

**Annual LTER Committee Report
for 2010-11**

Today's date: May 10, 2011

Committee: Synthesis (formerly Legacy) Data Committee

Chair: Peter Groffman

Current committee composition (no changes since May 2010):

Emery Boose
James Brunt
Ted Gragson
Don Henshaw
Dave McGuire
Margaret O'Brien
Debra Peters
Wade Sheldon
Mark Williams

Frequency / Number of times met in 2010-11 (since May 2010): 3 conference calls

Activities / accomplishments since May 2010:

- Prepared a prospectus to develop a synthesis effort of “Data from the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Network to Support Synthesis at Site to Continental Scales.”
- Produced a report to the Executive Board (EB) to provide ideas for how the synthesis effort described above could be implemented using a funding model where a consulting firm is hired to work with site Information Managers and scientists to discover, modify, and provide data in network information system (NIS)-appropriate format.
- Drafted a “solicitation” letter to recruit sites to participate in the synthesis effort described above.

Plans for leadership transitions, if any:

Plans for 2011-12:

- Work with the EB to hire a consultant to work with this committee, the LNO and UNM purchasing agents to formulate the Request for Proposals for the synthesis effort.
- Work with the EB to recruit sites to be in a prototype group to develop the synthesis effort.
- Work with several groups (e.g., EB, NISAC, EcoTrends) to develop informatics and scientific standards for synthesis.
- Work with several groups (e.g., EB, NISAC, EcoTrends) to develop network and broader scientific community priorities for synthesis datasets.