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[Home](#) > [IM Exec](#) > IM Exec VTC 2012-12-06

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Thu, 11/15/2012 - 1:51pm — [mobrien](#) ^[1]

Thu, December 6, 10:00 MST

Present: Chamblee, O'Brien, Boose, Brunt, Downing, Skibbe, Tarrant, Xia

Note taker: Emery Boose

Time keeper: Kristin Vanderbilt

Topics

1. LNO visioning update (Emery)
2. IM-Exec winter meeting
3. IMC annual meeting
4. Visit to NSF
5. Watercooler schedule
6. LNO updates (James)
7. Action items

1. LNO visioning update (Emery)

NSF has decided to have an open competition for the LTER Network Office when the current cooperative agreement expires in three years. At the request of the EB, a committee was formed last summer to provide input to NSF from the LTER community regarding a future LNO. A survey designed to elicit site-level responses was created by the committee and sent to site PIs and IMs in mid-November. Site responses have been received and committee members are writing up a report with a target deadline in early January. The report will be submitted to the EB and the EB will submit the report to NSF on behalf of the LTER community.

2. IM-Exec winter meeting

The IM-Exec winter meeting will be held at the LNO on Feb 20-21, 2013. Members should have received travel information. Not all topics on last year's agenda were addressed because of other pressing matters. Data availability is still an issue. The PASTA timetable may also be a topic for discussion. We need to send out a call soon to working group chairs to get a sense of priorities for the upcoming annual meeting. Some time might also be set aside during the IM-Exec meeting to meet with working group chairs by phone or VTC. Note that working groups are scheduled early this year spend out the ARRA funding. These groups may want time at the annual meeting. We should also poll the entire IMC for ideas for the annual meeting (focus topics, breakout groups, etc). This should be done in January in time for discussion at the IM-Exec meeting.

3. IMC annual meeting

Possible locations for the meeting include BNZ and VCR. Only two time slots are available given the NSF site review schedule: late July at BNZ or early September at VCR. The review dates for NWT have not been set. ARRA funds must be spent by Aug 1 (last possible date is Sep 1). The IMC annual meeting has separate funding; only extra costs (e.g. airfare to Alaska) would be covered by ARRA funds. In this case a July date at BNZ is possible but we should spend as much as possible up front (e.g. for airfare). Note that this may be the only opportunity in the foreseeable future for the IMC to go to Alaska.

4. Visit to NSF

NSF has extended an informal invitation to the IMC to present a series of talks at the foundation. Though details are yet to be worked out, this might be a half-day session along the lines of the annual LTER mini-symposium at NSF with a possible date sometime next fall. The current plan is to assemble an ad hoc committee with members drawn from the IMC, NISAC, and the EB. The committee would decide on a message, send out a call for proposals (possibly asking for volunteers), review proposals, and create a program. A short proposal to NSF would be required to request funding. The current plan is to assemble the committee at January IM-Exec VTC and to continue discussion at the winter IM-Exec meeting and at the annual IMC meeting.

5. Watercooler schedule

Mark Servilla is willing to do the next VTC (Jan 7-8) on submitting data to PASTA (see his recent email on that subject). The February VTC may be on DEIMS. We need to schedule working groups for March, etc next spring.

6. LNO updates (James)

IM working group awards have been announced. The LNO is scrambling for the PASTA production release in January. Current focus is on installation of new infrastructure needed for PASTA. Work continues on PersonnelDB, including an authentication scheme that more closely matches PASTA's.

7. Action items

1. Reply to Saran regarding dates, process, etc for the NSF visit (Margaret).
2. Query the IMC regarding annual meeting preferences (Adam).
3. Write up the proposed process for the NSF visit (John).
4. Send out a call to working group chairs to get a sense of priorities for IMC meeting (Margaret).

Meeting Notes ^[2]

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