

Education “Mini-Symposium”

Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program



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LTER, BIO/DEB

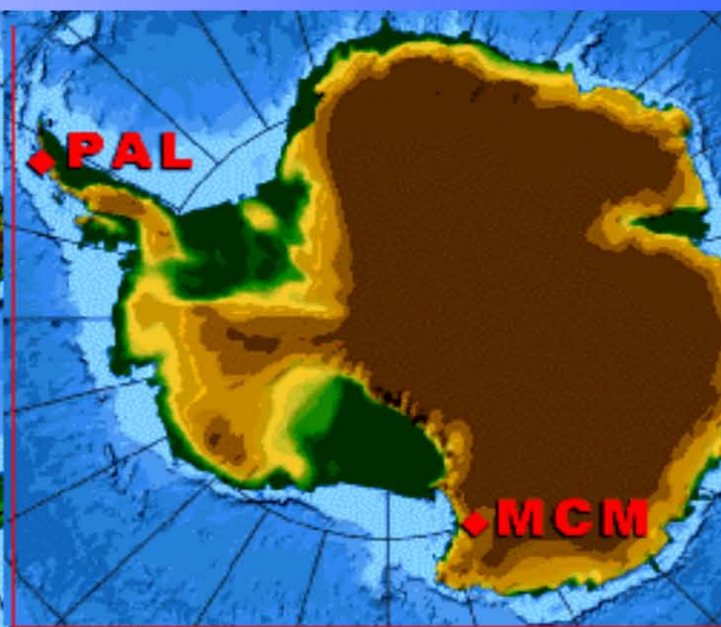


NSF's LTER Program

- **Began in 1980 with 6 sites**
- **Now: 24 field sites, 1 Network Office**
- **6 USFS collaborative sites (other agencies)**
- **\$19M annual budget (\$16M core)**
- **5 NSF Directorates contribute to core funding**

LTER is committed to:

- **Understanding general ecological phenomena over long time and broad spatial scales**
- **Conducting major synthesis and theoretical efforts**
- **Providing information for identification and solution of societal problems**
- **Creating a legacy of well-designed and documented long-term experiments and observations**



NSF LTER Sites
in the U.S. and
the Antarctic

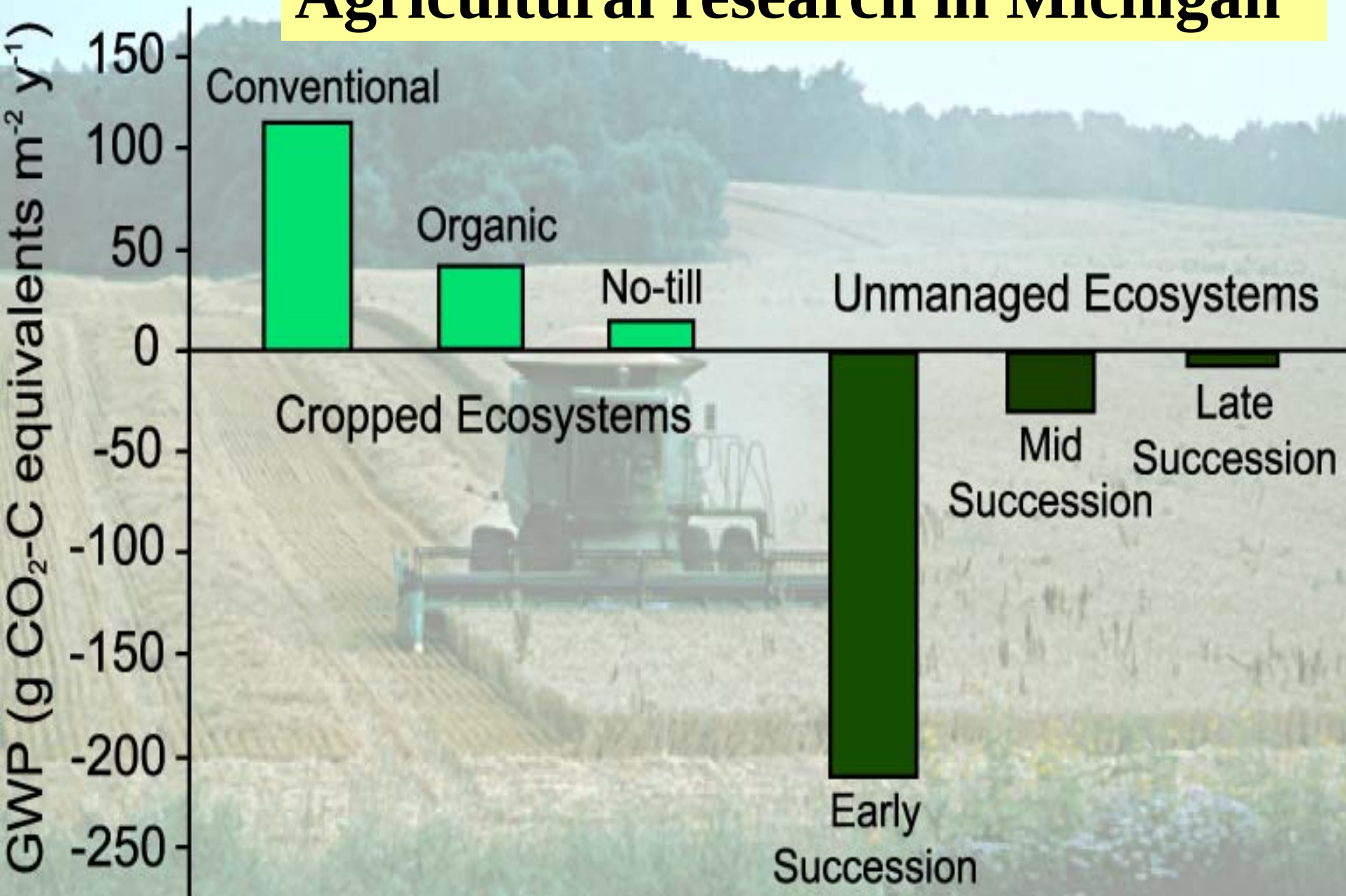
Urban research in Baltimore and Phoenix



Experimental wildfires in Alaska



Agricultural research in Michigan



McMurdo Dry Valleys, Antarctica



LTER FOCI:

**Keeping the science at the frontier -
pushing the paradigms**

Network/cross-site/Int. research

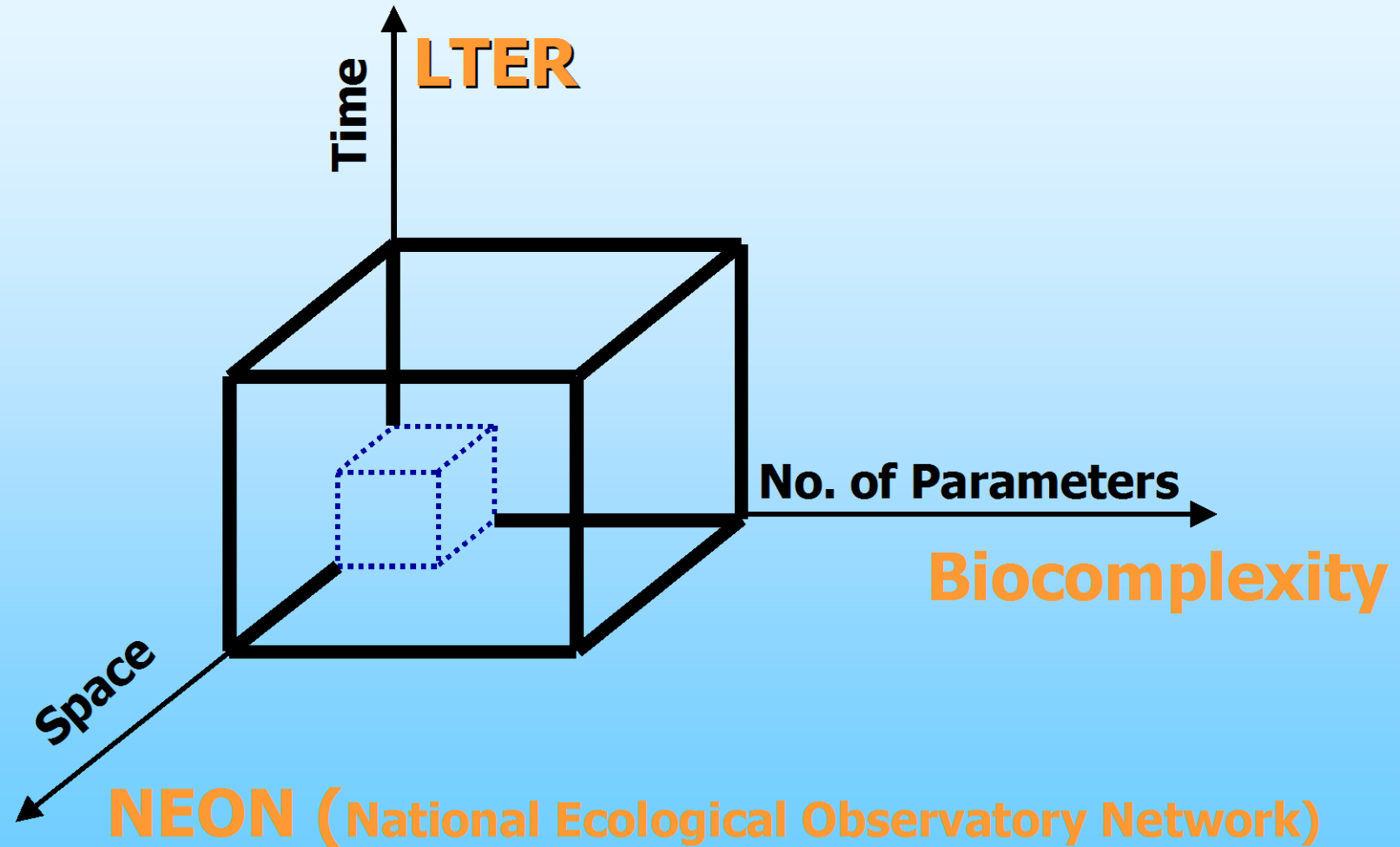
Information management

Education and outreach

2001 – 2010:

“The Decade of Synthesis”

Where does LTER fit in NSF/BIO?



LTER Funding Sources at NSF (FY 02)

Director

Offices:

International Prog. (INT)
Polar Programs (OPP)*

Directorates:

Biological Sciences (DEB)*
Education & Human Res. (EHR)*
Geosciences (BIO-OCE)*
Social, Behav. & Econ. Sci. (SBE)*



LTER education funding:

- REUs
- UMEB
- Grad students
- Post-docs
- RAMHSS
- ROAs
- Professional Training (e.g., in IM, expt. Design), incl. INT
- Schoolyard LTERs

Opportunities for Enhancing the Use of LTER Sites and Projects in Education