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IMExec VTC 2014-03-24 Agenda and Notes

Mon, 03/31/2014 - 6:57am — [jchamblee](#) ^[1]

IM Exec Meeting 24 March 2014, 12:00 PM MDT

Note taker: John Chamblee

Moderator: John Chamblee and Phillip Tarrant

In Attendance: Dan Bahauddin, Emery Boose, John Chamblee, Jason Downing, Philip Tarrant, Kristin Vanderbilt, James Brunt (LNO)

Topics:

1. EB Report

(Emery Boose)

The National Science Foundation's Program Officer, Dr. Saran Twombly, was present at the last meeting and provided the following information.

- The panel concerning the vision for the next LTER Network Office, headed by Dr. Diane McKnight of MCM and Dr. Aaron Ellison of HFR, had met as of this EB meeting and cocommittee met at NSF and is now working on their report. NSF personnel are developing timelines for the new LNO RFP.
- The LTER Renewal Proposals are all in. NSF will now assemble a small panel of broad thinkers and will also solicit ad-hoc reviews through the mail. NSF contacted LPs to solicit recommendations on potential ad-hoc reviewers from sites. The web of social complexity is stunning and collaboration surrounding LTER is stunning, making the reviewer search a challenge. The panel will meet in early June.

Bob Waide, Executive Director of the LTER Network office and had the following report.

- LNO is currently completing a formal proposal to fund PASTA development for next year. LNO is also creating a list of LNO-supported activities that are usually central to the network and are slated to continue beyond LNO's funding end on April 15, 2015.
- The LNO is separately looking into funding opportunities from NSF's GEO directorate, specifically for items related to IM activities.
- There is some interest in the idea of revisiting a dynamic version of EcoTrends. This topic didn't get any discussion by the EB, but the IMC needs to pay careful attention, because of the amount of hidden work that would be involved. It is incumbent on the IMC to make sure the LTER scientific community knows that.

A number of other items were discussed, including the following:

- The Journal Nature launching new Journal on Ecological Data. They are interested in using PASTA as a platform.
- There is interest in creating a list of the most cited LTER papers and making that list available as a promotional tool. In a similar vein, LNO is pulling together a list of all NSF macro-systems projects engaged in research at LTER sites. Such a list does not currently exist anywhere else
- .
- LNO and Scott Collins, EB Chair, are developing a one-page summary of LTER network messaging to help sites with communication efforts.
- There was also a discussion of the theme for the Science Council, with the idea being to focus on one of the Five Core Areas of LTER research, perhaps primary productivity. This is the first year that the theme of the Science Council will set the theme for the Mini-Symposium, rather than the reverse. The goal is to try and make science council more interesting from a science viewpoint, having in-depth scientific discussions that can do more to inform and organize the mini-symposium.
- Several of the sites in the New England area are partnering to form the Northeastern Science Policy Exchange, in order to bring LTER activities more directly to bear on environmental policy.
- At the Science Council or before there may be discussion and more information forthcoming on the educational videos / documentaries made at four LTER sites. There is some interest in extending videos to other sites.

7. IMC Meeting:

Im Exec revisited the topic of the Summer Meeting. We concluded, based on feedback from the last VTC, that the meeting will be held concurrently with the following schedule:

- Monday, 7/7 – Travel Day
- Tuesday, 7/8 Business Meeting all day with a Tuesday evening mixer. Topics for the business meeting include our goals beyond PASTA and sustaining the momentum we gained and the development we achieved thanks to ARRA funding.
- Wednesday and Thursday - we will put together a symposium to introduce ourselves to ESIP and then develop workgroups and workshops that contribute the ESIP meeting's theme "Linking It Together: Sustainable Software Advancing Science Data and Services." The introductory symposium should include an overview of who we are, followed by talks on the products we are using and developing.
- Other suggested workshop topics include Data Package Standardization. Workflows and Automated analysis, and how to do more IM with fewer resources.
- We will have a "report back" session on Thursday afternoon. The end of meeting survey and assessment will take place at that time.
- People can travel out on Thursday evening or Friday morning.


It is important to note that we will have to do our preparation earlier this year, so we will likely have two VTCs leading up to the April 13 submission deadline.

7. Action items and Responsibilities:

- John Chamblee will be coordinating with ESIP and providing registration instructions.
- Dan Bahaiddin will be coordinating with George Garcia and providing information logistics.

- Kristin Vanderbilt will be organizing two VTCs in early April.
- Philip Tarrant will be reminding people to consider what they want to accomplish and present at ESIP and the business meeting and then bring those thoughts to the VTCs.
- John Chamblee will coordinate elections beginning in May.
- James Connors will assemble the annual meeting report and coordinate the end-of-meeting survey.

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