed at our last meeting adding that this project has been conceptually approved by FEMA for funding.

Moving the discussion to the Pensacola Expansion, Dr. Ford informed the Board that the contracts with Hewes and Associates, the General Contractor were signed the end of December and that the permits issued from the City and all payment and performance bonds are in place. He stated that the Notice to Proceed was issued January 19th and site work has begun as everyone shall soon see at our ceremonial groundbreaking later this morning. Dr. Ford added that as we are on a 13 month construction schedule, things should begin moving very quickly and hopefully at this time next year, we will be discussing punch-list items and receiving a certificate of occupancy.

Dr. Ford stated that currently, IHMC is working with the Architect and General Contractor to explore where we might be able to use the innovative DIRTT product in the new building and showed the Board a video of the product. He mentioned that several of the IHMC staff traveled to Birmingham in January to tour one of the DIRTT design facilities and were impressed with the quality and versatility of this product. He stated that IHMC would continue to work this issue and report back at a future meeting and that as he mentioned earlier in his remarks, DIRTT might also be applicable to the Ocala expansion on the ground floor.

Dr. Ford concluded his report by telling the Board that Ron and Phyllis Ewers will be honored at the upcoming 2015 Legacies of Love Luncheon on February 11th hosted by the Interfaith Foundation for their contributions for making the Ocala community a better place to live, work and raise families and stating that as anyone that spends any time in Ocala can vouch, this award is incredibly well-deserved.

Dr. Ford then thanked Chair Ewers for the opportunity to provide this report and thanked the Board for their continued leadership and support over the years.

Chair Ewers thanked Dr. Ford for his report and asked the Directors if there were additional items to come before the Board. Hearing none, Chair Ewers concluded the business portion of the meeting and thanked everyone who dialed in and attended in person. He informed the Board that they would adjourn for a short break to be followed by a group photograph and the ceremonial groundbreaking followed by short reception. The IHMC February 9th Board Meeting concluded at 9:45 a.m. CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie L Sheppard
IHMC Corporate Secretary