

Minutes of the LTER Executive Board Meeting
September 20, 2007; Videoconference

1. Meeting called to order at 2:40 by Chair Phil Robertson; members present: Peter Groffman, Morgan Grove, Don Henshaw, Sarah Hobbie, Sally Holbrook, Chuck Hopkinson (arr 3:30), Sherri Johnson, Berry Lyons, Steve Pennings, Dan Reed, Bob Waide; members absent: none.
2. Information Items
 - a. 2008 Minisymposium date finalized: Thursday Feb 28, a.m.; EB will meet Feb 27 (all day). Organizers – Terry Chapin, David Foster, Steward Pickett.
3. Minutes for August 31, 2007, meeting approved by consent.
4. Network Research Plan status and approval

First full draft of the integrated research plan as prepared by the writing team was circulated prior to the meeting; Robertson reviewed timeline and progress to date; the draft document generated substantial discussion, centered on adequacy of introduction, cohesiveness of whole, need to emphasize uniqueness of LTER for addressing thematic questions, and executive summary characteristics. Also discussed different strategies for approving, which led to motion by Johnson to approve the plan provisional to its addressing the points above (as judged by the chair); supported by Pennings. Following brief additional discussion the motion passed unanimously.
5. Network Education Plan status and approval

New draft of the network strategic plan was received and circulated prior to the meeting; Robertson solicited comments from EB members, who noted tremendous improvement over prior draft. Discussion ensued; comments noted that it is still somewhat wordy, some goals and targets repetitive, lacks a clear vision statement, and lacks an overall view of how the plan will contribute to education research. Following discussion, motion made by Hobbie, supported by Pennings, to accept the plan provisional to its addressing the points noted as judged by the EB chair. The motion passed unanimously.
6. Other
 - b. Next meetings:
 - i. October 4 2:30-5:00 ET
 - ii. November 1, 12:30-3:00 ET
 - iii. December 13 2:30-5:00 ET
7. Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.