

# UZIG Business Meeting



**OCTOBER 29, 2013**  
**DENVER, COLORADO**

# UZIG Business Meeting Agenda



- **Opening comments**
- **Acknowledgments**
- **Working Group reports**
- **John Nimmo / Soil Science Society of America**
- **2014 UZIG business meeting**
- **Other business items**
- **Closing remarks**




# Welcome!



- **Opening Remarks**

- Purpose
- 2013
- GSA

- **Thanks for your efforts!**

- Session conveners, speakers, and field trip leaders
  - Annual UZIG business meeting
  - Steering Committee
- 

# Steering Committee



**Katie Aurand\***

**Randy Bayless**

**John Bumgarner**

**Geoff Delin**

**Mindy Erickson\***

**Amanda Garcia\***

**Vic Heilweil**

**Wes Henson**

**John Lane**

**Ben Mirus**

**Rafa Muñoz-Carpena**

**John Nimmo**

**Andy O-Reilly**

**Kim Perkins\***

**Dave Stonestrom\***

**Nick Teague**

**Jared Trost\***

**Monty Vesselinov**

\* Working Group Leader

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# Work Group Reports



**Dave – Governance; Logo**

**Wes – Newsletter**

**Jared –Membership; Webinar Series**

**Jared & Kim – Website**

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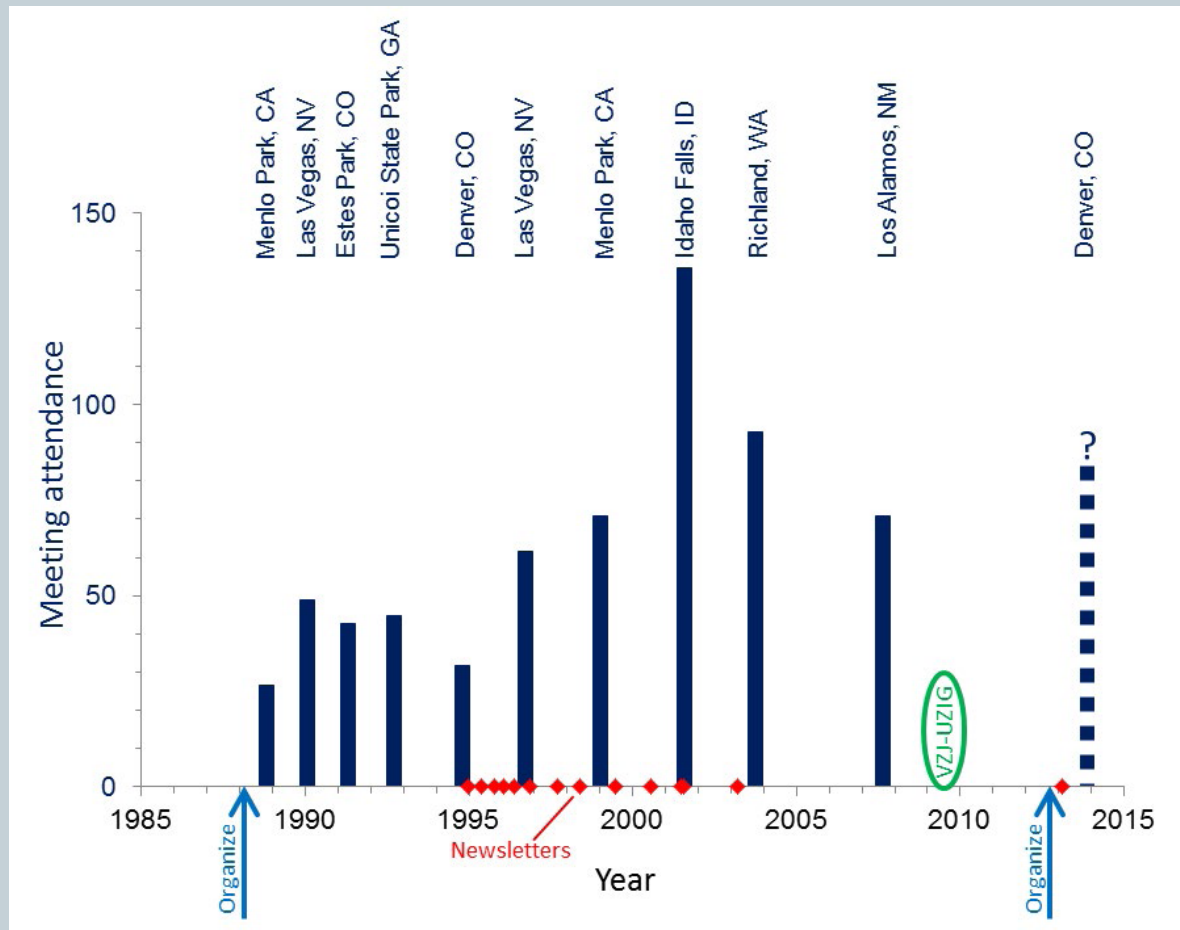


# Previous UZIG Meeting



UZIG National Meetings			
Dates	Location	Lead Organizer(s)	Notes
25–27 January 1988	Menlo Park, CA	Dave Stonestrom Dave Prudic	
25–26 April 1991	Estes Park, CO	Rick Healy	
21–23 September 1992	Unicoi State Park, GA	Rob Striegl (?)	
17 October 1994	Ramada Inn, Lakewood, CO	Rick Healy Bill Herkelrath	Business only
24–26 September 1996	Bank of America Bldg Las Vegas, NV	Rick Healy	Postponed by Terry Rees after furloughs*
1997 (need dates)	ditto	Ditto(?)	
13–15 January 1999	Menlo Park, CA	Rick Healy John Nimmo	
30 July–02 August 2001	INEEL, Idaho Falls, ID	John Nimmo	
Get dates	PNL, Hanford, WA	John Nimmo	
Get dates	LANL, Los Alamos, NM	John Nimmo	
26–29 October 2013	Denver	Amanda Garcia Meetings Working Gp	Embedded in GSA**

# Previous UZIG Meetings



# Next UZIG Meeting



- **GSA – Vancouver, BC (October 19-22, 2014)**
- **AGU – San Francisco, CA (December 15-19, 2014)**
- **SSSA – TBA; National Office (Madison, WI)**
- **ARS/USDA – Ft. Collins, CO**
- **USEPA Pesticide evaluation/registry sites**
  
- **Nominations / Volunteers**

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# Dues



**UZIG Annual Dues**

**\$0.00**

**Meeting Costs**

**\$350.00**

# Other Business?



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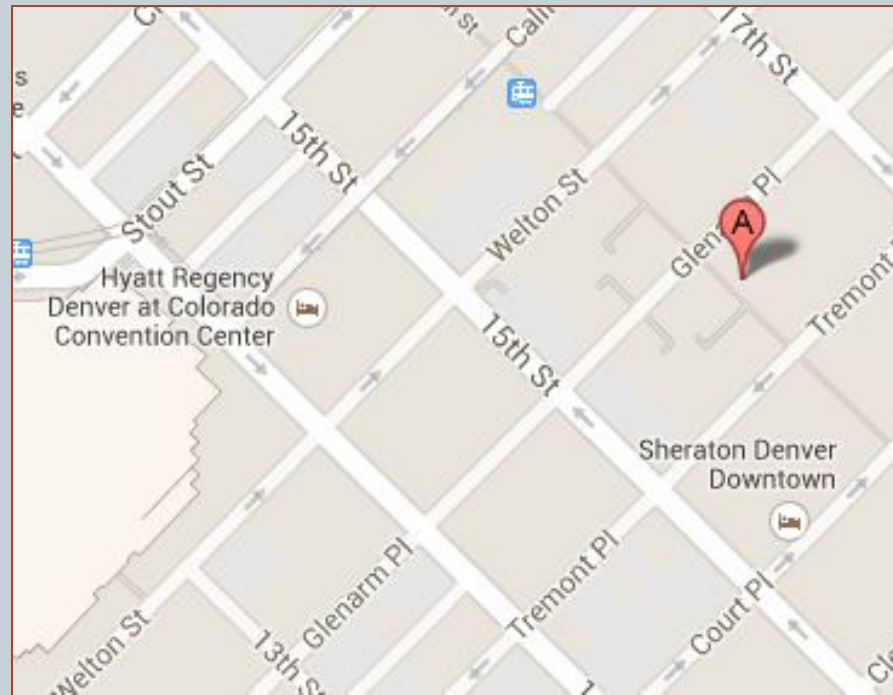


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# Post-Business Meeting Banquet



- **Earl's Kitchen and Bar**
  - 1600 Glenarm Place #140, Denver, CO
  - Tues 7:00







**Keep Up the Good Work!**





# Working Groups & Members



- **Governance**
- **Email & Membership**
  - Jared Trost, Kim Perkins
- **Newsletter**
  - Katie Aurand, Andy O'Reilly, Amanda Garcia, John Nimmo, Wes Henson
- **Website**
  - Jared Trost, Kim Perkins
- **Equipment**
  - Randy Bayless
- **Meetings (& activities with other groups)**
  - Amanda Garcia, Geoff Delin, Wes Henson, Dave Stonestrom, Vic Heilweil, Ben Mirus, Nick Teague

# UZIG at GSA



- **Field Trip**

- Rocky Mountain Unsaturated Zones-Exploring Fire-Earth-Sky Connections

- **Technical Sessions**

- T34. Advances in Unsaturated Zone Geophysics and Process Understanding
- T36. Impacts of Land-Use Change and Disturbances on Unsaturated-Zone Ecohydrology and Process Characterization
- T38. Vadose Zone Flow and Transport in Natural or Engineered Systems

# UZIG Website



- <http://mn.water.usgs.gov/uzig/>
- Newsletters
- Meetings
- Web Links
- Directory
- Contacts
- Calendar

## Charter of the *Unsaturated Zone Interest Group (UZIG)*

### Section 1—Name

The full name of this organization is the *Unsaturated Zone Interest Group*. The group may also be referred to by the acronym, *UZIG*, when its meaning is clear from context. The acronym may additionally serve as a modifier, as in “*UZIG meeting*” or “*UZIG newsletter*.”

### Section 2—Nature and Purpose

The purpose of this charter is to briefly formalize the nature and purpose of the Unsaturated Zone Interest Group (UZIG), and to provide a skeletal outline of its leadership, structure, and operations. The latter three topics are covered in subsequent “*Governance*” and “*Bylaws*” sections.

The Unsaturated Zone Interest Group is a loosely knit, non-profit, non-governmental scientific organization hosted at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). It consists of personnel working on or otherwise interested in problems involving the *unsaturated zone*—in broad terms, that portion of the landscape between the atmosphere and the regional water table. The UZIG formed in 1988 and consists primarily of active researchers and support staff at the USGS, with additional members from other earth-science agencies and academic institutions around the world. The UZIG operated under implicit rules of governance and assumptions of purpose through 2012.

The Unsaturated Zone Interest Group exists principally to promote informal, inter-disciplinary collaborations and sharing of ideas, expertise, and technical assets. Its mission is to advance unsaturated-zone science by fostering information exchange and collaborative studies among kindred groups across multiple organizations. The UZIG promotes these goals by organizing meetings and communicating through newsletters, webinars, and other digital media that provide widely accessible forums for information exchange about current unsaturated-zone science and technology.

### Section 3—Governance

The Unsaturated Zone Interest Group (UZIG) is governed by a *Steering Committee* consisting of volunteers selected from the UZIG membership. The *Steering Committee* oversees selection of an overall coordinator, called the *UZIG Chair*, who is responsible for orchestrating *Steering Committee* operations and running business meetings at UZIG-wide assemblies. The *Steering Committee* is organized into a number of appropriately sized *Working Groups*, each of which serves a specific purpose and consists of one or more volunteer members, one or two of whom are willing to serve as *Leads*. *Working Group Leads* also serve as members of the *Steering Committee*. In addition to the *Working Group Leads*, the *Steering Committee* may also include *Members at Large*, who are generally past or prospective members of one or more *Working Groups*.

### Section 4—Bylaws

#### 4.1—Membership

UZIG membership is open to all interested practitioners of unsaturated-zone science and allied personnel provided that their membership is solely for the purpose of collegial (professional but non-commercial) cooperation for the advancement of knowledge.

#### 4.2—Working Groups

The *UZIG Working Groups* shall be: (A) *Membership*, (B) *Governance*, (C) *Newsletters*, (D) *Web Page*, (E) *Webinars*, (F) *Meetings*, and (G) *Equipment*.

#### 4.3—UZIG Steering Committee

The *UZIG Steering Committee* shall consist of 18 UZIG members who constitute the core decision making organ of the *UZIG*. Core decisions are defined as follows: (1) approving the *UZIG Charter* and amendments thereto; (2) commissioning (and decommissioning) *Working Groups* and, in coordination with this, approving *Working Group Leads* and managing the membership of the *Steering Committee*; and (3) selecting the *UZIG Chair*. Approval of core decisions requires concurrence of an absolute majority of the *Steering Committee*.

*Steering Committee Members* serve a term of two years, with terms ending at the end of December in odd years. Near the end of its term, the *Steering Committee* will identify and select the composition of the subsequent *Steering Committee*. Multiple terms are allowed, with the goal of maintaining a healthy balance between turnover and experience.

#### 4.4—UZIG Chair

The *UZIG Chair* shall be selected for a term of two years, with terms ending at the end of December in even years, by obtaining an absolute majority of *Steering Committee* votes among willing candidates identified by the *Membership* and *Governance Working Groups*.

The *UZIG Chair* shall coordinate communication among the *Working Groups* and the *Steering Committee*, and shall delegate such tasks as necessary to ensure communication between the *Steering Committee* and the UZIG as a whole.

The *UZIG Chair* shall be responsible for scheduling regular teleconference meetings of the *Steering Committee* as needed to conduct its business and maintain vitality. *Steering Committee* meetings will be held as often as the Chair deems necessary, but at least biannually.

# UZIG Membership

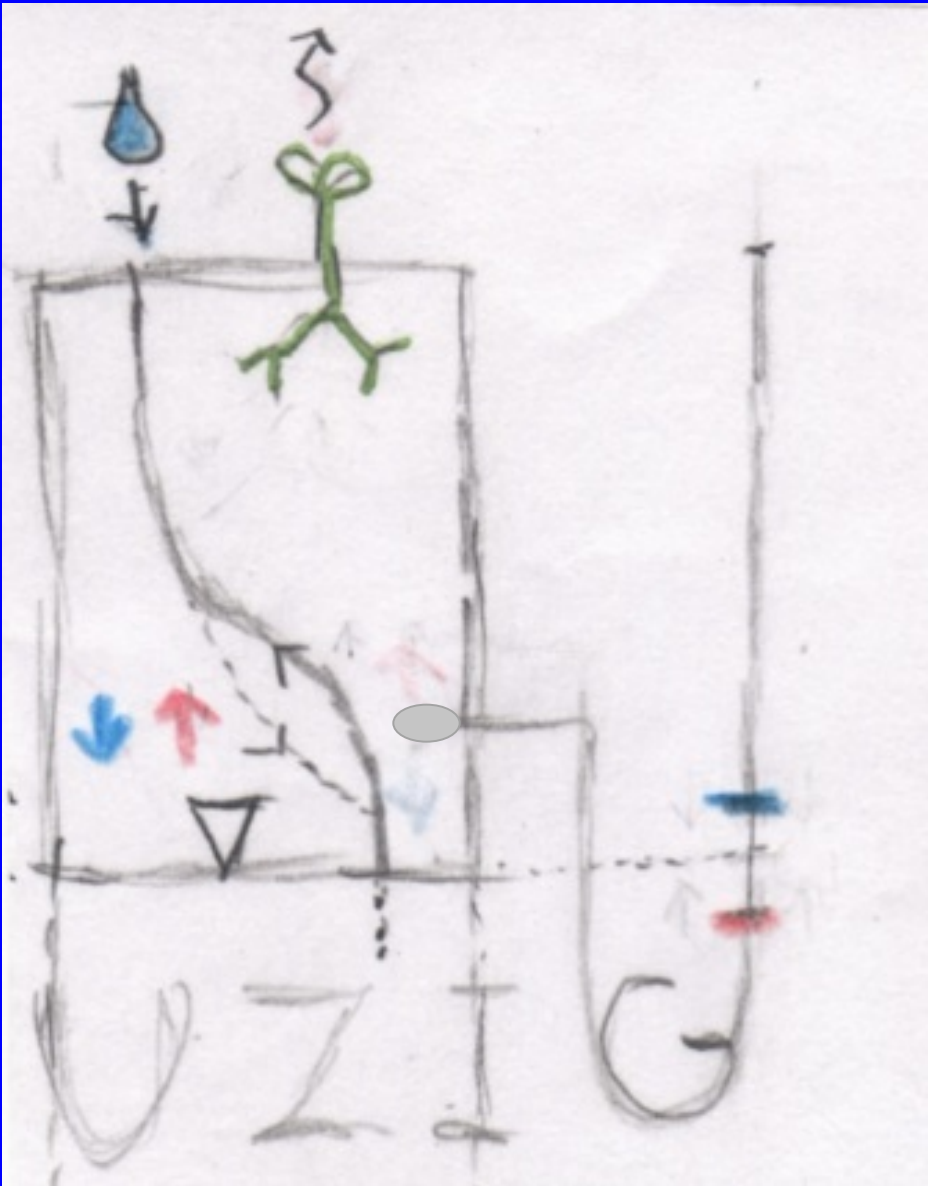
Steering Committee

Chair

Working groups:

- Membership
- Governance
- Newsletters
- Web Page
- Webinars
- Meetings
- Equipment

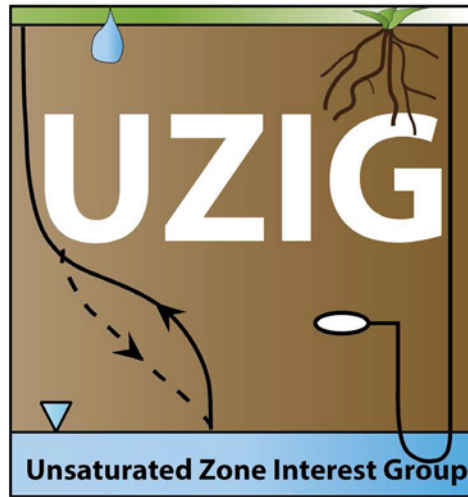




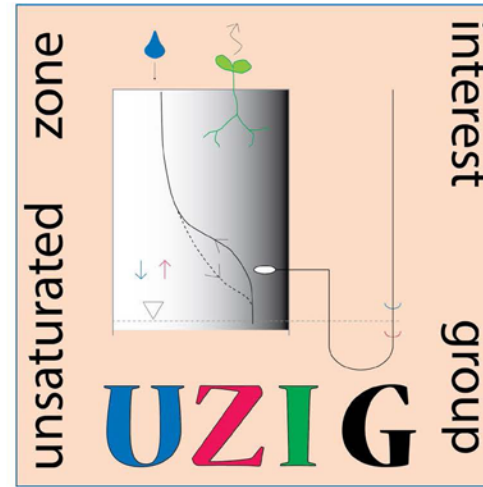
versus



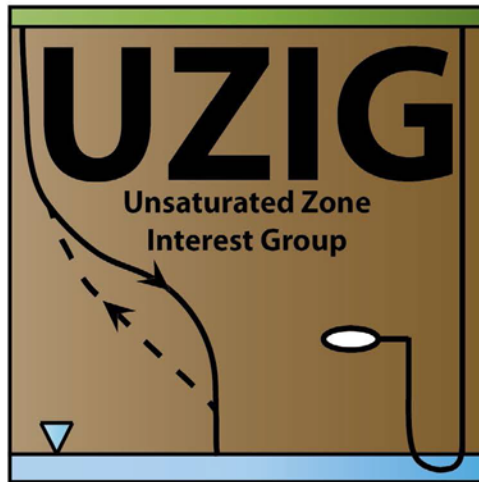
(1876)



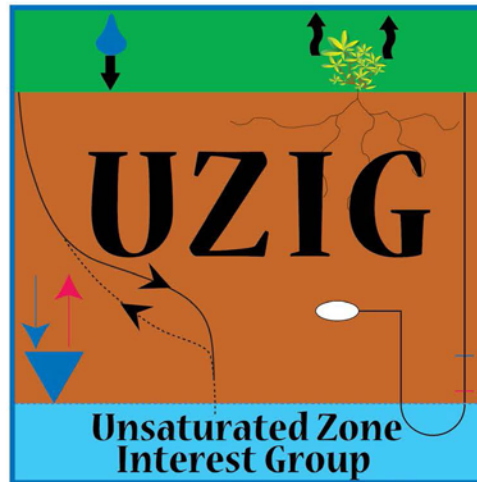
Combination of initial ideas  
Compiled by Dave



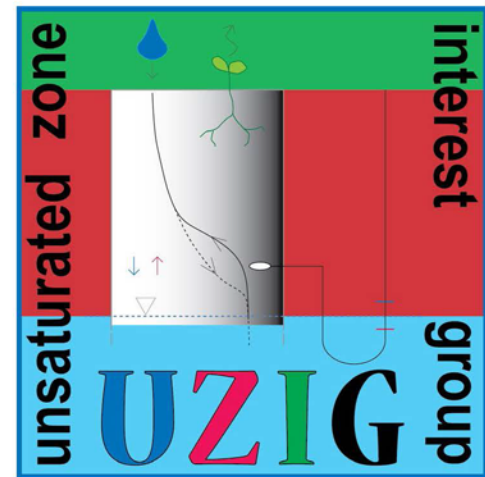
Designed by Dave



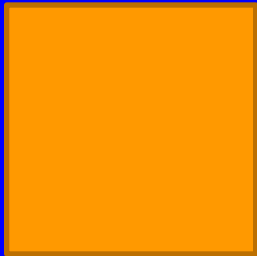
Designed by Katie



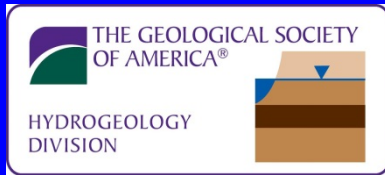
Designed by Amanda



Designed by Monte



← (our logo here)



Andy O'Reilly



The 2013 UZIG  
***Golden Tensiometer Award***

is presented to

***John R. Nimmo***

in appreciation for 22 years of service

promoting the

***Unsaturated Zone Interest Group***



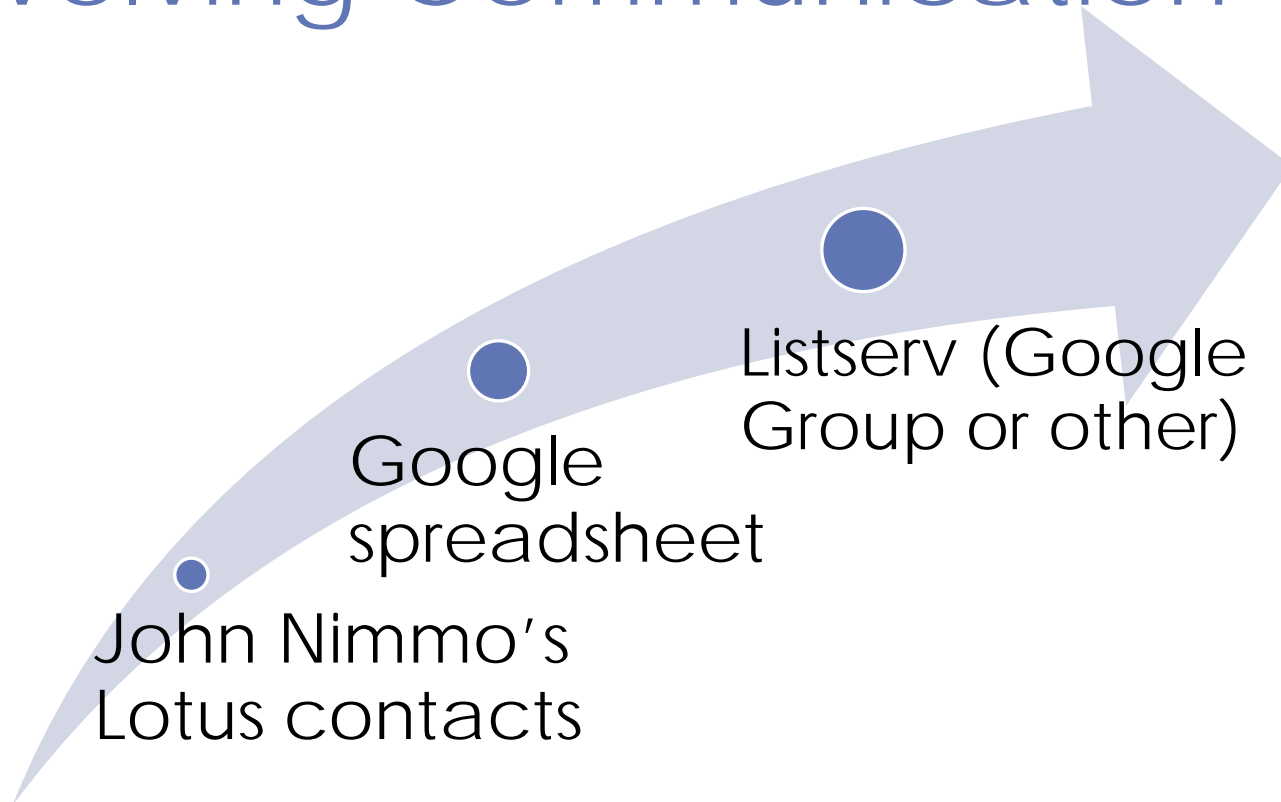
# UZIG Membership and Communication

Jared Trost, Ben Mirus, Rafael  
Munoz-Carpena

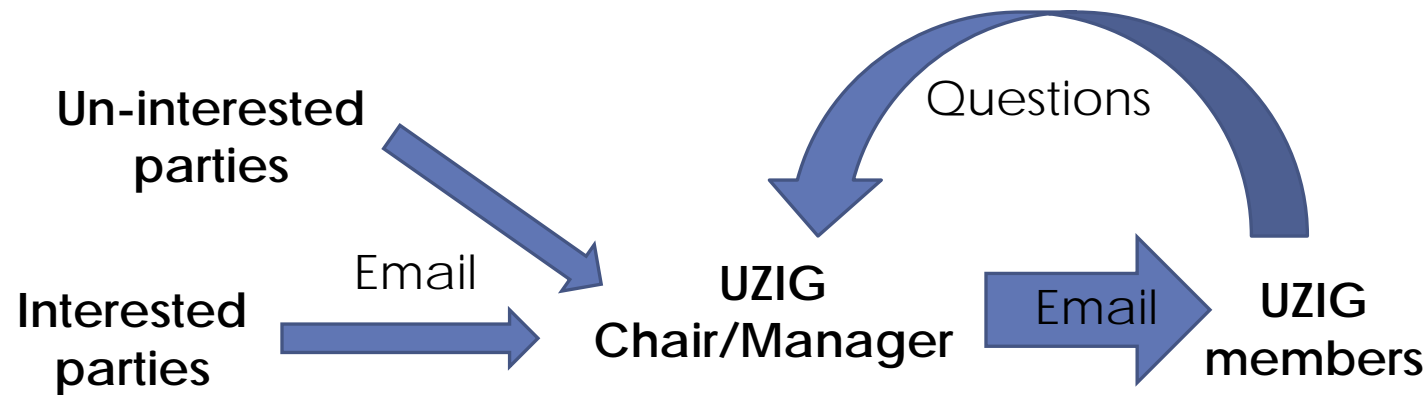
UZIG Business Meeting  
Denver, CO  
10/29/2013

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# Evolving Communication



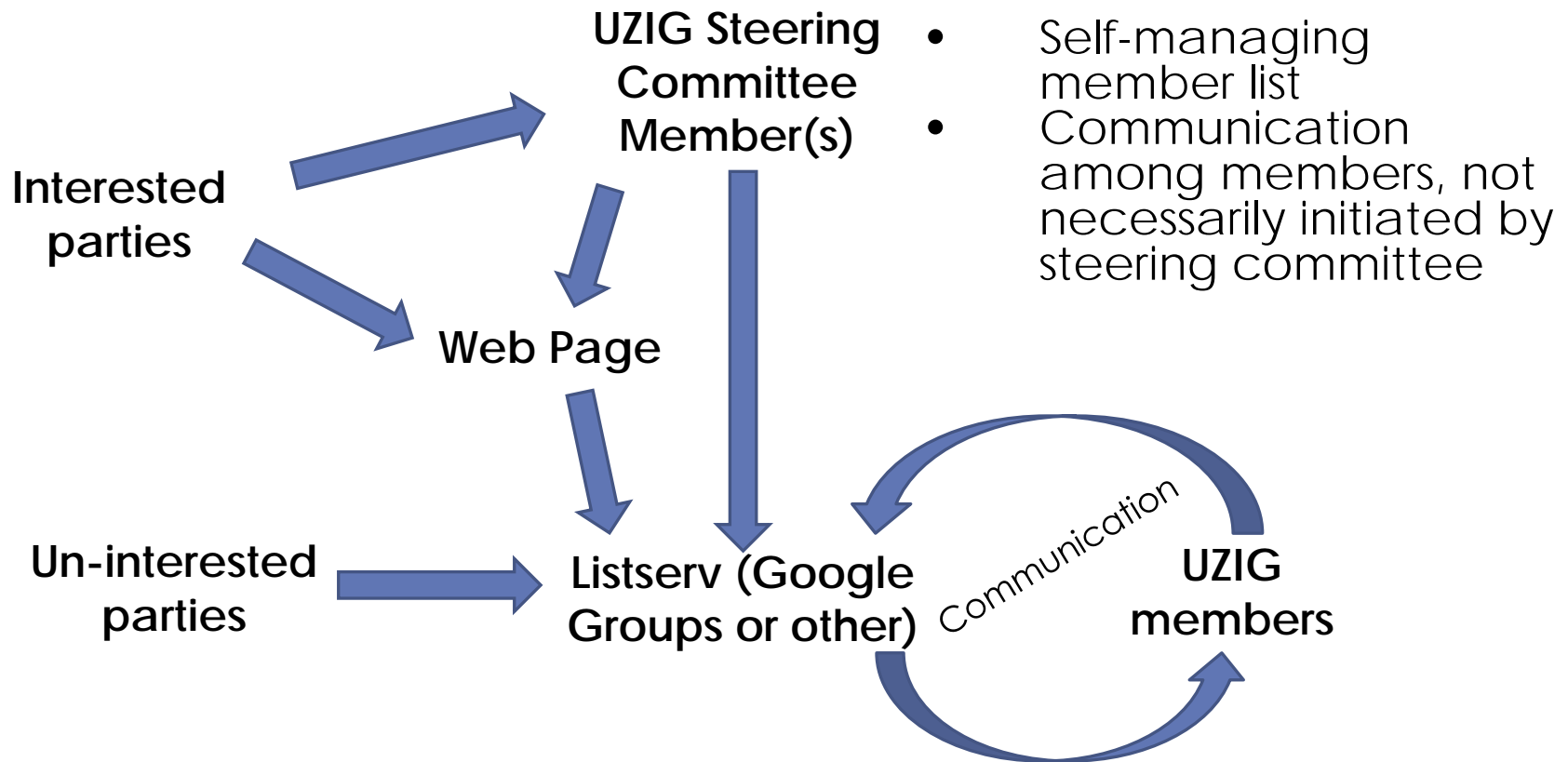
# Centralized Old System



- manages list
- Sends mass emails
- Responds to questions

- Labor-intensive for UZIG Chair/Manager
- Primarily 1-way communication

# Proposed Future Communication





# Google Group

Apply to join the UZIG group

**My display name:**



jtro...@gmail.com (edit)

Link to my [Google profile](#) and show my photo on posts <sup>?</sup>

Use jtrost.gs@gmail.com for this group with the following settings:

Don't send email updates ▾

Don't send email updates

Send daily summaries

Send combined updates (25 messages per email)

Send me an email for every new message (less than 1 per day)

knows your email

box below.

**Apply to join this group**

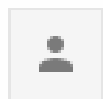
Cancel

By clicking "Join this group" you are agreeing to the [Google Groups Terms of Service](#).

# Google Group

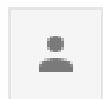
**UZIG** Shared publicly

4 of 4 topics (3 unread) ☆ 



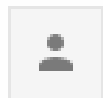
**Test #4 (2)**

By Ben - 2 posts - 2 views



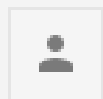
**Test for email lists (2)**

By Ben Mirus - 2 posts - 3 views



**Test #2 (1)**

By Ben Mirus - 1 post - 2 views



**Test**

By Ben - 1 post - 3 views

# Priorities

- Distributed communication-anyone can initiate discussion on a topic.
- Minimize email traffic
- “self-managing” membership list
- Steering committee still has ability to send mass email when appropriate
- Minimize stored information (name, email only).



# UZIG Webinar series

**Presented by Jared Trost, on behalf of  
Mindy Erickson, Webinar Coordinator, MN WSC**

# Bi-monthly UZIG web-based seminar

- Provide accessible (and virtually free) forum for UZIG members to
  - introduce themselves to one another
  - share research results
- Personal connections and knowledge of current work crucial for building collaborations

# Coming Webinars

- **Friday, November 15, 2013, Noon Central Time**
  - **Dr. Jack Barbash, USGS, presenting “Design and testing of a process-based groundwater vulnerability assessment (P-GWAVA) system for predicting the concentrations of agrichemicals in groundwater across the conterminous United States”**
- **Friday, January 10, 2014, Noon Central Time**
  - **Natasha Sihota, University of British Columbia, and Jared Trost, USGS, presenting “Seasonal variations in hydrocarbon natural attenuation rates: what can we learn from snapshot samples?”**

# Coming Webinars

- March 2014 (date and title TBD)
  - Dr. Dirk Young, US EPA
- May 2014 (date and title TBD)
  - Professor Greg Olyphant, Indiana University

To volunteer for a future date, contact Mindy Erickson, [merickso@usgs.gov](mailto:merickso@usgs.gov)

UZIG webiste: <http://mn.water.usgs.gov/uzig/>

# Newsletter

- Newsletter highlights current topics concerning the unsaturated zone, and its purpose is to enhance communication within UZIG
  - Published every 6 months
  - Not an official publication (not citable)
  - Published at the end of March and the end of September
  - Article deadlines set one month before publication

Visit the website

[mn.water.usgs.gov/uzig](http://mn.water.usgs.gov/uzig)

## Newsletter Committee

Katie Aurand, NTNU, Norway

Amanda Garcia, USGS, NV

Wes Henson, USGS, FL

John Nimmo, USGS, CA

Andy O'Reilly, USGS, FL





# Newsletter Topics

Anything that would appeal to the majority of UZIG members.

For Example:

- Description of specific research – either proposed, in progress, or completed
- Review or summary of one or more publications
- Proposal of a question or topic of discussion or investigation
- Note on a useful technique, instrument, algorithm, ect.
- Information related to UZIG activities

# Submission and Review Procedure

## **Submission:**

- Send it to Katie Aurand/UZIG newsletter committee as a editable Microsoft Word document.
- Keep it brief (extended abstract length).
- Include pictures and figures

## **Review process:**

- One of the members of the newsletter committee member will be assigned as your “editorial point of contact”.
- All editors perform final editorial review

# FAQs

## **Why should you submit something?**

- Great way to get your name and ideas out there.
- Interact with other UZIG members to enhance your research and collaborations.

## **When is the next Issue?**

- **Spring 2014 Issue:** Deadline: Friday, Feb. 28 – Distribution: Friday, March 28

## **Who can be a member of the newsletter committee?**

- Anyone in UZIG with the desire (and time) to help!

## **How do you join the newsletter committee?**

- Send an e-mail of interest to a member of the newsletter committee.

## **What is the time commitment?**

- A few conference calls during every 6-month period,
- brainstorming / article solicitation, the time it takes to
- Editorial time for 1-3 articles and the final review process

Contact Chief Editor Katie Aurand ([kt.aurand@gmail.com](mailto:kt.aurand@gmail.com)) with any additional questions