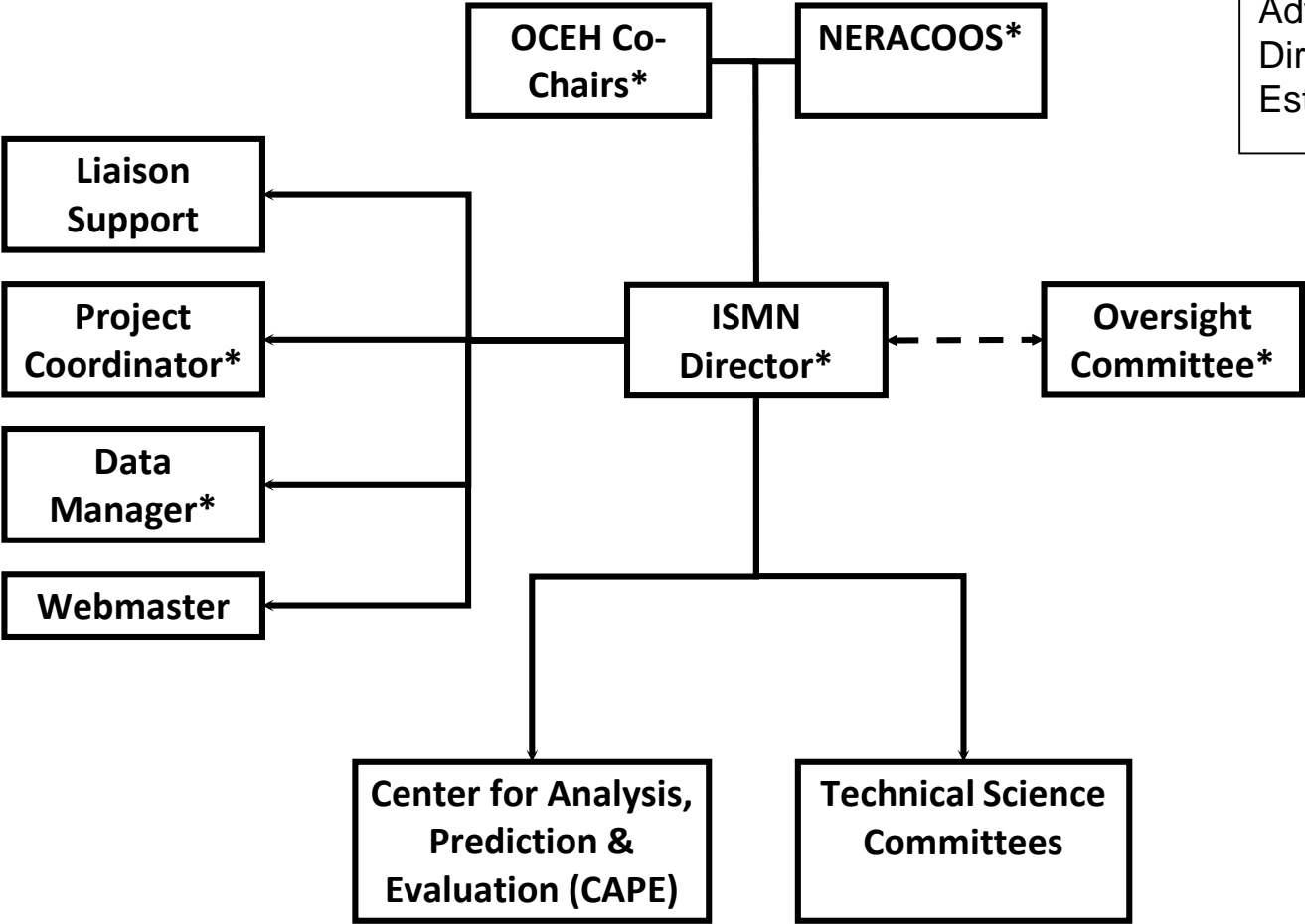


ISMN Governance Schematic



Advisory: - - - - -
Directive: _____
Established: *

Roles

Management

OCEH Co-Chairs: Co-chairs of the joint NROC/NERACOOS Ocean and Coastal Ecosystem Health Committee. Current NROC Chairs are Regina Lyons and Steve Couture. Current NERACOOS Chair is Jeff Runge.

NERACOOS: host agency and financial manager of ISMN.

ISMN Director: will have the overall responsibility for integration and operation of the ISMN. The ISMN directorship could be a renewable, fixed-term position that may be accomplished by a combination of funds from the host agency, the ISMN Director's home institution, and participating agencies in the ISMN. Duties of the ISMN Director will also include supervision of contracts for website services, data management, and information products, while making use of existing regional and host agency resources where possible. The ISMN Director will also chair an ISMN Oversight Committee, comprising experts from the regional research and management community with representation from both major subregions (Long Island Sound/Southern New England and the Gulf of Maine) and from the pelagic, benthic, and coastal and estuarine habitats.

Programmatic Support

Program Coordinator: assist the ISMN Director in the integration and operation of the ISMN.

Liaison Support: will have training in both marine resource management or policy and technical science disciplines. This position serves the role of "free electron" in the ISMN, connecting user needs with research expertise.

Roles Cont.

Data Manager: will oversee the integration of data sets into the NERACOOS data management framework.

Webmaster: will oversee the ISMN website, which will provide information on ISMN activities and regular updates and analysis of Northeast region ecosystems for stakeholders as well as the general public. It will have a section for technical reports about protocols for sample collection and data reporting, and it will provide a portal for access to the observing data. The primary purpose of the website is to facilitate the ISMN as a dynamic, collaborative observing network with the capability for continued refinement and improvement in (a) data collection and (b) analysis and assessment of ecosystem status. integrates sentinel indicator data into the NERACOOS DMAC framework.

Collaborative Expertise

Oversight Committee: will advise the ISMN Director on the implementation and integration of ISMN activities. It will determine priorities for enhancement of present observing activities, guided by the community consensus provided in the S&I Plan. It will also establish and recruit participants in technical science committees to integrate and facilitate effectiveness of data collection, management, and analysis across ISMN activities. An important role of the Oversight Committee will be to guide the ISMN Director in awarding grants for data synthesis through the Center for Analysis, Prediction and Evaluation (CAPE).

Center for Analysis Prediction & Evaluation (CAPE): will involve the participating institutions in the ISMN and will focus on enabling integrated analysis across datasets, generating information products about the status of the Northeast region ecosystems, and assuring the utility of this information in addressing identified needs of federal and state agencies and other stakeholders.

Technical Science Committee: will have rotating membership made up of experts from ISMN participating programs. Technical science committees may set data collection and management standards and protocols, facilitate network-wide taxonomic identifications, and oversee and enable the ground-truthing of new instrumentation, enable periodic model skill analysis, encourage development of informatics for analysis of genetic data, and address specific data management issues.