# Teacher-Researcher Networking Strategy – 9/1/2012

## Prior Communication and Networking Activities

Due to the many changes that the Wissard Project has gone through in the past year, the networking methods have been very fluid. The networking strategy has evolved along with the project. Susan Kelly is the primary networking and outreach coordinator for Wissard. Most pre-field communication and coordination of the outreach team of 5-6 individuals is through Susan and secondarily Rob Edwards, the overall project manager. Susan provides updates and distribution of new information as it becomes available. She is also very responsive to questions or information needs.

The primary means of communication has been and will continue to be email with follow-up phone conversations as needed. There has been one phone conference that included the three primary researchers and the outreach team. This conference was primarily to get everyone together and simply review deployment options and provide a quick status update.

The background information that is useful for understanding the Wissard project is in a number of repositories, many on-line. Tim Hodson, a graduate student working with Ross Powell has provided a number of articles to me that pertain to the instrumentation being developed for the down-hole analysis of the subglacial lake environment. Susan and Rob have also provided background materials on the project. The WISSARD.Org website is being rebuilt and will have an updated overview of the science objectives, field plan, and other information. It should be released around September 1, 2012. This is being managed by Susan Kelly.

## Current Status and Plan

As noted above, Susan Kelly is the primary contact. The main elements of the networking strategy are:

* Communication – primarily email. At this time there are no regular phone conferences or other scheduled communications.
* Outreach Coordination – The outreach team lives in North Carolina, Illinois, and Montana. Susan, Betty, and I have similar objectives to communicate about Wissard to school and community groups in our home areas. Additionally Susan and I are discussing possible lessons that we can develop around the geophysical data used to delineate the sub-glacial systems and how to document and utilize the daily field activities in lesson development.
* Web Facilities - The Wissard Team is also planning regular blogs or journal posting on their website, RSS feeds, on-line video, and other public outreach similar to the PolarTREC model. The combination of the Wissard and PolarTREC journals should provide substantial information to the public.
* Science Issues and Topics – the science objectives of Wissard are well documented through the sources noted above. Ross’s part, the instrumentation, just finished testing at Lake Tahoe. Testing results were documented in daily email reports. Ross and the tool developers are reviewing the results and issues that arose.
* Daily Field Activities and Project Responsibilities – the outreach team has not had discussions on what these will be or how we will share them among us.
* Outstanding Issues – There are several longer term issues that are still open:
  + Publication of information during and after the project work needs to be discussed. At this time it is agreed that very general information is OK, but we have not agreed on what level of data and information can be used in daily journal entries or lesson plans.
  + Photo documentation – the outreach team includes a professional videographer and photographer who will both be there for parts of the project. Susan, Betty, and I are assuming that we will be the fill-in photographers when the professionals are absent. We need to develop a plan for this area.
  + Field Communications – The type and level of communication that will be possible from the deep field site is unknown. The type and quantity of journaling and public communication will be dependent on this capability.
  + Field responsibilities – Ross has indicated that he has developed a plan with specific field responsibilities. This plan still needs to be shared with the team.
  + Deployment – Wissard is planned to operate from mid November, 2012 into February, 2013. My specific deployment dates within that window are not known.