**Geoengineering Model Intercomparison Project (GeoMIP)**

**Terms of Governance**

Drafted 1 August 2020

**Statement of Purpose**

[GeoMIP](http://climate.envsci.rutgers.edu/GeoMIP/) is a volunteer-based community that works together to promote multi-model intercomparisons and analyses of the expected climate impacts of proposed techniques for “geoengineering” the atmosphere. Geoengineering (also called climate geoengineering, climate engineering, and climate intervention) encompasses a wide range of proposed techniques. GeoMIP only considers one of the two classes of techniques, namely solar radiation management (also called radiation management, solar geoengineering, or radiative forcing geoengineering). Solar Radiation Management schemes aim to modify the solar radiation absorbed by Earth, or to modify clouds to change the longwave radiation leaving Earth, with the purpose of partially counteracting the impacts of the radiative forcing and global warming being caused by CO2 and other anthropogenic climate forcers. Doing so would involve intentional modifications of the atmosphere or Earth’s surface (or through space-based satellites). The other class of techniques, which aim to remove large amounts of CO2 from the atmosphere, are being examined in the [Carbon Dioxide Removal Model Intercomparison Project (CDRMIP)](http://www.kiel-earth-institute.de/CDR_Model_Intercomparison_Project.html). GeoMIP has designed several scenarios which have been carried out by numerous modeling organizations and has contributed the results to the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP) as well as publishing two special issues and other related papers.

The work of GeoMIP is informally guided by a Steering Committee. This document outlines the governance setup of GeoMIP, including the composition and activities of the steering committee.

**Statement of Values**

GeoMIP has always been a volunteer organization that aspires to consensus-based decision making. Decisions on activities pursued in GeoMIP, as well as the future direction of the project, are guided by several fundamental values. Many of these values are shared by numerous other organizations in climate science. The American Geophysical Union serves as an excellent example, espousing the values of integrity, respect, diversity, collaboration, and education and outreach. One GeoMIP value we wish to emphasize is inclusivity: all participants always have a chance to comment, be heard, and influence decisions in GeoMIP.

The GeoMIP Steering Committee (SC) was established to protect and defend the values of GeoMIP, in particular to facilitate this decision-making process and to uphold the ability of all GeoMIP members to participate. The SC is a “light touch” group. Although it has the formal responsibility to make decisions on behalf of GeoMIP, it will do so in the spirit of inclusivity, meaning all decisions made by the SC are made with the intention of having the backing of the broader GeoMIP community.

In pursuing these aims, the SC is responsible for safeguarding the value of an informed community. Information relevant to GeoMIP should be disseminated freely to the GeoMIP community, and any comments made by members of the GeoMIP community should be made available (at least in summary, if not verbatim) to other members to aid in the decision-making process.

**Roles and Responsibilities**

The SC is comprised of 10-12 members of the geoengineering research community, defined as people who have extensive experience with conducting peer-reviewed research in climate modeling of geoengineering. The SC is responsible for the operation and maintenance of GeoMIP. Roles and responsibilities of the SC include:

* Selecting from its members two co-chairs
* Selecting replacement SC members when a SC member wishes to step down. The makeup of the overall SC should be taken into account during the selection process, with criteria that include diversity in the representation of the research community, particularly in terms of aiming for gender parity and a wide geographical representation.
* Coordinating GeoMIP decisions among its members, encouraging consensus, and deciding how to proceed based on those attempts to reach consensus.
* Ensuring that information relevant to GeoMIP is disseminated, including (but not limited to) opportunities, announcements, and conferences. During discussions of GeoMIP activities, the SC is responsible for ensuring that comments and opinions made by individual members are heard by the community.

The roles and responsibilities of the co-chairs include:

* Disseminating information on behalf of the SC
* Maintaining the membership list and website
* Organizing GeoMIP meetings
* Coordinating discussions of new experiments
* Liaising with WCRP and CMIP, as well as other external groups