2008 IMC Meeting Logistics

By tackerman
Created 04/09/2008 - 6:10pm

2008

Dates
September 8: travel, 6:00pm Mixer and Dinner
September 9: 1 day LTER-IMC meeting
September 10: Environmental Information Management Conference (EIMC)
September 11: Environmental Information Management Conference (EIMC)
September 12: travel

Meeting Location
September 8 Hyatt Downtown (for directions, see below 'Hotel and Accomodations')
September 9 University of New Mexico Student Union

University of New Mexico Student Union
full campus map with streets labeled:
http://www.unm.edu/campusmap.pdf [1]

central campus map, in color:
http://www.unmsub.com/images/maps/unmmapcolor.pdf [2]

Directions from Rapid Ride stop to SUB (Student Union Building) - about
5 minutes.
Walk into campus toward the circular fountain. Turn right at the
fountain, between Woodward Hall (on the left) and the Center for the
Arts (on the right). The main entrance to the Student Union is ahead of
you.

Hotel and Accommodations
We have a block of rooms at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque [3] in Albuquerque, New
Mexico. The meeting itself will be held at the University of New Mexico. Instructions for
ground transportation between the hotel and UNM are below.
Local address and phone:
330 Tijeras NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA 87102
(505) 842-1234
Map [4]

Registration
If you have already registered for the EIMC meeting that follows ours, then your name is on the rooming list already. If you haven't registered then please do so ASAP at: https://conference.ecoinformatics.org/index.php/eim/ [5]
As usual, one person per site will be supported by LNO for the IMC meeting and for the EIMC. If your site is bringing additional people, they should arrange for rooms using the same booking info as appears on the EIMC website: http://albuquerque.hyatt.com /groupbooking/albuqudob2008 [6]
Be sure to book soon to take advantage of the lowest rate. By late-June, unbooked rooms will be canceled.

Requesting volunteer roommates in the IMC
To stay within our budget and still provide a catered dinner on the first night, we need people to volunteer to share a hotel room during the meeting and conference. Everyone on IMExec has already agreed to share, but this is not quite enough. Although we did make the decision to support single rooms, our budget for 2008 has not changed since last year and simply cannot support a single room for everyone for 4 nights, plus the first evening mixer that we all enjoy. So, if you are willing to have a roommate this year, it will help out a lot. Please e-mail Eda C. Melendez-Colom [edacorreo@yahoo.com] to say whether you are requesting a single room or double (with the name of your roommate). Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Booking flights
For those IMs whose costs are covered by the LTER Network Office, please call or e-mail Rio Grande Travel with your requested arrival/departure schedule (request to speak with a UNM representative and alert them that you are attending an LTER hosted meeting).

Contact info: corporate@rgtravel.com [7], by phone 1-800-778-6861 or local: (505) 768-7979.
Rio Grande will contact the Network office for authorization and payment.

You may also purchase the airline ticket yourself and e-mail your itinerary to ggarcia7@unm.edu [8] or celinasunm@gmail.com [9]. Airfare will be reimbursed at an equivalent dollar value of a ticket purchased through Rio Grande Travel Economy/coach ticket

When making your travel arrangements, please consider that the IMC meeting officially begins on Monday, Sept 8 at 6:00pm and the EIMC conference ends on Thursday, Sept 11 (5pm, tentative). Your travel days are likely to be Monday and Friday, or for some westerners, Monday and Thursday evening.
LTER travel reimbursement form: http://intranet.lternet.edu/archives/documents/forms /travel_reimbursemen... [10]

Ground Travel
For getting to and from the University of New Mexico, the best value is public transportation: "Rapid Ride", about 1.3 miles.
The nearest Rapid Ride stop to the Hyatt is about 2 blocks away: Route 766 at Copper and 5th (El Camino Real), near the public library.
For UNM, you will want to get off at the UNM Station: Central and Yale.
Link to Rapid Ride map: http://www.cabq.gov/transit/documents/pdfs/mar08_766mon-sat.pdf [11]

Directions to UNM Student Union: coming soon

Shuttle service from the Albuquerque airport to the Hyatt Hotel can be scheduled through
Airport Shuttle 505-765-1234, or
Sunport (505-883-4966, www.sunportshuttle.com [12]) for about $8 each way.
Both shuttles have desks near baggage claim, and offer discounts on round trips.

Official City Website: http://www.cabq.gov [13]
Albuquerque On Line: Visit: http://www.itsatrip.org/events/default.aspx [14] to see calendar
of events, dining and nightlife, maps, etc. in Albuquerque.

Source URL: http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/news/meetings/2008/logistics

Links:
[1] http://www.unm.edu/campusmap.pdf
[2] http://www.unmsub.com/images/maps/unmmapcolor.pdf
[3] http://albuquerque.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/index.jsp
[4] http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=330 Tijeras NW,Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
87102&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=57.684464,66.533203&ie=UTF8&ll=35.086554,-106.650381&
spn=0.029533,0.032487&z=15&iwloc=addr
[5] https://conference.ecoinformatics.org/index.php/eim/
[6] http://albuquerque.hyatt.com/groupbooking/albuqudob2008
[7] mailto:corporate@rgtravel.com
[8] mailto:ggarcia7@unm.edu
[9] mailto:celinasunm@gmail.com
[10] http://intranet.lternet.edu/archives/documents/forms/travel_reimbursement_form_instructions.pdf
[11] http://www.cabq.gov/transit/documents/pdfs/mar08_766mon-sat.pdf
[12] http://www.sunportshuttle.com
[13] http://www.cabq.gov
[14] http://www.itsatrip.org/events/default.aspx

2008 IMC Meeting Participants

By cgries
Created 03/31/2008 - 11:55am

2008

Todd Ackerman (NWT)
Dan Bahauddin (CDR)
Karen Baker (PAL/CCE)
Dave Balsiger (NTL)
Barbara Benson (NTL)
Emery Boose (HFR)
James Brunt (LNO)
John Campbell (HBR)
John Carpenter (GCE)
James Conners (CCE)
Jincheng Gao (KNZ)
Hap Garritt (PIE)
Corinna Gries (CAP)
Don Henshaw (AND)
Jamie Hollingsworth (BNZ)
Hope Humphries (NWT)
Nicole Kaplan (SGS)
Mason Kortz (PAL)
Rebecca Koskela (BNZ)
Christine Laney (JRN)
Jim Laundre (ARC)
Eda Melendez-Colom (LUQ)
Bill Michener (LNO)
Barbara Nolen (JRN)
Margaret O'Brien (SBC)
Linda Powel (FCE)
Ken Ramsey (JRN)
Suzanne Remillard (AND)
Inigo San Gil (LNO)
Mark Servilla (LNO)
Wade Sheldon (GCE)
Susan Stafford (Guest)
Theresa Valentine (AND)
Chris Gardner (MCM)

John Porter (VCR)
Adam Skibbe (KNZ)
John Vande Castle (LNO)
Kristin Vanderbilt (SEV)
Bob Waide (LNO)
Jonathan Walsh (BES)
Marshall White (LNO)
Lynn Yarmey (PAL/CCE)

[1]

Source URL: http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/news/meetings/2008/participants

Links:
[1] http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/node/360

2008 IMC Meeting Agenda

By mobrien
Created 06/12/2008 - 10:24am

2008

September 8, arrive
Meeting Location: Hyatt Downtown ** FIESTA ROOM ** Second floor
6:00 - 6:30 Mixer
6:30 - 7:15 Working Dinner includes introductions around the room
7:15 - 8:30 Rotating discussion

1. **30 minutes, rotation after 15 minutes** How do you envision the next decade of information management at your site in light of the emerging CI implementation plan, SOA and network level CI developments?
2. **30 minutes, rotation after 15 minutes** How does your information system keep track of research projects as they develop, grow and build on one another?

September 9, one-day meeting
Meeting Location: UNM, Student Union (main room=Acoma, breakouts in main, plus Isleta & Luminaria)
8:00 Breakfast
8:30 – 8:45 Review agenda, IM priorities & meeting goals (Kaplan or Gries)
8:45- 10:00 Working Groups

1. Technological aspects of CI Implementation (organizer: Wade Sheldon)
identify/discuss highest priority "prototype" SOA applications for the network, LNO-IM collaborations, data access testing

2. Governance and Processes (organizer: Nicole Kaplan, Karen Baker)
This group will address general questions of IM and IMExec governance and the role of the different committees in network level CI implementation. Network level CI implementation will require the development and approval of standards and the setting of priorities. A network level process among standing committees is needed to address these issues. This working group will disucss the IMC view of which committee should have what responsibilities or authority and what IMC representation is needed.

3. GIS working group (organizer: Theresa Valentine)

10:00 - 10:15 BREAK
10:15-11:45 Working Groups

GIS working group will continue. (organizer: Theresa Valentine)

The following product oriented working groups are charged to address how the project will fit into the emerging CI implementation plan. That is, what are the goals, how will we decide when they are reached and the project is 'finished'. Please develop a work plan that outlines specific tasks, a timeline and who will be working on which task.

Controlled Vocabulary and attribute definitions (organizer: John Porter)
Unit Dictionary (organizer: Todd Ackerman)

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH
1:00 – 2:00 Business Meeting

- NISAC nominations and vote -- Ken Ramsey and Kristin Vanderbilt rotate off
- IMExec nominations and vote -- Margaret O'Brien and Eda Melendez-Colom rotate off
- Data bits update -- applying new technologies, Open Journal Software vs Drupal Module. Next editors: James Conners for 09-10, followed by Jason Downing
- The virtual water cooler (VTC updates) - feedback, technical issues, participation, schedule for fall
- The website - feedback, user friendlyness, suggestions for improvement

2:00 – 2:15 BREAK
2:15 – 3:15 Conference Call with Henry Gholz, NSF
3:15 - 4:15 Working Group Reports
4:15 – 5:00 Meeting Wrap-up
7:00 IMExec working dinner (location TBA)

Source URL: http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/news/meetings/2008/agenda

2008 IMC Meeting Evening Discussion Notes

By nkaplan
Created 12/10/2008 - 2:15pm

2008

September 8, 2008, IMC Evening Discussions:
1. How does your IMS keep track of research projects as they develop, grow and build on one another?
a. What is a project?
i. Level:
1. performed at the site, cross-site, or network-level
ii. Funding:
1. core lter or outside
2. site or student
3. define project by proposal
iii. Publications:
1. Projects should reference proposals and related publications
iv. Objective/purpose:
1. define specific research question/hypothesis based sampling
2. core monitoring
v. Thematic/domain:
1. will have lots of sub-projects
vi. Schedule:
1. long-term or short term
2. frequency of measurements,
3. oceanographic cruises
vii. Creator:
1. group of PIs or specific PI define(s) a project
2. database updated and reports out to creator(s)
3. Note many databases can be associated with a project
viii. Data and metadata:
1. Defined by data products
2. need to keep track of data ingestion
3. needs start date and end data
4. *EML related project tag?
ix. Other:
1. Lumped or split

2. Formal or informal
x. NSF related definition?
xi. LNO: a project is defined by a collaboration.
xii. IM project list
xiii. Proposed definition(s):
1. A project is a research question that will generate data and all kinds of activities with a specific structure to keep track of the data? But does this recognize how interconnected the research questions/projects are at a site or across sites?
2. Define a research project as related to dataset(s) available on the web. A project or research question may be associated with a specific dataset.
b. Project database uses and issues:
i. Should be helpful as a research tool
ii. Contain complete history of land/plot use
iii. Jurisdiction over land
iv. Organizational tensions over product rights
v. Contained (locations on land and restrictions on people on research site/station) or uncontained projects (ocean and no restrictions on open, public lands)
vi. Do all sites need to agree on what a projects is? (likely note) – need for flexibility?
vii. Hard to set up a system to track transformations as independent PIs and their projects merge and change over time
viii. Benefits of formalizing a documentation system likely outweighs the challenges in giving up control of project information to the system
ix. Increasing load on IMs to acquire the information for the system
x. Need for PIs to report research project information for the system
xi. Network-level projects may use existing personnelDB and siteDB

2. How do you envision the next decade of information management at your site in light of emerging CI implementation plan, SOA and network level CI developments?
a. Development and use of web services:
i. Split backend and frontend development, as with multiple interfaces into a single service
ii. LNO provide an environment for development, but do all the development
iii. Create registry of services and identify consistency among services
iv. Move from custom/proprietary solutions to open
v. Recognize economy of scale with shared functionality
vi. Discussion of Automation:
1. Develop articulation of how to change data practice
2. Not just automation, but rather computer assisted techniques
3. Collection of data in the field (i.e. veg data)
4. Depends on type of data in the collection
5. People have to be willing to adopt new technologies
6. People have to trust the automation
vii. Long-term perspective needs:
1. Standardization of data (i.e. sensor nets)
2. More citizen input during development
3. More plug and play of technology
4. More integration of data among and between sites, and with tabular and spatial data
5. More ontologies
6. Future we'll see more sophisticated users
viii. Need involvement from PIs
ix. Prioritize personnelDB, all-site bibliography, and data catalog

Source URL: http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/node/387

2008 IMC Meeting Notes

By jporter
Created 09/16/2008 - 2:32pm

<u>2008</u>

LTER IM meeting 9/9/2008

- A. Welcome
    - 1. review of VTCs
    - 2. Thanks for meeting organizers
- B. CI Implementation
    - 1. introduction
        - a) working to identify groups of people who can work on projects
        - b) strategies for funding etc.
        - c) some "cart before horse" - NSF likes CI initiatives, but less so big research programs, but CI is designed to support big research programs
            - 1) even so, we want candidates for near-term, long term
        - d) Initiatives for discussion
            - 1) Service-Oriented Architecture
                - a> schemas needed - use EML as starting point
                - b> longer term
                    - 1> new applications based on web services
                    - 2> POP nodes at sites
            - 2) Building CI capacity at sites
                - a> continue work on quality of EML documents
                - b> prototype design for proxy service for providing data
                - c> unit dictionary -> standardized attributes
                - d> common tools etc.
                - e> automating data collection in field
                - f> prioritize datasets - and provide more network support for them
            - 3) Build CI capacity to improve data discovery access and integration
                - a> links to other networks
                - b> new observational data model, DOIs, LSIDs
                - c> frameworks for exploring data spaces
                - d> distibuted queries

- e) need to come up with operational plan - who, when, what
  - 1) need strong use cases, plan, when will be finished
- 2. Discussion
  - a) has NISAC met with as group with other network groups?
    - 1) not so far
    - 2) EIMC helps start, but science side of NISAC not here
  - b) what is expected in terms of getting money to do these things
    - 1) EB tasked us with coming up with plan, but without definite expectations - open ended, looking for next steps
  - c) Here I'd like to hear what IM community things are logical, high priority CI initiatives (use cases important) and how they would help science move forward
  - d) we need to develop new culture of getting site IMs working with LNO on long-term projects
    - 1) LNO renewal proposal has funding for exchanges of presonnel - mini sabatticals for several weeks
      - a> also LNO folks visit sites
      - b> no guarantee of funding
      - c> also workshop funding
  - e) in context need to talk about CONCEPTS that we use - words are used differently
    - 1) e.g., what is a research project - we need ot agree on what we mean by that!
    - 2) framework is a lot more than the technology
  - f) comunality - before you can build, need common understanding - not a trivial first step
    - 1) using IM web site - more formalizm for projects would help
    - 2) I agree- "what is a dataset" was a big discussion in EML
    - 3) we are starting to chip away on this
  - g) CI and science plan are separated out, for proposed science plan need CI component
    - 1) NSF is leaning towards CI
    - 2) CI can go across many projects
  - h) need to priortize
    - 1) we are small group
    - 2) getting funding is expensive in terms of time to write proposals
  - i) ESRI has really neat web services toolkit
    - 1) might be able to extend to work with EML
    - 2) incorporates LDAP etc.
    - 3) can be ported to content management systems
    - 4) demo of ESRI portal was powerful way to look at power of SOA
    - 5) freely available to customers
    - 6) for $20K they will do a weeks worth of training
    - 7) potential out-of-box solution
      - a> JAVA-based
      - b> web services
  - j) expect similar things to come up on horizion - tiger teams
    - 1) rapid response teams

- k) our site has no ESRI products.... liked EML mode with adding higher and higher levels
    - 1) can't move in lock step
- l) could task group with being early adopters of certain technologies - evaluation
    - 1) but communication is key
- m) need to define how packages will work together.... need to expose data in standard ways regardless of backend
    - 1) focus on defining interfaces
        - a> web services can do the rest
    - 2) be very careful and specific - web service not equal to web services
- n) ESRI solution is not typical ARCGIS product, open source, WGS, OGC etc. standards used
    - 1) need to be cautious, lots of examples where things have changed and caused problems
- o) potential uses - functionality first!
- p) dissemination of information is most important
    - 1) web site can help
    - 2) would be good to have some active forums
    - 3) confusing at times - hard to find stuff
- 3. Around the room - prioritizing
    - a) make LNO data SOA accessible - eliminate duplication of site and network data
    - b) better tools for visualization and accessing data
    - c) dealing with sensors and high volume data flows
        - 1) best practicies
    - d) like to start consuming LNO net services
    - e) like to see IM web site have more on individual projects are doing - more visitbility of site IM projects
        - 1) blogs?
    - f) identifying one or more core datasets available as web services
        - 1) web services, slow to get ball rolling, but then becomes second nature
    - g) search interfaces to image archive
    - h) expand wireless coverage to cover research area
        - 1) technology seed money would help
        - 2) expanding infrastructure to support sensor networks
        - 3) moores law for storing data
    - i) EML/Metadata editor - online system
    - j) GIS archive
        - 1) GEO servers,
        - 2) what would help at NET level?
            - a> exchange standards
    - k) interoperation between sites and LNO, want some level of formalism - use cases, to specifications, to project plan
        - 1) helps with communication and conceptual mismatches
    - l) hardware issues - GIS database, modeling, human dimensions, video data etc. huge

- m) want to finish unit dictionary and controlled vocabulary
  - 1) different spatial and temporal dimensions hard to translate
  - 2) often need B to get from A to C
- n) clear expectations and deliverables, what will be outsourced, collaborations outside IMC
- o) web services for synchronization of data
- p) bunch of stuff
  - 1) QA/QC
  - 2) security
  - 3) lots of time just managing the web server
  - 4) metadata standards
  - 5) more standardization of data models, more sharing of models
- q) would be nice if ecotrends requests weren't an add-on - needed to go outside LTER for some data - more advance notice helps
- r) QA/QC for streaming data
- s) synchronization of personnel database
- t) QA/QC - better exchange of information
- u) want to be able to share data in structured ways to link sites together
  - 1) formalized ways to exchange information
  - 2) ways to show info from other sites on our web page
  - 3) better use of network-level stuff
- v) using EML metadata in association with web services
  - 1) interlinking personnel, data, publications
- w) clear expecations for CI
- x) data preservation - better techniques, more formalized
- C. Business Meeting
  - 1. IMEXEC election
    - a) O'Brien
    - b) Remillard
  - 2. Publication System for DataBits
    - a) tried open pub. system, but too complicated
    - b) use drupal (HTML formatting)
    - c) images are attached (may be able to configure)
    - d) what would role of editor be?
      - 1) move articles around, make corrections
  - 3. Editors - James and Jason
  - 4. questions
    - a) will it be possible to search ones in all systems?
  - 5. also want to list data management publications
    - a) informatics publications doesn't include too many
    - b) LNO database
      - 1) but need to add Information Management as keyword to publications
  - 6. NISAC Election
    - a) Vanderbilt
    - b) Porter
  - 7. VTCs
    - a) only one person had a problem

- 1) HBR has problems
- b) JRN get logged off when LNO uses older unit
- c) some headphone issues
- d) lots of bord looking faces - need to get more to chime in
  - 1) "around the screen" - intros and for discussion
  - 2) remember the phone folks!
- e) having two sessions can be difficult
- f) run sessions efficiently!
- g) could also have recordings (but really DO need live...)
- h) what are limits?
  - 1) technical problems
  - 2) not always clear how to call using conventional phone
- i) discussions on connections and redialing... James monitors
- j) future VTCs - 1 per month
  - 1) LNO projects
  - 2) CI survey
  - 3) ILTER
  - 4) ASM Planning
  - 5) Microbial ecology metadata
  - 6) data access tools
  - 7) can we schedule additional meetings?
    - a> YES - don't hold back!
- k) great energy from VTCs help ramp up to this meeting - helped working groups
- l) LNO can provide some additional cameras and software....
- m) comments on days and times?
  - 1) want uniform way of reporting times - Always Eastern?
  - 2) Mondays 3-4 ET
  - 3) Tuesdays 11-12 ET
- n) Need coordinator for VTCs
  - 1) job
    - a> talk to presenter
    - b> set up Doodle
    - c> talk to James
  - 2) Suzanne Remillard volunteers
- 8. Preparation for Henry Gholz
  - a) background - concern with FINDING DATA at LTER sites
    - 1) wants standardized ways of finding this data
    - 2) EB attention is strong on this issue
    - 3) need standardized interface for finding and accessing data
    - 4) want data NOT through site websites but rather through data catalog
- D. VTC with Henry Gholz and Todd Crowl
  - 1. Report from NSF
    - a) Todd formerly with LUQ LTER new addition
    - b) 11 site visits - sucessful
    - c) also LNO site visit
    - d) Peter McCartney will be there on conference
    - e) renewal panel - had 6 proposals
  - 2. comments and observations regarding information management

- a) all regarding networking in LTER and wider community
    - 1) you all occupied with site details, but we can talk about larger issues
    - 2) can talk about metadata and data across sites now!
    - 3) FEON - Federation of Environmental Observing Networks
        - a> long overdue
        - b> LTER is represented
        - c> urge you to stay involved and be proactive
            - 1> synergies in both directions
    - 4) EIMC - looks excellent - congrats to organizers and participants
        - a> good to see open meeting, got tremendous response
        - b> lots of networks have bought into this
    - 5) good leadins to ASM
    - 6) also interested in ILTER development
- 3. Good cop bad cop - issues of concern
    - a) great job on metadata - rave reviews on transition to EML and data catalog
    - b) continuing problem - most of reviewers can find lots of metadata but datasetss themselves are not easily accessible (lots of type II data? probably not!)
        - 1) hard time finding real data on site's web sites
        - 2) want to be able to locate "core datasets"
    - c) discussion
        - 1) is it that they are having finding data at all, or having difficulty identifying core data:
            - a> not clear what core datasets are
            - b> not just finding data at all
            - c> problem: PIs listed in proposal, but datasets for PI are not found
            - d> problem is more accute at SITE level - locating specific data you need is difficult
            - e> even if go through Metacat, only find data with metadata
            - f> suggestion - have each sites identify core metadata or categorization from Metacat
            - g> where IS all this other data???? the stuff with no metadata?
        - 2) Issue of enhancing data discovery in terms of categories - we've been working on controlled vocabularies - have been focusing on research regarding words used etc. closer to having real projects
        - 3) at CWT looked at "core" data several years ago - but haven't heard about "core" data since - not really clear what "core" data is..... On all data being online, some PIs are recalcitrant on contributing.... so we have to devote 500 to 1000 hours to tracking it down... So we need to know what IS core area and need to enforce more on getting data delivered..... Standardization - want some similarity between web sites - we have global search
            - a> we recognize these concerns - will be talking to PIs about

- core areas
        - b> is there opportunity to build on standards for web site content?
- 4) We have talked about web sites standardization... its difficult however - but it is easier to do SiteDB to create standard view with data link etc.
    - a> Have LNO web site be clearinghouse for core data?
    - b> much more difficult to get individual sites...
    - c> Ecotrends as a model for categorization of core data?
        - 1> does not reflect LTER core areas directly....
        - 2> also some missing categories that have LTER datasets
    - d> sense of urgency is that every 2 years sites are reviewed - you don't want to be in situation of setting a new precident each time
- 5) Review panels - only spend a modest amount of time on searching for data of interest to them.... heads up that this will be important that they can find data in the future - IMs have done useful things in past - but need to continue to revise standards
    - a> would be good to come up with categories for organizing the data.... what is not achievable is making it so any possible term will be found - would require cutting edge ontology research
        - 1> need hierarchy - and that is a few years off
        - 2> but we COULD agree on some categories so that both we and them know what is required
    - b> may need to move away from core datasets... but categories might be do-able
        - 1> easier to do
- 6) Useful to get feedback from NSF on expectations... are core areas still categories to use?
    - a> things may be more fluid than the old core areas
    - b> categories of data might be best way to go
    - c> instead of core data, could identify 5 datasets that your site wants to highlight.....
        - 1> thinking of how painful and protracted ecotrends was!
    - d> close to top of hill on metadata, but begs question of next issue - volume of data and ease of finding it.....
    - e> example of review from site review: looked for Long term data, could find USGS, climate stations, NOAA data but NOT LTER data! - damning statement
        - 1> want long term datasets
        - 2> realize it starts with scientists giving data (but I am behind :))
- 7) will be meeting with EB subcommittee to come up with list of

suggested categories - will add that as recommendation to web or review criteria
- a> sounds good
- 8) this is first time we've talked about endusers being in charge of getting the results that they want... turning corner
  - a> we want to be flagship for sharing data
  - b> lots of discussion in federal govenment about data sharing and we want LTER to be model
- 9) in past we discussed internally the LEVEL at which sites have participated - Ecotrends has been a chance for "lessons learned"
  - a> ecotrends created furor in every site
  - b> want to build on that momentum!
  - c> I remember Don Henshaw helping me put together information
on who is up to date at ClimDB - very helpful!
- 10) PIs come home with certain level of appreciation as well!
- 11) In annual report, should we ask PIs to try to identify what they would hang hat on as major datasets from site?
  - a> sounds good
  - b> or as appendix in proposal
  - c> is place to list datasets and web sites - but its highly variable - some list everything in huge long list.... often you are rporting data sets gotten from elsewhere - not LTER specific....
    - 1> but sometimes data from other programs would not be there
without LTER
- 12) what would be best way to structure reports?
  - a> good to have examples etc.
- 13) Would be helpful to see some "ideal" sections to use as guidelines
  - a> will try to look for some....
- 14) Todd - I'd like my graduate students to be able to do Ecotrends type things on the fly - easily
- 15) some sites are doing some innovative prototypes, look to LUQ
- 16) liked use cases that Todd was speaking to, but those kinds of examples are very useful - what researchers want system to do.
- 4. Last thoughts
  - a) we are too a realm where what we are talking about is connection between data and the science it can enable. Need IMs, PIs and data operating in the same room!
- E. Working Group Reports
  - 1. Governance
    - a) principles of governance
    - b) informal vs formal decision making
    - c) reviewed how decisions were made
      - 1) adoption of EML

- 2) meeting planning processes
    - d) Action items
        - 1) will document use cases
        - 2) need to revisit old vision statement
    - e) discussion
        - 1) always better to write your OWN vision statement than to have someone else write it for you
        - 2) would be good to involve old chairs in the process
- 2. Cyberinfrastructure
    - a) need framework
    - b) lots of different perspectives on CI - need good ways of communicating
    - c) need more discipiline on keeping up with web material describing activities
        - 1) LNO needs specifics!
        - 2) also useful for sites
    - d) early on need to have well defined interfaces and exchange standards
        - 1) some "web services" don't produce usable products
    - e) some sites limited in personnel and IT hardware - need some targeted investments to bring in staff and hardware
    - f) what would be a priority over the next year
        - 1) web services interfaces to LNO databases
            - a> leverage on site websites
            - b> synchronizing automatically between site and LNO
    - g) Portal toolkits from ESRI and other simlar products might solve lots of problems - need groups to test
    - h) Generalized quality control tools for streaming data - high volume datasets
        - 1) ways to organize and house data
    - i) money was requested in LNO budget to support visits to and from LNO
    - j) discussion
        - 1) how do you see discussion of working group continuing....
            - a> working on NISAC meeting in a few weeks
            - b> may solicit email feedback to present to NISAC
            - c> forum on IM web site for continuing discussion
        - 2) in terms of items in LNO, when do you hear back on proposal?
            - a> initial budget advice in a couple weeks
            - b> but then several month process involving IMEXEC, EB and
              possibly NISAC
            - c> some things need to be shopped around to other programs
            - d> enhancing site's abilities to work with LNO is high priority
- 3. GIS
    - a) integration of GIS in CI
    - b) will be coming up with whitepaper

- 1) speciific areas
  - a> land use /land cover needs
    - 1> try grouping sites based on TRENDS data
      - a: distance from population centers
      - b: tourism impacts
      - c: let those groups define priorities for years and intervals
      - d: work at ASM
      - e: contrast LU/LC between sites - id models
      - f: Barbara Nolan will work on initial grouping
  - b> emerging technologies - issues in the next 10 years
    - 1> LIDAR data
    - 2> historical photos
    - 3> web servers
    - 4> use that to build session at ASM
  - c> open GIS consortium stnadards
    - 1> how they match up with EML etc.
    - 2> make sure we are compatible with main stream
- c) discussion
  - 1) there is EML to FGDC stylesheet...
    - a> yes but that is only part of what we need
- d) specific workplan for GIS server for basic information on every site
  - 1) gathering all the data together in one place - Barrie has offered to do at CWT
    - a> data
      - 1> site boundaries
      - 2> DEMs
    - b> other group will work on basic interface
    - c> requirements for what web server will be like
    - d> rollout to IM community in March of basic data
    - e> something final for ASM - proof of concept
- e) look at portal toolkits - what functionality they offer
- f) clearinghouse web site for data services
  - 1) add links
- g) need to use forum more...
- h) best practices in GIS - will be working on that
- i) training needs for GIS
- 4. Controlled Vocabulary
  - a) see powerpoint and notes on im web site
- 5. Unit dictionary
  - a) see powerpoint - only discussion here
  - b) discussion
    - 1) test groups will see if best practices are OK
    - 2) units and attributes are linked...
- F. Announcements
  - 1. "Projects" Project group will meet informally at 5:30 in poster room
    - a) have some money from LNO to support
- G. Next Steps

- 1. report will be circulated
- 2. survey on meeting needed?
    - a) email potential questions to IMEXEC
- 3. thanks for coming!

Source URL: http://intranet.lternet.edu/im/news/meetings/2008/notes