LTER Executive Board Meeting Notes
October 30, 2018

- Executive Board Zoom Link: https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/706470284 or Telephone: US: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 (Meeting ID: 706 470 284)
- Executive Board Trello Board: https://trello.com/b/vD2zoerp
- Executive Board Google Drive: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B3xT0TaiQmt0TkQxOVNhMGh0Tkk?usp=sharing

Attending:

Name	Present	Absent
Peter Groffman (chair)	x	
Diane McKnight (chair-elect)		maybe late
Ken Dunton (BLE)	x	
Sally Holbrook (MCR)	x	
Michelle Mack (BNZ)	x	
Oscar Schofield (PAL)		field work
Eric Seabloom (CDR)	x	
Emily Stanley (NTL)		teaching
Katie Suding (NWT)		x
Jess Zimmerman (LUQ)	x	
Annette Brickley(EOC-rep)	x	
Dan Bahauddin (IMC-rep)	x	
Frank Davis (NCO)	x	
Marty Downs (NCO)	x	
Corinna Gries (EDI)	x	

Agenda and Notes

Notes from prior Executive Board Meeting were not yet available.

1. **All Scientists' Meeting Follow-up**
   a. Debrief/plans
   b. Synthesis videos are posted
   c. Gathering reports from committees and working groups, where there is something substantial to report
   d. Working on an overall report for NSF, including budget outcome, survey results (122 so far), and 5-minute video

   Discussion points:
   - The poster session was too crowded and too loud.
   - Synthesis videos were a great way of communicating results. Perhaps we should make that a regular event.

- It was helpful to have some time with, and some time without, NSF program officers.
- Interactions around the Baltimore site were uncomfortable. Much confusion remains around conceptual models. We don't have much consensus on what is needed and it is hard to see as a reason to de-fund a long-term project.
- Maybe a more approachable question is: what are the criteria and process for probation.
- What has been the value of these conceptual models over time -- in terms of the sites or in terms of integration? The whole process may have a flaw to it as a review criteria. The conceptual model may not be a good indicator of an integrated research program.
- Maybe at the next science council meeting we could have a session on conceptual models and their role in the site evaluation process. It would be useful to bring in some outside people who think about these kinds of things.
- Maybe we need to include an orientation element for the NSF Program Officers in the Science Council Meetings.

2. **May Science Council Meeting - discussion deferred until November**
   a. At Luquillo (week of May 13-17)
   b. Tuesday May 14 EB Meeting
   c. Wed-Thur May 15 & 16 SC Meeting
   d. Friday? How do we want to use it?
   e. Theme: 40-year self-study
   f. 2 invitees per site

3. **ILTER**
   a. Debrief from the ILTER Coordinating Committee Meetings and the East Asia Pacific meeting
   b. <u>AccelNet opportunity</u>: From the solicitation: The goals of the Accelerating Research through International Network-to-Network Collaborations (AccelNet) program are to accelerate the process of scientific discovery and prepare the next generation of U.S. researchers for multi-team international collaborations. The AccelNet program supports strategic linkages among U.S. research networks and complementary networks abroad that will leverage research and educational resources to tackle grand scientific challenges that require significant coordinated international efforts. The program seeks to foster high-impact science and engineering by providing opportunities to create new collaborations and new combinations of resources and ideas among linked global networks.

   AccelNet awards are meant to support the connections among research networks, rather than supporting fundamental research as the primary activity.

   7-9 awards for a total of $3-6M (~$500K).
   Letter of Intent due December 21, full proposal due February 28.

   Three possibilities have been discussed:

   - Michael Mirtl (ILTER secretariat) is really interested in coordinating a multi-level global observation network with coordinated networks of different intensities: NEON, NEON lite, NEON very lite.
   - General ILTER-LTER proposal focusing on the "rules of life" big idea and engaging with international monitoring networks.
   - The Pacific Rim Collaboration Network is making separate plans, possibly with the Taiwanese network.

4. **LTER-CZO proposal update**
   The LTER-CZO workshop yielded a proposal, with 5 working groups proposed over 5 years.

5. **2019 NSF symposium plans:**
   Cheryl Dybas (NSF Legislative and Public Affairs) and Marty Downs (NCO) agree that they would like to move the symposium to the fall. It would improve the chances for good weather and help avoid a conflict with Science Council Meeting and the 40-year self-study. Cheryl proposes September 24, 25 or 26th. Any objections to those dates?

   Cheryl is also proposing a "forests" theme for 2019. The theme will, of course, be a more specific than that, but it's useful to have a theme that aligns to some extent with specific federal agencies.

6. **Program managers list/committee (informational)**
   Many sites are now hiring program managers and they don't have an obvious way to share information in the same way that the information managers and education managers do. The Network Communications Office is creating a maillist and a google drive for them (includes program managers, research coordinators, site managers, some high-level admins). Marty Downs and Lina DiGregorio will be reaching out to PIs.

7. **40-year self-study committee**
   The Executive Board should receive regular updates from the 40-year self-study committee.