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IM Exec meeting 2007-08-05

Fri, 09/14/2007 - 3:33am — cgries

Agenda:

1. 2007 IMC meeting wrap up and comments
2. budget planning for IMC needs to be delivered to LNO

Attending: Corinna, Nicole, Barbara, Don, John C, Eda, Margaret, Todd, Barrie, Duane (rep for James)

Absent: Hap

1. 2007 Meeting:

There was a lot of interest in this meeting (and LTER –IM in general) among the outside community, and we tried to engage GIS scientists. We'd like to encourage both interactions again. However, neither our usual format nor logistics/budget held up well when we tried to scale up.

Town hall discussion: Was a great idea and successful overall.

However, GIS theme got lost and we should have followed up with working groups concerned with issues from the town hall discussion. The working groups and business that followed did not involve the speakers well, and so the momentum of the town hall discussion was lost.

Better: one key note speaker and then panel discussion. Short introduction of panel members. Give every panel member the chance for a closing statement (instead of an intro talk).

Poster session:

More organization required, e.g. assign poster numbers, label sections, assign time slots for poster authors to be available. Distribute demonstration throughout the room, also with time slots. No big screen for demos, because it dominates the room and turns it into a talk.

For a larger meeting, we need tighter scheduling. But keep spontaneity for smaller meetings. Boards and tacks would have worked better than the walls, but boards were expensive, and little lead-time on the number of posters to expect made ordering them not feasible.

Schedule:

Too packed. Stick to times allowed for talks, limit number of slides.

Concentrate on fewer things to accomplish.

Only one exciting new thing per meeting. E.g. evening presentation by a keynote speaker or panel discussion.

Allow for more continuous time for working groups.

Future meetings: We could try a different meeting style given the interest in LTER-im. Propose a 3-year cycle:

- i. year 1: meet at ASM, the IMC has 1 day alone before the general meeting starts and runs its working groups on the "discipline day" centered around themes.
- ii. year 2: small mtg, IMC and limited guests (current format)
- iii. year 3: issue an open invitation to informatics partners and other IM groups. Planning would have to start earlier, and logistic arrangements require a larger group.

Likely emerging pattern:

2006: met with ASM

2007: small meeting

2008: open/interagency meeting

2009: meet with ASM

2010: small meeting...

2. Budget:

Requests to outline the IMC needs for LNO budget negotiations.

1. considered dropping the IM Exec winter meeting and applying this money elsewhere. But this meeting has 2 important functions: planning the annual IMC meeting and writing the annual report to the EB, so face-time over 2 days is critical.
 2. Annual IM meeting is important to the IMC.
Use 3-yr cycle above. No major changes in total, but budget should cover individual rooms and flexibility in travel dates. Consider cheaper venues (Albuquerque) rather than hub-cities. Drop ESA link. Use weekdays. Probably no catering.
 3. Working groups
Two workshops per year – proposal based
 4. Training
Two training session per year – committee to decide subjects and priorities
 5. Mini sabbaticals
For time spent either at LNO or another site during which intense development or technology transfer takes place – proposal based
 6. IM rep to attend other meetings
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