LTER Executive Board Meeting Notes

September 25, 2019

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android
>*Additional ways of connecting:*
>   *Dial: +1 408 638 0968 (US Toll) or +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll)*
>   *Meeting ID: 706 470 284*
>   *International numbers available:*
https://ucsb.zoom.us/zoomconference?m=mFWoQM2i5hXg4HU0yTkzOa61gwDvyawC

The LTER Executive Board meets monthly. Agendas and minutes for current members are available on the team google drive.

See the Executive Board Committee page for current membership and approved minutes of past meetings.

Attending:

Name	Present	Absent	Minutes approved
Diane McKnight (chair)	x		
Ken Dunton (BLE)	x		
Nick Haddad (KBS)	x		NH
Jesse Nippert (KNZ)	x		
Oscar Schofield (PAL)			
Heidi Sosik (NES)		traveling	
Emily Stanley (NTL)	x		
Katie Suding (NWT)		traveling	
Jonathan Thompson (HFR)	x		
Jess Zimmerman (LUQ)	x		
Annette Brickley(EOC-rep)	x		
Dan Bahauddin (IMC-rep)	x		DB
Frank Davis (NCO)		x	
Marty Downs (NCO)	x		
Corinna Gries (EDI)	x		

Please note any concerns with minutes here or as a comment in the appropriate section:

Agenda* and Notes
*Agenda items in plain text, discussion in italics

September Discussion Topics

Education Committee Report (Annette Brickley)

- The committee has held two meetings since last EB meeting
- The chairs are working with the new interns at the Network Office
- Two chairs and the Executive Board Representative met with Marty Downs (LNO) to discuss the transition
- Jill Haukos (KNZ) is leading a Schoolyard Book series proposal to NSF that is due in November

Information Management Committee Report (Dan Bahauddin)
- The committee is planning for an annual meeting in 2020, probably in association with ESA
- There is a newly formed working group working on non-tabular datasets (such as images, GIS, models, etc.). Small groups of members are tackling each of several types of data and making recommendations.
- What was the "New Information Managers" working group (AKA, Tea with the Chair) has transitioned to the "knowledge exchange"
- The committee is transitioning away from the old information management website which contained a massive number of meeting notes and working documents.
- DataBits is transitioning from a pdf format to a blog format. The committee felt it was better to publish articles as they are written and post them on on the network website and on the EDI website as appropriate
- Other working groups include software solutions such as DEIMS, metabase, Zotero
- *Discussion: Who is the audience for the blog?*
  - *The blog is intended to reach three audiences: LTER, broader Information Management community, beyond-LTER community*

New Bylaws for ILTER Committee (document linked)
- *Positive news that the committee is getting reenergized*

Primary Discussion Topic: New Advancing Informal Science Learning (AISL) proposal (document attached) (Sarah Garlick presents)
- The proposal scales the existing Public Engagement with Science at LTER's AISL project to the whole network
- Asks how do site leaders, staff etc. view engagement
- Creates a community-of-practice for the people who are making decisions about education and engagement
- Initially, there will be 4 in-depth case studies of sites, with 2 additional site case studies added in later years
- Sites would be able to apply for seed grants to do an implementation project.
- A network-wide survey is planned in in year 1 and year 4.

Discussion:
- *What's a community of practice? A place where outreach coordinators and network developers would learn from each other and support one another's work*
- *Many times outreach coordinators have funding from outside the LTER*
- *Proposal leads plan to work closely with the education committee on systems for tracking long term education data.*

- *One possible benefit is that the project could result in much more integrated and rigorous documentation of impacts and methods as well as developing evidence-based practices on the ground*
- *NSF proposal is due Nov 6. Committee recommends a letter of support.*

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES for September

Liaisons to:
NEON - Jonathan Thompson
ILTER - Jess Zimmerman
OBFS - Jesse Nippert
Phil Robertson has agreed to chair a committee to put together PI information-sharing webinars

Decadal Review Committee Update
Planning to submit by October 1

ESA 2020 update:
Marty submitted a symposium titled: LTER at 40: Achievements and Opportunities
Speaker lineup:
- Michelle Mack: Biogeochemical legacies as drivers of ecosystem resilience
- Forest Isbell: Long-term studies reveal hidden roles of biodiversity and species identity in regulating ecosystem functioning
- Tamara Harms: Propagation of influence among ecosystems connected in space and time
- Jen Lau: Experimental evolution in the wild: The power of LTER experiments for understanding evolution

Related, but not strictly LTER sessions:
Eric Sokol submitted a symposium titled: The role of networks in the ecological data revolution: successes, opportunities, and challenges of integrating cross-network data to advance ecological science
Speaker lineup:
- Frank Davis (NCEAS, LTER Network Office, UCSB, fwd@bren.ucsb.edu) – "Increasing Research Network Connectance Through Synthesis - An LTER Perspective"
- Mike Dietz (Boston University, dietze@bu.edu) – "Improving ecological prediction: the role of cross-network data fusion in iterative ecological forecasting"
- Kathleen C. Weathers (Cary Institute, weathersk@caryinstitute.org)
- Elizabeth (Betsey) Boughton (Archbold Biological Station, Buck Island Ranch, eboughton@archbold-station.org) – "The Long-term Agroecosystem Research (LTAR) network: Towards sustainable food, environmental integrity, and resilience in working lands"

Corinna Gries submitted and Inspire sessions: Reusing ecological data to answer new questions - persistent problems and promising progress
Speaker lineup:
- Obtaining data from a repository vs. data from your colleagues (Paul Hanson on GLEON)
- Harmonizing Data Across Multiple Repositories: An Ecological Case Study, Alexis Garretson, alexis@garretson.net
- Are there more or less reusable data - do we know what makes valuable data? (Kathie Weathers, Paul Hanson, Renato Jansen Figueiredo renato@ece.ufl.edu, And Cayelan Cary cayelan@vt.edu)
- Heterogeneity in ecological data - is it worth the effort? Eric Sokol

- Modelers need data - Evaluating fitness for use, uncertainty, quality (Mike Dietze student Betsy Cowdery)
- Beyond training - what it takes to do data synthesis Ian McCullough, Joe Stachelek, Katelyn King, Nicole Smith, Kendra Cheruvelil, and Pat Soranno

Bob Waide and Sharon Kingsland have not submitted a session proposal for ESA 2020..

Running list of future discussion topics

- Broader long term research community (lter)
- PI webinars "community of practice" - Diane will check in
- Investigator-IM integration
- Education strategic planning
- 40th anniversary activities
- NSF symposium - waiting on Cheryl (or other advice from NSF)
- Should we reconsider an external advisory council?