POLICY GROUP

Report and Recommendations from the CCS in the Academic Community Task Force

Background

The CCS in the Academic Community Task Force was formed in 2009 at the CSLF Policy Group’s meeting in San Francisco. The mission of the Task Force was to identify and engage academic programs on CCS throughout the world, and help determine the path forward for CSLF in this area. Accomplishments to date include a mapping and gap analysis of CCS post-graduate academic courses worldwide and links to the CSLF Capacity Building Task Force.

This paper represents a proposed forward action plan for the Task Force.

Action Requested

The Policy Group is requested to review the Task Force’s report.
Report and Recommendations from the CCS in the Academic Community Task Force

The CCS in the Academic Community Task Force was created in 2009 at the CSLF Policy Group’s meeting in San Francisco. It was formed because there was consensus that engaging the academic community is vital to the overall success of the CSLF. This Task Force has been given the mission to identify and engage academic programs on CCS throughout the world, and help determine the path forward for CSLF in this area. Accomplishments to date include a mapping and gap analysis of CCS post-graduate academic courses worldwide and links to the CSLF Capacity Building Task Force.

The Task Force has not been active since the 4th CSLF Ministerial Meeting in 2011. Resumption of the Task Force is being undertaken with the following structure:

Chair: Prof. Edward Rubin, Carnegie Mellon University
Co-Chair: Pamela Tomski, Global CCS Institute
Co-Chair: CSLF Policy Group delegate

Many governments do not yet have mechanisms established to support international collaborations, research exchanges, or summer school experiences among the academic community. Where programs do exist, they are not well coordinated. Therefore, the Task Force recommends to the Policy Group that governments:

- Review and assess available programs for international CCS collaborative research, student exchanges and summer school experiences available for the academic community, including their scope and objectives, current funding levels, sources of support, and key contacts;
- Where CCS programs do not exist, determine if member countries may be receptive to adding such activities on various aspects of CCS; and
- Consider commitments to fund specific solicitations to expand and enhance international CCS collaborative research, student exchanges, and summer school experiences.

Pursuant to concurrence by the Policy Group that it will assist in providing information on existing and potential mechanisms to support international collaborations, research exchanges, and summer school experiences among the academic community, the Task Force will prepare a written report summarizing the information provided. Based on this information, the report will recommend specific solicitations and funding commitments needed to substantially enhance the mission of the CSLF via support for collaborative activities among the international academic community.

The Task Force report with its recommendations will be presented to the Policy Group at the 6th CSLF Ministerial Meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
Task Force Action Items:

- Identify an academic champion from each CSLF member country and secure input to the Task Force concept;
- Socialize the Task Force concept among Policy Group delegates and secure agreement among governments to provide the Task Force with information as requested;
- Determine how CSLF Capacity Building resources can best support Task Force efforts; and
- Prepare a Task Force report which will be a deliverable at the 6th CSLF Ministerial Meeting.