



Advisory Board for IERS Conventions updates

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The International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service (IERS) has created an Advisory Board to assist the Conventions Center with the process of updating the IERS Conventions. This group does not replace the existing Editorial Panel of scientists that prepares new chapters, algorithms, software, etc. Instead, the Advisory Board will consider the needs of IERS users and how they might be best served in future Conventions updates by reviewing pending revisions and proposing new directions. It should represent the approach of users based on the needs and experience of Board members.

Members of the Advisory Board are representatives of each Technique Center and IERS Product Center, the IERS Analysis Coordinator, and other interested persons proposed by the Technique or Product Centers. I have been named to chair the Board.

Some likely initial interests of the Advisory Board are: eliminating ambiguities in which effects to include in the conventional displacements of station positions and providing suitable models for all recognized effects; provision of a model for the oceanic pole tide deformation; provision of a model for diurnal and semidiurnal atmospheric pressure loading; clarifying treatment of geocenter motions and provision of a model for the diurnal and semidiurnal effects of ocean tides; development of an updated model for diurnal and semidiurnal EOP variations; protocols for handling technique-specific effects; SINEX documentation of models applied in data analyses; full availability of software routines; among others. It is particularly important to resolve how best to treat atmospheric pressure loading in order to avoid difficulties in the rigorous multi-technique combination efforts now underway.

Inputs from all users are welcomed via the IERS Conventions discussion forum, which can be accessed at <http://tai.bipm.org/iers/forum/>.