

Subject: Composition of the Review Team, and an associated Question.

A critical area of concern in evaluating the hacked e-mails and the scientific methodology used in the subject climate studies is the **Field of Statistics**. I see no one on the team who has significant statistical expertise; i.e., **no one on the Team has a doctorate in statistics**.

I sadly fear that lacking statistical expertise, the Team will not be able to properly evaluate the significance of the scientific methodology that is the core of many of the exchanges. Look what happened at the 2006 National Academy of Science (NAS) Panel evaluation of Dr. Michael Mann's infamous Hockey Stick -- no statistical expertise was present on the Panel. So when Dr. Edward Wegman and his group conducted an investigation into the statistical methodology used by Dr. Mann per the request of the Congressional investigating committee, Dr. Wegman's findings of improper statistical methods were subsequently largely dismissed by the Climatology Field owing to the NAS public announcements.

Computer advancements have opened up many statistical methods to apply to complex data analyses that were impractical just 10-15 years ago. Consequently, many climatologists, meteorologists, and atmospheric physicists do not possess the necessary statistical expertise to critically understand modern statistics, let alone the associated computer software programs. Individuals possessing doctorates in climatology, meteorology, atmospheric statistics, geophysics, etc. who also possess an advanced degree(s) in statistics are rare. I personally know only one individual who holds advanced degrees in both statistics and meteorology, and his expertise is in high demand in private enterprise, not academia.

**Recommendation: You must seek statistical expertise of unquestionable reputation and credentials to back up your final recommendations/conclusions.** If you don't you will be doomed to repeat the failure of the 2006 NAS Panel.

**Question: Is the Review Team going to interview Dr. Edward Wegman of George Mason University?**

Respectfully submitted.  
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