



## LTER Intranet

Serving the LTER Community

Report From LTER Climate Committee

Submitted by Doug Goodin, Committee Chair

Recent climate committee activity has focused on the transition from the successful CVER (Climate Variability and Ecosystem Response) project to a follow-up project aimed at studying the ecological effects of extreme climate events. The edited volume *Climate Variability and Ecosystem Response at Long-Term Ecological Research Sites*, a summary of the results of the CVER project, appeared in September as one of the LTER synthesis volume series. This volume included 21 submitted chapters, presenting the results of research conducted at a variety of temporal scales and at several LTER sites, together with synthesis material written by the volume's co-editors.

To capitalize on the success of the CVER program, the climate committee has recently begun a new research initiative, termed the Extreme Events Working Group (XEWG). The XEWG formed as the result of a climate committee workshop at the Seattle ASM. The potential importance of extreme events in ecosystem studies and the relative paucity of knowledge about them represent a unique opportunity for research within the LTER network. The LTER network encompasses sites representing a variety of ecosystems and, more importantly, a deep reservoir of knowledge of the workings of those ecosystems. In addition, the network provides a mechanism for communicating both data and ideas. The XEWG will use these capabilities to generate a cross-site, synthetic approach to studying extreme events. The working group is currently still getting organized; a workshop is scheduled for late June, at which organization, research goals, and science questions will be formulated. The XEWG is patterned after the CVER project, thus I anticipate a similar organizational approach. Once a series of organizing science questions are defined, we will invite LTER scientists to submit chapters, addressing these questions on a topic or site(s) of their choice. These chapters will then be assembled into an edited volume.

In addition to these research initiatives, the climate committee continues to serve the LTER network by contributing to the generation and revision of climate observation standards, and by supporting the data manager's ClimDB project.

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