Steering Committee

“The Steering Committee will be the means by which representatives of the Institutional Members will make collective decisions on matters relating to PRAGMA.[[1]](#footnote-1)” Currently there are eighteen members on the Steering Committee [see list below] from thirteen institutions. The Steering Committee meets at each of the PRAGMA Workshops, and as needed between workshops.

During this reporting period the Steering Committee met at

* PRAGMA 25, hosted by the Computer Network Information Center, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in Beijing, PRC, on 16-18 October 2013
* PRAGMA 26, hosted by the National Center for High-performance Computing (NCHC), National Applied Research Laboratory (NARL), in Tainan, Taiwan, on 9 – 11 April 2014.

Key discussion topics at these two meetings include:

* PRAGMA Students: How to promote that activity within PRAGMA’s structure. PRAGMA Students was established after discussions at PRAGMA 22 (April 2012) to provide opportunities for students within PRAGMA. Several concrete activities were discussed and some have been implemented in this reporting period.
  + Student Development: Opportunities such as organizing poster sessions, giving “lightning talks”, presenting posters, organizing Student Workshops provide professional opportunities for students. PRAGMA and PRAGMA Students have made great steps on this activity.
  + Student Peer Network: Students have worked together between PRAGMA workshops, meet separately at PRAGMA workshops, and have on a couple of occasions had network-building experiences separate from the PRAGMA workshop.
  + Strengthened PhD Research: This activity is work in progress. The challenges include more involvement in PRAGMA activities in a way that benefit Ph.D. and masters goals. Implemented at PRAGMA 26 is that students talked during the PRAGMA workshop to help them get feedback and interact with more members of PRAGMA, and to give them opportunities to improve their skills.
  + Short Term Research Opportunities: This topic was one highly endorsed by students at the Student Workshop on 16 October 2013. A couple of observations
    - Every member of the Steering Committee would be willing to “host” students into their labs, as has been demonstrated by many of the steering committee members accepting PRIME students in the past.
    - This has been done recently by having a student,  Pongsakorn U-chupala from Nara Institute for Science and Technology spend time in San Diego.
* Evolving PRAGMA organizational structure to a more sustainable model and in parallel to look at ways to restructure the Working Groups and the Steering Committee and its activities. This is work in progress, but PRAGMA is looking at the GLEON Model for selection of members for the Steering Committee and for rotation of members on the committee. In addition, members of the Chairs of PRAGMA Student group to be members of the PRAGMA Steering Committee.

Members of the PRAGMA Steering Committee (at the beginning of June 2013)

* Satoshi Sekiguchi and Yoshio Tanaka, National Institute of Applied Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan
* Kai Nan and Yan Baoping, Computer Network Information Center (CNIC), Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, People’s Republic of China
* Kwan Wing Keung, University of Hong Kong (HKU), Hong Kong
* Xiaohui Wei, Jilin University (JLU), Jilin, People’s Republic of China
* Putchong Uthayopas, Kasetsart U, Bangkok, Thailand
* Fang-Pang Lin and Whey-Fone Tsai, National Center for High-performance Computing (NCHC), National Applied Research Laboratory (NARL), Hsinchu, Taiwan
* Shinji Shimojo and Susumu Date, Osaka U, Osaka, Japan
* Phil Papadopoulos and Peter Arzberger, University of California San Diego (UCSD), San Diego, California, USA
* Thai Quang Vinh, Institute of Information Technology, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology (IOIT/VAST), Hanoi, Vietnam
* Karpjoo Jeong, Konkuk U, Seoul, Korea
* David Abramson, U Queensland, Queensland, Australia
* Kum Won Cho, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information (NISN/KISTI), Daejun, Korea
* Habibah Wahab, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang, Malaysia

**PRAGMA Outreach and Community Interactions (Depending on when the reporting period is)**

* Mini-PRAGMA Indonesia, June 3-5, 2013, held on the Universitas Indonesia (UI) campus in Depok, and hosted by the Faculty of Computer Science. This included a one day workshop on biodiversity research in Southeast Asia.
  + One outcome of this workshop is that several students from the Universitas Indonesia gained accounts and use the training on FutureGrid. For more information see PRAGMA Collaborative Overview 2013 – 2014, page 21 (<http://www.pragma-grid.net/images/CollaborativeOverview2013.pdf>)
* The First OSDT Android SensorPod Workshop was held from July 1-5, 2013 at Lienhuachih Research Center of Taiwan Forestry Research Institute (TFRI), Central Taiwan. For more information see PRAGMA Collaborative Overview 2013 – 2014, pp 22-23.
* SEAIP 2013 – PRAGMA Institute, Tainan, Taiwan December 2 – 6, 2013
  + Information at <http://seaip.narlabs.org.tw/>
  + This has been a source of connecting with colleagues from Southeast Asia. One particular example is building connections with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and helping direct the development of a mobile app for recording plant information from location (this was demonstrated at the ICSE conference in June 2014.
* Visit to Shenzhen Supercomputing Center, Shenzhen, PRC, April 13 – 14, 2014, by Dr. Jose Fortes, to build ties with the center and to participate in PRAGMA
* Participation in GLEON Steering Committee, Portland Oregon, May 17, 2014, to strengthen ties between PRAGMA and GLEON, in particular along the lines of the GLEON Expedition.
* International Conference for Serpentine Ecology (ICSE), Sabah, Malaysia, June 10 – 12, 2014
  + <http://icse2014.com/icse2014/>
  + Provided Overview of PRAGMA and GLEON, broadened connections between the Biodiversity Expedition and other computational resources in order to conduct analysis of data gathered from UAV flights in Kinabalu Park
* Water Disaster Management and Big Data. PRAGMA members led the effort to propose and then organize a meeting at the Shonan Village Center. The program is hosted by the National Information Institute of Japan which provides partial support for the facility use; additional support was provided by Kanagawa Prefecture. This meeting brought together disaster management experts and IT experts to identify technology needs and collaborative opportunities for prototyping, development and research.
  + For more information, see <http://www.nii.ac.jp/shonan/blog/2013/01/27/water-disaster-management-and-big-data/>
* Lower Mekong Initiative (Planning), Hanoi, Vietnam, August 18 – 22, 2014: As a member of the organizing committee, helped to shape program. (<http://internationalnetworking.iu.edu/initiatives/LMI/index.html>)

1. PRAGMA Operating Principles and Procedures [↑](#footnote-ref-1)