

Throughflow Board Meeting  
7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2011  
Natural History Museum, London



In attendance:

7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Olly Bacon (NHM), Juan C. Braga (Granada), Rakhmat Fakhruddin (GRDC), Fauzie Hasibuan (GRDC), Ken Johnson (NHM), Wout Krijgsman (Utrecht), Robert Morely, Wolfgang Muller (RHUL), Matthias Prange (Bremen), Willem Renema (Leiden), Jon Todd (NHM), Frank Wesselingh (Leiden), Bill Wood (Student Representative, RHUL), Jeremy Young (NHM).

8<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – As above with the addition of Emanuela Di Martino, Nadiezhda Santodomingo (both NHM), Elena Lo Guidice Capelli, Nicolas Fraser (both Kiel), Vibor Novak, Sonja Reich (both Leiden), Amanda Frigola (Bremen), Anja Rosler, Simone Arragoni (both Granada), Nathan Marshall (Utrecht).

#### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

Bill Wood, acting as Student Representative, gave feedback from the Researchers. Firstly he raised the issue of finances and that the researchers found these confusing, especially their salaries.

**Action: Olly Bacon to contact ESRs to answer any specific questions regarding finances.**

Bill then gave feedback from the NAT2 training event. The main points that were raised were:

- Students felt they had a lack of preparation before the event.
- Training received at the start of the event wasn't extensive enough to cover all skills needed while in the field.
- The idea of having a spare room in accommodation to use as an office/store room would be beneficial.
- Having one laptop to use a central computer would be useful.
- Having an 'office day', possibly on a Sunday would be good. Especially a day where there is no pressure to enter the field, however researchers still could if they still desired.
- Make the evening meetings less formal, possibly conducted in smaller groups.

With regard to NTA1 that was held in Royal Holloway the students felt that there was an 'overload' of information at an early stage of the project. It was felt that some of this training would be more beneficial if taught later in the project.

Looking ahead to the NTA4 training event it was suggested that it would be useful for students to receive First Aid training prior to the event. It was suggested that this could be conducted by each partner institution.

In response to the students feedback Ken Johnson replied that the preparation will be better for NTA4, mostly due to the experiences of NTA2. It was said that consideration will be given to the formation of an 'office day', where students do not feel pressured into conducting field work. With regard to the evening meetings conducted during the event it was said that these meetings are useful as it gives the chance for information to be shared within the group. However, ahead of NTA4, the form and length of the meetings will be discussed. It was said that there needs to be greater communication between the researchers for these meetings to work.

It was said that researchers with a lack of geology knowledge found the initial training at NTA1 and NTA2 difficult. It was suggested that a further training course, possibly conducted over 2 days, could be held for those researchers who felt they needed extra training in these fields. The exact timing and content of this training would need to be decided amongst the group.

**Action: Group to discuss and decide on content and timing of extra training for researchers.**

At the beginning of NTA4 there will be a 4 day training workshop in Bandung. Robert Morley discussed possible topics to cover during the workshop and who should teach each section. It was said that the topics covered should overlap to show the researchers how all the areas link together. It was also said that there should be discussion with the researchers to ask them what areas they feel would be beneficial to include in the workshop.

**Action: Group to formalise agenda for workshop and who will be responsible for each topic after consulting with researchers.**

On the subject of authorship of papers and abstracts it was stated that all papers should be announced on the project website as per the guidelines in the Consortium Agreement. The issue of how named authors should be included on papers was discussed with the suggestion that all papers using data collected by the project should include the author 'The Throughflow Project'. It was said that the issue would be discussed further the following day with the researchers present.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2011

To start Willem Renema gave a presentation detailing the geology found at various sites during NTA2 training event. It was said that all presentations will be uploaded to the project website.

**Action: All presentations to be uploaded to project website**

The researchers then discussed what they would like to get from NTA4 training event. There was desire expressed to have some training in mapping skills during NTA4 as it was felt during NTA2 that there were times when some researchers felt unable to complete work due to lack of skills. It was stated however this may not be able to occur during NTA4 during to limited time available but there is a possibility it could occur at another time.

Ken Johnson stated that when conducting fieldwork there had to be better planning of working groups so that each group possessed the skills to conduct all tasks that are needed.

It was also said that researchers needed to define better what skills and data they want to obtain from the training and fieldwork. It was said this could be done by revising their Career Development Plans that were originally created at the start of their projects.

**Action: Researchers to revise and update Career Development Plans**

Next the project finances were discussed by Olly Bacon, Ken Johnson and Willem Renema. Costs incurred for NTA1 and NTA2 were covered and details of how these costs are split into different cost categories. It was said that approximate costs to the researchers for NTA1 were €500 and that for NTA2 they were €2,500, which was less than originally budgeted for. Overall it was said the project finances are in good shape and that plans for future training events should not be impacted on.

Researchers were reminded that they should apply for small grants in order to fund attendance for conferences and symposiums. Details of possible conferences were suggested by the group, including that of the European Geosciences Union which is felt would be of great benefit for the researchers to attend. Jeremy Young volunteered to co-ordinate possible attendance by Throughflow members.

**Action: Jeremy Young to co-ordinate attendance at EGU meeting**

It was said that any conference or symposium opportunities should be advertised on the project website. All project members have access to the site and are able to upload details to the pages.

Jon Todd suggested that it would be beneficial to create a Throughflow poster to advertise the project at different events. The poster should not contain too much information, just detail the outline of the project with pictures. Jeremy Young and Nadiezhda Santodomingo volunteered help create the poster although there should be input from the whole group.

**Action: Jeremy Young and Nadiezhda Santodomingo to lead group in creation of a Throughflow poster.**

It was said that the blog for the project should continue. The blog that was created during NAT2 was hosted on the Natural History Museum's website however it was said that any blog posts should be posted using the project website. Any old blog posts on the NHMs website should be transferred to the project website.

**Action: Transfer all old blog posts to the project website**

Jon Todd stated that The Natural History Museum has hosted Nature Live sessions featuring the work of the Throughflow project. It was suggested that researchers could host sessions in their own institutions as it would provide

valuable experience. It was said that most research grants now contain a section of public engagement so having experience in this field would be an advantage to researchers when applying. If any researchers complete any public engagement work they should notify Ken Johnson.

**Action: Researchers to notify Ken Johnson if they complete and public engagement work.**

Rakhmat Fakhruddin spoke regarding the involvement of GRDC in NTA4. He suggested that each researcher and supervisor team up with a member of the GRDC to work in the field. This would mean extra benefit to the staff of the GRDC. Ken Johnson stated without the help of the GRDC the project would not be possible and for that he expressed great thanks on behalf of the project.

It was suggested that possibly researchers could possibly travel out to Indonesia early ahead of NTA4 in order to work in the collections and help build relationships with the staff.

Rahkmat stated that it would be desirable for GRDC staff to have the opportunity to travel to Europe to study both in the collections and also academically. Ken Johnson stated that unfortunately there are not funds within the project to fund these trips however the European partners would be happy to help the Indonesians secure external funding for such opportunities. It was said that the project can also be beneficial to the GRDC in ways like authorships on publications and training given during training events.

Ken Johnson gave an update on the samples collected during NTA2. They are being delivered to The Natural History Museum and are scheduled to arrive on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011. Once they have arrived at the museum the group will then discuss the best way to deliver each partners samples to their relevant institution. The researchers will need to discuss if there are samples that will be required in more than one location.

**Action: Researchers to discuss by email if any samples are required in different locations prior to shipping from Natural History Museum.**

The issue of authorship on publications was again discussed by the group. It was said that all publications that are based on project material should include both the main authors and also 'The Throughflow Project'. The benefit of this is that it ties all publications relating to project together and makes the work of the project more visible. It was stated that this is already common practise for other projects.

It was also stated again that all publications should be submitted either to the website directly or to Ken Johnson two weeks prior to submission. This is in accordance to the Consortium Agreement.