



## Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics

2 May 2025 – 1300-1700 UT

Hybrid of online (zoom) and onsite (room: 2.42 in EGU2025 venue at Vienna Austria Center, Vienna, Austria)

Meeting Minutes: 9 May 2025

---

**On-site Attendees:** Kazuo Shiokawa (President), Bernd Funke (Vice President), Jorge Chau (URSI), and Mamoru Ishii (WDS)

**Online Attendees:** Nat Gopalswamy (Past President), Yoshizumi Miyoshi (COSPAR), Lucilla Alfonsi (SCAR), Cristina Mandrini (IUPAP), Keith Groves (Scientific Secretary, ex-officio), and Odele Coddington (Scientific Secretary, ex-officio)

**Non-Attendees (Bureau members):** Peter Pilewskie (IAMAS), Renata Lukianova (IAGA), and Valery Nakariakov (IAU)

Note: Eight Bureau members are attended. Thus, a majority quorum was achieved.

### Opening remarks by President (Kazuo Shiokawa)

The meeting was opened with a welcome from Kazuo. Kazuo showed the agenda of the meeting, which contains 10 discussion items and 11 report items. He estimated the meeting to last approximately 3 hours.

### 1. Approval of the Minutes from the last Bureau Meeting (held on 21 December 2023).

Kazuo provided a copy of the 3 December 2024 Bureau minutes in advance of the current meeting on 30 April 2024. He invited discussion of the minutes, but no discussion/correction was proposed. Jorge Chau (Koki) then moved to approve the minutes and Bernd Funke seconded. The minutes were then unanimously approved by all the Bureau members.

### 2. Action Items

Updates of the action items from the last Bureau meeting on 3 December 2024 are reviewed, as shown in Table 1. “Done” marks indicate the items that have been completed.

**Table 1: Update of Action Items**

<b>Action Items defined during the meeting are shown with the responsible member for the action</b>				
<b>P: President, VP: Vice President, PP: Past President, SS: Scientific Secretary, B: Bureau Members; others will be identified by name.</b>				
<b>Next Science Program (NSP) committee formation</b>				
Action	1	done	P, VP	January 2025: summary report on the SCOSTEP Newsletter
Action	2	done	P, VP	Nomination of candidates of the officers of new program by the Bureau, NARs, and SDRs
<b>Officer Nomination Committee</b>				
Action	3	done	P	Start sending invitation letter to the candidates of ONC members
<b>Budget</b>				
Action	4	done	P, SS	Prepare annual SCOSTEP annual report 2024 and start sending invoice for the annual fee 2025
<b>STP-16 preparation</b>				
Action	5	done	P	Update of the STP-16 preparation
<b>Award</b>				
Action	6	done	P, VP, SS	Announce the SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Award 2025, nominate, and select the winner.
<b>Fellow Procedures</b>				
Action	7	done	SS, P	Prepare award ceremony, online seminar, and medals for SCOSTEP 2024 Fellows
<b>Award/grant for outreach activities</b>				
Action	8	done	P	Search similar activities in other organizations and propose some ideas at the next Bureau meeting.
<b>PRESTO updates</b>				
Action	9	done	P	Make selection for the PRESTO funding 2025
Action	10	done	P	Plan the PRESTO summarizing workshop in 2025
<b>SVS program 2025</b>				
Action	11	done	P, SS	Make selection of SVS 2025 winners after the deadline of 15 February 2025
<b>UN COPUOS STSC</b>				
Action	12	done	P, SS	Join the UN COPUOS STSC for the SCOSTEP Presentation
<b>ISC General Assembly</b>				

Action	13	done	P	Join the ISC General Assembly on 26-30 Jan 2025 at Muscat, Oman.
<b>SCOSTEP comic book updates</b>				
Action	14	done	SS	Print new comic books for distribution at UNCOPUOS STSC in February 2025
<b>Next Bureau meeting</b>				
Action	15	done	SS, VP	Schedule the next Bureau meeting (in person) at EGU2025 (27 April 27 – 2 May 2025 in Vienna, Austria)
<b>General Council meeting</b>				
Action	16	done	SS, VP	Announce the next General Council meeting (IAGA-IASEI2025, Lisbon, Aug.31-Sept.5, 2025) to the NARs and SDRs.

### 3. Approval of the new Scientific Secretary

Keith Groves explained the transition of SCOSTEP Scientific Secretary from Keith in Boston College (BC) to Odele Coddington in Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP), University of Colorado, Boulder (CU). Odele has spent two days in BC in February 2025 for an overview and training on the Secretariat’s primary roles and responsibilities. Odele is prepared to begin serving as the Scientific Secretary pending approval from the Bureau. She will continue to utilize support personnel from BC as she builds her own team at LASP in the coming months. The organization will be relocated from Massachusetts to Colorado and SCOSTEP’s status as a 501c charitable organization will not be affected. The transition will be conducted in an orderly manner with cooperation from all parties to be completed before the end of CY2025.

Kazuo explained that according to the SCOSTEP Constitution, Bureau shall appoint a Scientific Secretary. Lucilla Alfonsi moved, and multiple Bureau Members seconded. Then, Bureau unanimously approved Odele Coddington as the new Scientific Secretary.

Then the Scientific Secretary updates (agenda item 13) are explained by Keith. The SCOSTEP mailing lists are transferred from BC to LASP. Scientific Secretary will announce new email distribution lists to membership. BC will need to add automated response notifying users to use the new LASP distribution lists.

### 4. PRESTO updates

Kazuo introduced the updates of the PRESTO activity (2020-2024) after the previous Bureau meeting in December 2024. Two new online seminar was held by the two awardees of SCOSTEP Fellow in February and April 2025. Nine meetings and two database constructions are supported by the PRESTO funding in 2025 for continuous transition to the next program. PRESTO chair, co-chair, and Pillar co-leaders and some invited writers will have a PRESTO Summarizing Workshop in 16-19 June 2025 in ISEE, Nagoya University, Japan, to summarize the 5-year PRESTO activities and to prepare review papers.

## **5. SCOSTEP Officer Nomination Committee for President/Vice President election**

In the last Bureau meetings, the Bureau selected five candidates for the Officer Nomination Committee (ONC) members. One of the five candidates is found to be not eligible to be the ONC member, because the ONC members shall be selected from the electors of the SCOSTEP President and Vice President defined by the constitution. So, Kazuo has sent invitation to four of them. Three have accepted the invitation and one is pending. Under this situation, Bureau selected one Bureau member as the ONC member in order to compensate the one candidate who were not eligible, by considering the balance of fields and countries. Bureau also selected backup candidates in case if pending candidate declines the invitation.

## **6. Budget**

Keith explained the financial state of SCOSTEP. The closing statements in 2023, 2024, and up to 30 April 2025 are reviewed. In 2025, members have not been invoiced for 2025 dues yet. The invoice will be sent next week of the Bureau meeting. Only 2 of 21 SVS travel expenses have been paid. Most other obligations for SCOSTEP services have been paid, i.e., PRESTO meeting and database supports and capacity building supports. Then, SCOSTEP budget details 2025 (expected & actual), and planned 2026 are reviewed and discussed. Bureau decided to assign \$25K in 2026 to support the STP-16 which will be held in Greece in June 2026. Bureau passed the \$10K for PRESTO workshop to the COURSE development in 2025. Then, the membership fee status was reviewed. Dues from 9 members remain unpaid from 2024. Reminder will be sent from the President to these members and/or SDRs in these member countries/regions, if necessary. Some members have pre-paid fees for multiple years.

## **7. Membership committee report**

Mamoru Ishii (chair of the membership committee) briefly reviewed the list of identified countries with solar-terrestrial activities with possible contact person for membership invitation. Particular discussion Discussions are underway with Mexico, Chile, Ireland, and Thailand. Efforts to invite additional nations to join SCOSTEP should be continued through this committee. A SCOSTEP membership flyer is available on the SCOSTEP website at <https://scostep.org/membership/>.

## **8. NSP committee updates and assignment of officers for the next program**

Kazuo reviewed the updates of the SCOSTEP's Next Scientific Program (NSP) committee. The NSP committee has identified the next program as "COURSE: Cross-Scale Coupling Processes in the Solar-Terrestrial System" for the five years of 2026-2030 with three Focus Areas (FAs), i.e., FA1: Sources of Space Weather and Space Climate, FA2: Solar Wind, Magnetosphere, and Ionosphere Coupling, and FA3: External Impacts on and Internal Dynamics of the Earth Atmosphere. Various overarching topics among these FAs are also identified, such as extreme events, processes, observations/mission, and modeling efforts as well as impacts. In January 2025, the NSP committee distributed a summary report on the new program in the SCOSTEP/PRESTO newsletter vol.42, including the schematic figures that explain three focus groups. The NSP committee chair, Monica Laurenza, has submitted the summary review paper of the COURSE program to the open access journal Earth Planets and Space on 30 April 2025.

In February-April 2025, nomination of candidates of the officers of new program has been made by the Bureau, NARs, and SDRs. Total 45 nominations are listed. Bureau decided to assign two co-chairs for the whole program and three co-leaders each for each Focus Areas. Bureau selected several candidates of co-chairs and FA co-leaders, considering the scientific achievements and leadership of the candidates, correspondence to FAs, and balance of the fields, country/region, and gender. President will start sending invitations to these selected candidates with the orders discussed by the Bureau.

There was a question whether there should be separate co-leaders for implementation/observation part of COURSE. It was pointed out that the bigger aspect was to emphasize cooperation across focus areas. Other note was that having separate co-leaders for implementation/observations could raise a challenge of finding these people for each observational discipline. This idea was rejected by Bureau.

It was proposed to ask feedback from these new officers at the planning stage of the COURSE program on how to use the SCOSTEP budget for promotion and operation of the new program.

### **9. Plan for the next General Council meeting**

Kazuo reviewed the updates of the plan of the General Council meetings which will be held during the IAGA-IASPEI 2025 meeting on August 31 to September 5, 2025. A room for this business meeting was requested on 7 March 2025 to the LOC of the IAGA-IASPEI 2025. The Award Ceremony for the SCOSTEP 2025 Distinguished Service Award will be held during this meeting. Then the draft agenda of this meeting is briefly discussed.

In the draft agenda, Bureau agreed to disclose the members of the SCOSTEP committees which were not disclosed so far. Kazuo will contact the committee members to obtain consent to disclose their names.

### **10. Honoring of solar-terrestrial physics outreach activities**

Kazuo reported the search result of honoring outreach activities in other participating bodies of SCOSTEP. IAU and SCAR has corresponding prizes. IAGA has an outreach grant. COSPAR organizes outreach activities on occasion of its symposia.

Bureau noted that the comic book activities is unique in SCOSTEP and that funding opportunity will be more effective to promote outreach activities. Bureau decided to prepare small amount of additional fundings for outreach activities, such as lecture at local high schools, during SCOSTEP-supported meetings and capacity building schools. SCOSTEP officers will make a draft implementation plan of such an additional outreach grant by next Bureau.

-----

Up to this point, the 10 discussion items are finished. Then, Bureau browsed the 10 report items, particularly updates from the previous Bureau on 2 July 2024, as below.

### **11. Updates from participating bodies (COSPAR, IAGA, IAMAS, IAU, IUPAP, SCAR, URSI, WDS)**

**COSPAR** (Yoshizumi Miyoshi): COSPAR has Scientific Commissions (A-H), with commissions C and D being SCOSTEP related. In addition, there are 7 Task groups and 1 advisory

committee, 3 that are related to SCOSTEP. One COSPAR panel is on Space Weather, with 700+ people, 50+ countries, and 80+ Action teams registered. Produced a COSPAR Space Weather Roadmap 2022-2024 to be released in June 2025. COSPAR gratefully acknowledged COSPAR 2024 meeting support from SCOSTEP.

**IAGA** (Renata Lukianova, absent): no update

**IAMAS** (Peter Pillewskie, absent): no update

**IAU** (Valery Nakariakov, absent): no update

**IUPAP** (Cristina Mandrini): no update

**SCAR** (Lucilla Alfonsi): AGATA is now active part of discussing International Polar Year 2023. Working with US/NSF for ground-spaced geospace polar measurements. Working to make data available from polar regions. Will watch for opportunities for SCOSTEP participation in IPY.

**URSI** (Jorge (Koki) Chau): URSI promotes radio science and focuses on meetings. Next upcoming meeting (ISEA) is in Costa Rica Feb 2026 and is related to COURSE Pillar 3 activities. Koki mentioned need a plan to identify a replacement liaison member from URSI to SCOSTEP from Commission G, H, or J after Koki steps down in 2026. To do this, Kazuo would need to write to the URSI Secretariat to ask a liaison Bureau member after Koki who covers wide field of solar-terrestrial physics. The letter can be cc-ed to Keith who is the chair of Commission G.

**WDS** (Mamoru Ishii): Two major meetings are planned recently. One is SciDataCon2025 on 13-16 October 2025 in Brisbane, Australia. The other is WDS Asia-Oceania Conference 2025 on 8-12 September 2025 in Beijing with an abstract deadline of 1 August 2025, with a host of Chinese Academy of Sciences. Mamoru also briefly presented the new initiative of Global Ionosonde Observation/Operation Network (GION) under the WMO-COSPAR-ISES initiative under UN. Mamoru is the SCOSTEP liaison to this GION activity. Data sharing, format, etc are under discussion,

## **12. SCOSTEP Award Nomination updates**

Kazuo reported the updates of the SCOSTEP awards. Jan Lastovicka and Jorge (Koki) Chau were selected as the SCOSTEP Fellow 2024. They had online award ceremony and seminar on 10 February and 23 April, 2025, respectively. The year 2025 is for Distinguished Service Award. After the nomination by the Award Nomination Committee and selection by the Award Selection committee, the 2025 SCOSTEP Distinguished Service Award is given to Katya Georgieva. The announcement of this award was made by the SCOSTEP/PRESTO newsletter on 30 April 2025. The Award Ceremony will be held during the General Council meeting this summer. Medal and certificate will be prepared by that time by the Scientific Secretary.

## **13. Scientific Secretary Office updates**

This topic was made at the agenda item 3.

## **14. STP-16 preparation updates**

The next Solar-Terrestrial Physics symposium (STP-16) venue will be held in Makedonia Palace Hotel in Thessaloniki, Greece, on 1-5 June 2026 with an LOC chair of Dr. Ioannis Daglis.

Timelines are discussed. The Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC) will be formed in July-September 2025 after fixing the officers of the new COURSE program. The registration and abstract submission will start from October 2025 with a deadline of 10 January 2026.

### **15. Updates of ISC, UN\_STSC, UN\_COPUOS, and ISWI activities**

Regarding the International Science Council (ISC), the 3rd ISC General Assembly was held in 26-30 January 2025 in Oman Convention & Exhibition Centre, Muscat, Oman. About 415 representatives joined from 132 countries. A session between all Affiliated bodies with ISC was held on 29 January 2025, 0900-1300 LT as an internal meeting of the ISC Affiliated Bodies. Kazuo joined this meeting. Kazuo noted that by the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of ISC which was adopted on 8 March 2024, all the ISC Affiliated Bodies including SCOSTEP become category 4 members of ISC. Category 4 may not vote on selection of ISC officers. The ISC is requesting that SCOSTEP report on gender equality in a survey by 14 May 2025.

Regarding United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS), the 62th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) of UNCOPUOS was held in 3-14 February 2025 in Vienna, Austria. Kazuo joined this STSC session and made a presentation on the updates of SCOSTEP activities on 7 February 2025. UNCOPUOS requested SCOSTEP input on Midterm review of Space2030 agenda. Kazuo provided inputs to UNCOPUOS on 7 February 2025 with consultation to the Bureau.

Regarding the ISWI activities, an ISWI Steering Committee meeting was held in Vienna on 7 February 2025 during the UNCOPUOS STSC meeting. Two ISWI meetings were held in 2024 (IAU Krakow Poland on May 2024 and ISWI-UN Workshop in Germany on 10-14 June 2024). ISWI School in Nepal were held on 16-24 September 2024 with organizers of Nepal Physical Society. UN-ISWI workshops are planned as 20-25 October 2025 in Nigeria and 2026 in South Korea. ISWI also planning to have IHY+50 event. ISWI chair, Nat Gopalswamy (also SCOSTEP past President) requests a SCOSTEP liaison to this IHY + 25, possibly from mid-career scientist from SDRs.

### **16. School activities supported by SCOSTEP**

Four schools will be supported by the SCOSTEP Capacity Building funds in 2025 in China, Italy, Uganda, and Nigeria. The list of these four schools is reviewed. ISWI space weather school 2025 will be held in Mumbai, India, on 5-9 January 2026 with the host of Indian Institute of Geomagnetism. Bureau has decided to support this school as a capacity building activity of SCOSTEP with a maximum amount of \$10,000, in condition that SCOSTEP becomes co-sponsor of this activity and the funding is used for participants of the school. Kazuo will contact the LOC of this school to have a proposal from LOC to the SCOSTEP Capacity Building funds.

### **17. SCOSTEP online capacity building lectures**

The current status of the lectures was reviewed. One lecture on machine learning was held on 25 February 2025 by Claudio Cesaroni (INGV, Italy). More will come in this year. Joint activity with the ISWI online seminar is discussed.

### **18. SCOSTEP Visiting Scholar (SVS) updates**

In 2025, 28 proposals have been submitted to SCOSTEP with a deadline of 15 February 2025. The SVS committee has made a thorough review of these proposals and finally 21 proposals were accepted in 2025. The accepted proposals are from Argentina, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, India, Italy, and Switzerland. These students will stay at host institutions in China, Finland, Germany, Japan, South Korea, and USA.

### 19. SCOSTEP comic book updates

Ten comic books are currently opened on the SCOSTEP website. Several copies of the comic books will be distributed at the UN COPUOUS meeting in Vienna, Austria, on February 2025. Bubble version of these comic books was also provided to SCOSTEP for translation to other languages. Kazuo noted that another comic book on C<sup>14</sup> chronology is under preparation in ISEE, Nagoya University, Japan, and is going to be provided soon to SCOSTEP.

### 20. Next Bureau meeting

Kazuo noted that the next Bureau will be held via online in late November or early December 2025, as usual.

Finally, Kazuo thanked all the Bureau members for attending this meeting and for their continued support for SCOSTEP. The following action items were captured during this 2 May 2025 Bureau Meeting

**Table 2. Action Items from the 2 May 2025 Bureau**

<b>Action Items defined during the meeting are shown with the responsible member for the action</b>			
<b>P: President, VP: Vice President, PP: Past President, SS: Scientific Secretary, B: Bureau Members; others will be identified by name.</b>			
<b>Scientific Secretary transition</b>			
Action	1	SS	announce the transition of SCOSTEP Secretariat from BC to LASP to scostep-all, ISC, UN, and 8 liaison organizations
Action	2	SS	announce new email distribution lists to membership
Action	3	SS (BC)	BC will need to add automated response notifying users to use the new LASP distribution lists.
<b>PRESTO</b>			
Action	4	P	organize the PRESTO Summarizing workshop in June 2025 and summarize review papers of 5-year PRESTO activities.
<b>Officer Nomination Committee</b>			
Action	5	P	fix the last one member of ONC and ask them to start to work
<b>Budget</b>			
Action	6	P, SS	send reminder to those who have not paid annual fee 2024
Action	7	SS	send invoice of annual fee 2025

<b>Membership committee</b>			
Action	8	B	continue contacting potential member(s) of SCOSTEP
<b>COURSE program</b>			
Action	9	P	send invitation to the candidates of the co-chair and FA co-leaders and fix all the COURSE officers
Action	10	P, VP, SS, PP	have a kick-off meeting with the new officers
<b>General Council</b>			
Action	11	P	fix the date/time/room and make announcement with tentative agenda
<b>Honouring STP outreach activities</b>			
Action	12	P, VP, SS	create a draft of the implementation plan of additional outreach grant by next Bureau
<b>Bureau liaison member updates</b>			
Action	13	P, VP, SS	check the term (maximum 8 years) of the current liaison members and ask assignment to representatives of participating bodies for replacement, if necessary
<b>Award</b>			
Action	14	SS	prepare medal and certificate of SCOSTEP Distinguished Service award and bring them to the General Council meeting in Lisbon
Action	15	P, SS	Call for SCOSTEP Fellow 2025
<b>STP-16 preparation</b>			
Action	16	P, VP, SS	form the Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC)
<b>ISC</b>			
Action	17	P, VP, SS	prepare SCOSTEP report on ISC gender equality in a survey by 14 May 2025.
<b>ISWI</b>			
Action	18	P, PP	assign SCOSTEP Liaison to the IHY+25 activity
Action	19	P, PP, SS	ask proposal for SCOSTEP CB funds to ISWI space weather school LOC
<b>SCOSTEP capacity building online lectures</b>			
Action	20	P, PP	explore a possibility of joint event with ISWI workshop
<b>Comic Book</b>			
Action	21	P, SS	finalize C14 comic book and provide it to SCOSTEP
<b>Next Bureau meeting</b>			
Action	22	P, SS	schedule the next Bureau meeting in late November or early December

