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June 13, 2011 -- 1100 Mountain Daylight Time

Participants

Members: Don Henshaw, Margaret O'Brien (co-chairs), Dan Bahauddin, Emery Boose, Corinna Gries, Suzanne Remillard

Ex officio: James Brunt, Yang Xia

Topics

1. EB Report
2. EML Congruency Checker
3. Working Group Transitions
4. EIMC Meeting
5. IMC Meeting
6. Data Synthesis Project
7. VTC Schedule
8. IMC Website Migration

1. EB Report

The EB has not met since the last IM-Exec VTC on 25-May-2011.

2. EML Congruency Checker

Margaret is getting 3 weeks of buy-out time (~.10 fte now through end of year) to develop reports. Sites will receive initial reports in XML format.

At present three checks are implemented: verify that URL is valid, verify that data file exists, count number of rows. The complete list of checks to be implemented currently numbers 35. An original list created by the EML metrics WG has been added to by the Pasta Tiger Team. The EML checker is part of the Pasta Data Manager Library. Some of the proposed checks may go elsewhere in Pasta.

Testing of the Data Manager module was completed last Friday. Network reports will summarize results from all sites. Site reports will identify the cause of failure (if any) for each dataset. DAS URLs are passed straight through. Inline data are not currently readable by the checker.

Reports may be generated via the test interface (<http://trachyte.lternet.edu:8080/test/data.html> ^[2]) or via cURL commands. Contact Margaret for instructions.

Margaret will develop a PERL script to check every site EML document and send reports to sites by August. An interim report will be prepared for the IMC meeting and a final report by the end of the year. Margaret will circulate a draft page to be posted on the IMC website.

At some sites, direct access to data files is blocked by a login screen. There are various ways to get around this problem (use DAS, enable access for the checker IP, etc).

3. Working Group Transitions

Mason is chair of the web services WG (also co-chair with Linda of the units WG). Mason has been the key developer and will complete his current buy-out time. Another IM could apply for funds to continue development. Most of the web services code has been written. The WG needs to discuss functionality and next steps.

Karen is chair of the governance WG. A vote on the IMC terms of reference is planned for the next IMC meeting. Is this WG still needed?

Karen and Nicole were also working on an IMC history (HistoryDB). Corinna has offered to put this on the IMC website. In any case we should be sure to get this information before Karen departs. Don will follow up with Karen.

4. EIMC Meeting

Consider moving the demo session from the IMC evening to a BoF session. Schedule as a general demo session.

Bill Michener and Matt Jones are interested in developing a BoF session with Corinna on visions for federating data (DataONE, etc).

Manuscript submissions. 28 papers were received. It will be a viable conference.

Two meeting rooms. Probably 8 sessions, 2 hours each. Possibly run talks and BoF sessions simultaneously. Still need to work out program details.

So far only LTER participants have registered. Authors are waiting to see if their papers are accepted. Authors will be notified in early July.

Three or four LTER-related BoF sessions are probably enough. LTER spatial group will propose two sessions: internet mapping and spatial data management. Other possibilities include: quality assurance, model management, etc. See draft agenda on IMC website for current ideas. Anyone can propose a BoF session. Sessions can be jointly proposed.

5. IMC Meeting

Monday night dinner at the hotel is in the contract. Tuesday dinner is up to us. Breakfast and lunch are provided by the hotel. Alternatively, the group dinner could be moved to Tuesday. Not everyone arrives in time for dinner on the first day. Also a Monday field trip to REEF would require moving dinner to 7 pm or later.

Business meeting. 1.5 hours.

Meeting with NSF program officer is tentative since Nancy is leaving. NSF may send reps to the EIMC meeting. Or NSF travel funds may be depleted by September.

Two breakout sessions. Approx. 2 hours each. Session 1 = value-added datasets for synthesis (e.g. ClimDB). Session 2 = EML usability (check reports). See IMC website for details.

Get update on PersonnelDB and related work. Perhaps a water cooler demo before the meeting.

Do we need time for plenary discussion? E.g. for the data synthesis project. Only about half of the IMs attend the VTCs.

Request ideas for workshop proposals and buy-outs well before the meeting. Plenty of ideas out there. See notes from IM-Exec winter meeting.

Add general discussion on Monday evening? This worked well last year as an ice breaker.

Post agenda soon to solicit comments from IMC. Include two proposed breakouts for now.

6. Data Synthesis Project

James has created a draft RFI from existing materials and consulted with UNM legal. The RFI will be used to gauge community interest for the pilot project.

Not clear who might bid on the project. UNM is looking for possible vendors. Once the announcement is complete, it can be circulated anywhere. Funding would likely be distributed through LNO.

SGS, BNZ, CDR at top of current list for pilot project. But procedure for site selection is not entirely clear.

Some concern about high stakes, lack of detailed planning. Should the committee be reorganized?

7. VTC Schedule

Schedule VTCs every two weeks for rest of summer. All slots are filled. Include an update for synthesis data project?

8. IMC Website Migration

Corinna has cut off write access to the old website (now read only). LNO would like to eliminate the web address ASAP. But the old site is still needed to complete migration to the new LTER Intranet site.

Everything appears to be working OK. The old database will be retained and could be reconnected if necessary.

Meeting Notes ^[3]

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Source URL: http://im.lternet.edu/news/committees/im_exec/notes/2011_06_13

Links:

[1] <http://im.lternet.edu/user/27>

[2] <http://trachyte.lternet.edu:8080/test/data.html>

[3] <http://im.lternet.edu/taxonomy/term/3>