

Draft Meeting Notes - LTER Executive Board

June 15, 2017

Attending:

Name	Present	Absent
Peter Groffman (chair)	x	
David Foster (HFR)	x	
Michael Gooseff (MCM)	x	
Sally Holbrook (MCR)	x	
Steve Pennings-GCE		
Dan Reed (SBC)	x	
Roger Ruess/Michelle Mack (BNZ)		x
Eric Seabloom/Sarah Hobbie (CDR)	X (sh)	
Katie Suding		X (traveling)
Jess Zimmerman (LUQ)	x	
Kari O'Connell (EOC-rep)		
Wade Sheldon (IMC-rep)	x	
Frank Davis (NCO)	x	
Marty Downs (NCO)		X (home inspection)
Corinna Gries (EDI)	x	

Discussion

- **Review of May meeting**
 - By-law changes. See: <http://intranet2.lternet.edu/documents/lter-network-bylaws-2017-revisions>
 - National Communications Office (NCO) will be voting members of the Executive Board (EB) (Frank Davis)
 - Environmental Data Initiative (EDI) will be non-voting members (Corinna Gries) - because EDI is broader than just LTER
 - Removed language about how to evaluate the NCO. The previous network office was clearly subsidiary to LTER board and network-wide evaluation was required. That's all gone now – NCO is directly funded by (and answerable to) NSF.
 - Do we want a “highlights” reel? We can include Frank’s cliff notes version of the bylaws changes. Yes, NCO will post.
 - Data policy changes. See: <https://lternet.edu/policies/data-access>
 - Many NSF program officers attended. We’ve never had that many staying for that long and making such positive comments.
 - Exceptionally reassuring. Signaled both strong messages of support and also lots of uncertainty for the Foundation.
 - The number of people reflects the number of people who needed to get up to speed.

- This group seems to be talking with each other and communicating the same message. Only potential concern is long-term stability of personnel. Alan Tessier seems to provide solid continuity.
 - We never did get to have the meeting (webinar) with the NSF working group that we were planning last fall. We made a list of topics that we wanted to discuss and sent them to NSF, but the meeting was postponed, at least until after the RFP for renewal proposals is released. We might want to revisit our list once the RFP is released.
 - Key issues include how decisions to terminate sites are made and reviewed.
 - It is important to note that the NSF Working Group isn't just DEB. It's also Geo and PP.
 - We used to have an annual meeting of the Executive Board in DC, and we would meet with multiple levels of NSF personnel. The EB meeting in Washington isn't likely to return. We should therefore be opportunistic to visit with NSF when we are there for other reasons. We can also invite members of the working group attend EB VTC.
- EDI Annual Report
 - Just turned in our annual report. Major accomplishments:
 - Programming for repository. EDI is now a member node to DataONE and is less LTER specific.
 - Recently contacted by National Park Service, asking could EDI host all of their long-term data? We need to decide on how much support we can offer and what do we expect them to do themselves? We need to come up with a business model really quickly.
 - Also contacted by Los Alamos Department of Energy (DoE) lab – interested in collaborating on data archiving and publishing.
 - Data management training activities are accelerating. Online webinar series has started and will continue through the ESIP meeting, which will be followed by an in-person training workshop in the fall (funded through EDI, via an application process, probably about 15 people).
 - Hosting a major meeting at the ESIP (Earth Science Information Partners) meeting in late July. Both NCO and EDI provided travel support for LTER Information Managers to attend. EDI is supporting 3 non-LTER and 13 LTER IM's. Between NCO and EDI we are supporting most of the LTER IM's. LTER IM in-person meeting is Monday, July 24.
 - Between the July meeting and additional workshops in the fall, EDI aims to be sure that all the IM's are aware of options to generate EML with R and to present their own site's data catalog (on their own web site) using the PASTA Application Program Interface (API).
 - Do we have a sense that the needs of the community of LTER Information Managers are being met? And that they feel like they are engaged in the process? It seems like this process was designed with that in mind.
 - EDI will be at the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America (ESA). Will have a booth and a workshop. Submit your data set right then and there.
 - Given the growing interest – how much budgetary flexibility is there? Is there a way to get more funding, to cover, for example, the Park Service request? EDI needs to have a funding model so that we can essentially

charge for the elements that we take on. They have monthly meetings with Peter McCartney at NSF to talk about these issues.

- Both EDI and NCO have short-term grants from NSF. Have you had any feedback on what may come next?
 - FD: We are a 4-year grant. Have had no information yet. They timed the EDI grant to expire when the NCO did so they could sync us up.
 - CG: I've heard nothing. Came out of SC meeting discouraged. But NSF WG will discuss tomorrow (6/16/2017).
 - Who, other than Peter McCartney, is actively thinking about this? Paula Mabee is actively involved. Had lots of questions at the Science Council meeting.
- 2018 All Scientists Meeting:
 - FD: Any comments and feedback on our request to NSF to hold the meeting at Asilomar? None at this point.
- New logo:
 - FD: Maybe we'll have a contest to pick a new logo.