

## **Cross site analysis and synthesis of arts and humanities engagement within LTER**

PI – Michael P. Nelson

During this project, researchers engaged in a number of activities.

First, they conducted a literature review of key themes in the research across disciplines. Second, they conducted methods and methodology reading and literature collation. Third, they read background literature review of arts and science collaborations and projects, intellectual reasoning for this kind of work, and effectiveness and assessment techniques for projects. Fourth, they conducted literature research in preparation for the creation of more developed research questions, goals, and social science tools for inquiry about the arts and humanities work going on across the Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) network. Fifth, they engaged in planning for the implementation of surveys and possible follow up interviews of Principle Investigators (PIs), graduate students, and participants in the LTER arts and humanities projects at various sites across the network. Sixth, they created a draft version of a measurement instrument. Seventh, they held meetings with collaborators and PhD student also working on this project. Eighth, they created a survey for dissemination to both the lead principle investigators and graduate student representatives of each of the 24 long-term ecological research sites in the US. The survey was an attempt to understand the extent of arts and humanities programs, as well as the perceived challenges and values of arts and humanities efforts at various sites across the network. Ninth, they worked with the Oregon State University Institutional Review Board to have the survey approved. Tenth, they worked with colleagues at the University of Alaska Fairbanks on a survey for visitors to their recent arts exhibit on the topic of trophic cascades. Eleventh, they issued, collected, and have now closed they surveys created. Twelfth, they presented this work to a workshop of relevant partners in this research. The larger project – which will now be funded by other sources – will seek publication of these data.