

**Subject** International Community of Interest Annual Business Meeting

**Location** Online, via Gotowebinar

**Date/time of meeting** 17 May 2021 / 1700 BST / 1800 CET / 1200 EDT

**Attendees**

Name	Initials	Role
Chris Knutson	CJK	Chair
Charysse Knotts	CK	Europe Vice Chair
Blair Schantz	BAS	Past President
Lauri Ruch	LR	Federal Agencies/NGO Vice Chair
Jill Murphy	JM	SAME National HQ

**Recorded by** C. Knutson

**Distribution** International COI members, via I-COI webpage.

Item	Text	Action
1.0 Introduction	CJK opened the meeting and outlined the agenda.	
2.0 2020-21 In Review	<p>CJK provided overview of the value delivered by the I-COI over the 2020 – 2021 operating year back to May 21.</p> <p>The I-COI focused on virtual lectures and panel sessions focusing on program/project delivery and solving COCOM engineer challenges.</p> <p>The I-COI accomplished this through 10 facilitated lectures and 2 moderated panels at virtual JETC 2020.</p>	
3.0 2020-21 Business Operations	<p>CJK reviewed the following business operational items accomplished by the COI's Executive Committee over the past operating year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Published COI's first Charter in Jul 20</li> <li>• Measured performance in Oct 20 and May 21 utilising National HQs performance assessment tool (see attached for information)</li> <li>• Transitioned the COI away from hosting Field Chapters by moving this role back to the Europe and Pacific Regions</li> <li>• Divested management of the Grant Program</li> </ul> <p>JM shared that the Grant Program falls under the National Membership budget line and that the budget still carries the \$20,000 allocation. General discussion had about utilising this funding to support future Europe or Pacific IGE activities.</p> <p>BAS noted that there are still OCONUS requirements for the Grant Program, so to not let the budget allocation evaporate.</p> <p>BAS noted that with regards to Field Chapters, there is still a need for National or another named entity to overwatch Field Chapters in locations such as the Far East in the Pacific or Gulf Region.</p>	
4.0 2021 – 22 Operating Year	CJK noted the following areas of focus for the 2021 – 22 Operating Year:	

	<p>I-COI Charter has been revised to streamline the mission and remove reference to Field Chapters &amp; Grant Program.</p> <p>CJK noted that the organisation chart changes will add a Vice Chair for Middle East / Africa and a SAVE International Coordinator. LR requested details on these position expectations. <i>(Note: subsequent to the business meeting, the SAVE International Coordinator role has been filled.)</i></p> <p>The COI will focus energies on 4 lines of effort:</p> <p>LOE1: Lecture series. Lectures in the coming year will focus on program/project delivery and COCOM engineer topics and themes.</p> <p>BAS suggested featuring Host Nation presenters from partner nation engineering agencies regarding future programme opportunities (e.g. Qatar, UAE, Australia, Korea, etc.)</p> <p>LR suggested a presentation on facility preventative maintenance lessons learned / best practices. CJK noted that the Facility Asset Management COI can be tapped for input here.</p> <p>LOE2: Panel sessions. CJK noted that the COI will organise two panel sessions each for the 2021 SBC and 2022 JETC.</p> <p>Additionally, a panel session for 2 Sep 21 is being planned on the topic of 'making government infrastructure OCONUS near- or net-zero' to feature SME from Department of State OBO, OSD and industry.</p> <p>LOE3: Strategic engagements.</p> <p>CJK noted that the International COI will manage the MOU signed in April 21 with SAVE International (<a href="https://www.value-eng.org/">https://www.value-eng.org/</a>). There is further discussion to be had with National on <i>if</i> the International COI is the correct COI to do this, but for now, will appoint a volunteer coordinator and press forward.</p> <p>CJK noted additional strategic engagements will be pursued in the coming operating year with the NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence in Vilnius, Lithuania and the Military Engineering Centre of Excellence in Ingolstadt, Germany, as well as with the Institute of Royal Engineers in the UK.</p> <p>LOE4: IGE. CJK noted that the International COI is currently working with action officers from AFRICOM and EUCOM to provide lecturers and panels virtually for the COCOM Engineers Conference to take place week commencing 1 Nov 21 in Wiesbaden, Germany. It is hoped that the International COI can expand this level of support to INDO-PACIFIC and a future in-person IGE event with AFRICOM/EUCOM similar to the events executed in 2017 and 2019.</p>	<p>CJK</p> <p>COI ExCo</p> <p>LR</p> <p>COI ExCo</p> <p>CJK</p> <p>BD, CJK</p>
<p>5.0 Other business</p>	<p>International Business Opportunities Webinar (IBOW) Series. Regarding the suggestion of bringing back the IBOW series, BAS highlighted that the challenge with these webinars, which led to their cancellation, was the government's ability to share relevant business opportunities on the calls. Further consideration needs to be given to whether the level of effort will yield value.</p> <p>Volunteers. BAS suggested seeking further engagement from the Young Professionals COI to fill vacant roles as well as begin developing a depth of succession.</p> <p>Indo-Pacific Involvement. It was noted that the level of engagement from the Indo-Pacific region is very limited, while the engineering challenges and opportunities are perhaps the greatest. A more direct approach needs to be</p>	<p>COI ExCo</p> <p>CJK</p>



## Record of meeting/discussion

taken to find volunteers to support the International COI in executing its mission in this region.

Meeting Closed. Next Annual Business Meeting will take place in conjunction with JETC 2022.