

Climate Committee Report
2005 Fall Coordinating Committee
Douglas G. Goodin, Committee Chair

The LTER Climate Committee continues its role in overseeing climate data, observations, and records across the LTER network. In the past year, this has involved consultation with several sites concerning climate data observation standards and practices. During these consultations, it has been noted that nearly ten years have passed since the last revision of network climate data and observation standards. Members of the committee are therefore reviewing climate standards with an eye toward updating those areas where standards are inadequate or out of date.

Members of the Climate Committee are also involved in a cross-site research initiative to study the effects of extreme climatic events on ecosystems. A two-day workshop was held in June, 2004 to outline the extreme events project and formulate a set of hypotheses and questions to guide the research. Based on this workshop, a preliminary analysis of extremes at a subset of terrestrial LTER sites is currently underway. In May, results of these preliminary analyses were presented at the ASCE annual conference on global change and hydrology in Anchorage AK. Publications based on the preliminary analysis are in preparation.