

Minutes of the LTER Executive Board Meeting
April 22, 2009; 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm EDT; by Videoconference

1. Meeting called to order at noon by Chair Phil Robertson; Members attending: Ted Gragson, Corinna Gries, Peter Groffman, Sarah Hobbie, Sally Holbrook, Dave McGuire, Dan Reed, Bob Waide; Unavailable: Berry Lyons, Steve Pennings, Mark Williams
2. Minutes for February 25, 2009, meeting were approved by consent.
3. Updates
 - a. Site funding outlook. Site supplement and increment funding appears ready for release once FY09 budget guidelines are in place at NSF; word is that decisions have been made on supplements, and that year 1 increments for sites renewed last year will be funded through their supplement requests. Paperwork is said to be awaiting formal approval of FY09 spending guidelines.
 - b. LNO renewal proposal status. Bob Waide reported on delayed status of the LNO renewal proposal; funds for the base appear ready to be released once FY09 spending guidelines are finalized; the Decadal Plan piece and increment portion are awaiting stimulus approval.
 - c. ASM 2009. Planning is going well apart from an early housing registration glitch. All plenary speakers are confirmed. Five workshop proposals have been received to date. Waide visited Estes Park last week and reports that new facilities including meeting and housing facilities will be an improvement over the last meeting.
 - d. Discussions about new NAB chair ongoing.
4. Potential cyberinfrastructure augmentation.

Corinna Gries and Bob Waide in consultation with IM group have constructed a 2-page prospectus for a potential stimulus-funded cyberinfrastructure effort that will provide site-based resources for coordinated EML implementation. Proposed activities, projected to cost ca. \$200k/site, are derived from goals in the CI strategic plan. NSF is aware of the effort and cautiously supportive.
5. LNO Performance Survey

The draft LNO performance survey was circulated to EB members over past 3-4 days. The survey is a web-based version of the instrument developed by the EB over the past 18 months, assembled and further edited by the University of New Mexico Public Policy Institute. Following discussion, group consensus is that it is ready to send out to all-LTER, recognizing that it is a living survey that will undergo revision based on evolving activities of the LNO and changing needs of the community. Survey responses will be used for LNO review at May EB meeting. It was suggested that Robertson send out a pre-survey email to all-Lter to increase response rate.
6. SC / San Diego

SC Science Program chair Peter Groffman reported that the science program has been finalized and distributed; the only remaining task is to develop a specific charge for workgroups, which he will do together with Robertson within a week. Robertson presented a provisional agenda for the business meeting and discussion resulted in the addition of a CI discussion (pending the potential augmentation, above). Next SC meetings will be at PIE (2010), MCR (2011), and GCE (2012).
7. 30-year anniversary

Robertson reported that a proposal for an AAAS symposium is in the works, around ISSE theme with Scott Collins' help. Other 30-year activities will need discussion over the next few months to ensure adequate lead time to enact.
8. Upcoming Meetings

- a. May 12-14, 2009 EB/SC Meeting San Diego
- b. Summer EB meetings TBA
- c. September 13, 1-5pm (Estes Park; pre-ASM)

9. Meeting adjourned 1:20 p.m.