

## **Report of the Climate Committee for the Spring 2010 Science Council meeting**

### Membership

Bruce Hayden (VCR)  
Nel Caine (NWT)  
Douglas Moore (SEV)  
Kurt Chowanski (NWT)  
Sharon Stammerjohn (PAL)  
Adrian Burd (GCE)  
John Campbell (HBR)  
Emery Boose (HFR)  
Marc Stieglitz (ARC)  
Don Henshaw (AND)  
Danila Dijon (GCE)  
Pete Edmunds (MCR)  
Steve Davis (FCE)  
Kathy Welch (MCM)  
Steve Hamilton (KBS)  
Sergio Dos Santos (STRI)  
Peter Doran (MCM)  
John Anderson (JRN)  
James Brunt (LNO)  
Mark Losleben (USA NPN)  
Art Miller (CCE)  
John Magnuson (NTL)  
Glenn Juday (BZN)  
Kirstin Dow (BES)  
Julia Jones (AND)

### **Leadership**

One year ago Bruce Hayden took over leadership of the Climate Committee in time to organize a meeting (workshop) at the 2009 ASM. In preparation for the ASM, the roster of the committee was updated with a member from each LTER Site. The membership roster of the committee needs to be “refreshed” from time to time. A report on the workshop was submitted to LNO. My personal commitment to serving as chair of the Climate Committee runs through the next ASM. Health reasons may require me to step down in that time frame. In any case, rotation of leadership is a good idea and the next ASM is a good time to set that process in motion.

## **Accomplishments:**

Reconstitution of the Climate Committee leadership and membership was accomplished in 2009 (see the roster list above). A successful ASM meeting/workshop of the Climate Committee was held and a report submitted to LNO.

## **Issues and Opportunities**

Two climate research groups have emerged independent of the climate committee. One is on hurricanes and ecosystems and the other on sea level rise and Atlantic Coast storms. These activities emerged independent of the Climate Committee and I have joined in on the hurricanes and ecosystems group. It is encouraging that such new efforts come into being.

Hydrology interests on the part of a majority of the climate committee membership and on other interested parties who attended the climate committee workshop at the ASM. Participants at that meeting recommended that the climate committee become the climate and hydrology committee. The name Climate and Waters Committee was suggested. Science council views on this would be appreciated.

I believe that climate research across the network is sufficiently strong that two new Oxford volumes might be in order: "Climate change at LTER Sites" and "Hydrological Dynamics at LTER Sites." I would like to talk with the Publications Committee regarding this and perhaps formalize contents and authors at a workshop at next ASM.

The recent NSF call for letters of intent and planning grants on Climate and Education (global or regional in scale) I, as climate committee chair, am working with a group led by Andy Anderson at MSU. The main partners are LTER, National Geographic and BCSC. This would be a "global" scale proposal. It is my understanding that two other "regional?" proposals are being crafted: one in the arid Southwest with LTER participation and the other for the New England Forests, also with LTER participation. Other proposals with LTER participation might also be in the works. It would be good to meet with the LTER Education Committee and each of the groups working on this.

IM / Climate Committee programs and products have resulted in a number of climate/hydrology data and document products. Some are out of date in that new sites have joined the network and additional sites joining the network is a realistic expectation. Updating is always a back-burner activity but periodic evaluation might be a good thing.

## **Barriers to progress**

As best I can tell, age and time are the greatest barriers. The first law of demographics informs us that, “everyone gets one year older every year.” However, I have learned this past year that LTER has matured each year to the point where climate related activities bubble-up independently of the Climate Committee and this is good. Barriers to bubble-up have weakened. Education and climate activities see to be at a boil.

## **Recommendation on committee continuation**

It was the sense of the membership of the Climate Committee as well as non-members at the ASM Climate workshop hydrology be co-joined with the Climate Committee. As standing committees serve with the blessing of the Science Council, approval of this recommendation be looked on favorably.