

## **notes from the 2018-12-19 meeting of the IM Exec**

**zoom channel:** <https://ucsb.zoom.us/j/8058932071>

### **Attending:**

- Stevan Earl (co-chair; notetaker)
- Suzanne Remillard (co-chair)
- Dan Bahauddin
- Jason Downing
- Marty Downs
- Tim Whiteaker

### **Executive Board report**

EB has not met since the last IM Exec meeting. Next [EB] meeting is end of January/beginning of February.

### **working group reports**

Most working groups, except those spearheaded by EDI, are somewhat stagnant at this point.

#### *WiRED*

A bit stalled based on resources and struggles with moving to GitHub: (1) what to do about binary files like PDF notes, which don't take full advantage of the power of Git, (2) need help with push, pull, reconciling, etc.

Suzanne noting that she is unable to devote time to this. She indicated that the IMC website works well for her so she is struggling with the motivation to put effort toward this. Is GitHub the best resource?

How to address this should be a part of the 2019 meeting. We need to be thinking about how we want to use these materials, what needs to be preserved and in what way. We will consider starting this conversation in a water cooler as well.

#### *DEIMS*

Nothing to report

#### *ECC*

Nothing to report

#### *ClimDB/HydroDB*

Polled for interest; planning 2019 workshop during the week of March 11 in ABQ.

### *Semantics*

Polled for interest

### *IM Orientation*

Stalled pending resources (Renee is in Antarctica until February) and some GitHub help. Gastil has passed a lot of the responsibility of what was 'Tea With the Chair' to Renee.

### *Core Metabase*

Waiting on Margaret to finalize her first version. The goal is to have a local database that serves as a catalog of your site's dataset from which you can generate EML. Inspired by GCE metabase but GCE has a lot of additional material related to their infrastructure and some elements are outdated, so this is a stripped down and updated approach. Desired is that this will help new sites establish a framework and to get up and running quickly; it is hoped that this will be a long-term solution given support from the EDI.

See schema at:

[http://sbc.lternet.edu/external/InformationManagement/LTER\\_IMC/tmp\\_lter\\_core\\_metabase](http://sbc.lternet.edu/external/InformationManagement/LTER_IMC/tmp_lter_core_metabase)

### **EDI liaison**

Kristin will join IM Exec at coming meetings in January and February.

Action item: Stevan will confirm meeting dates and times with Kristin

### **Team Drive**

Jason and Suzanne will move Google Drive materials they own to the IM Exec Team Drive.

### **IMC 2019 meeting**

Tim felt that there was momentum in the water cooler for meeting with ESIP.

Jason is inclined toward a IMC-only meeting, and suggests a poll to be sure that the views of all IMs (esp. those that were not in the water cooler) are represented.

Dan suggested that he felt that that there was general sentiment for ESIP.

Suzanne felt that there was an inclination toward ESIP, and that there were certainly not any sentiments against it.

There is not a lot of time at this point to coordinate a IMC-only meeting.

IM Exec feels that the best option will be to host the 2019 IMC meeting in conjunction with ESIP.

Action item: Stevan will send a note to the IMC to this effect, but inviting reservations about this decision to IM Exec.

#### **40-year review**

This will be a water cooler discussion.

#### **Enabling FAIR Data - Invitation to become a Signatory**

Regarding the following communication from Shelley Stall and Lynn Yarmey:

...

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to announce that the Enabling FAIR Data Project has reached a significant milestone with the announcement of the Commitment Statement <http://www.copdess.org/enabling-fair-data-project/commitment-to-enabling-fair-data-in-the-earth-space-and-environmental-sciences/> reflecting distinct stakeholder perspectives and roles, and defining the goals for the many communities that collectively support open and FAIR data. We invite you, your organizations, and colleagues to consider a commitment to open and FAIR data by being a signatory.

You can read more about the project in a recent article in the journal Science Editor that focuses on the tools and resources that will be helpful to authors: New Author Guidelines Promoting Open and FAIR Data in the Earth, Space, and Environmental Sciences <https://www.csescienceeditor.org/article/data-sharing-and-citations-new-author-guidelines-promoting-open-and-fair-data-in-the-earth-space-and-environmental-sciences/>

To learn more about the amazing community behind the Enabling FAIR Data Project, read about it in the EOS article, Advancing FAIR Data in Earth, Space and Environmental Science. <https://eos.org/agu-news/advancing-fair-data-in-earth-space-and-environmental-science>

Over the next week we'll be tweeting out more news and updates using the #FAIRData hashtag. If you'd like to take an active part in this, here is the link to a range of tweet samples <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i7R9QcJVHVwi30QPiz-Gp6sUd1FCBhiLZ6uaCdXqCK0/edit?usp=sharing>.

Finally, thank you again so much for all your help and support.

Best regards,  
Shelley Stall  
Lynn Yarmey  
Enabling FAIR Data Community  
...

Action item: Suzanne will research the implications of this and next steps

## **LTER bibliography**

Marty discussing issues and potential plans for dealing with the LTER bibliography, and presenting results from a poll of site representatives (one per site) regarding site bibliographic practices.

There are many technical complications with the current state of the LTER bibliography. A major problem is that many references contain all details in a single field (e.g., the entire bibliographic reference is in the title field). Another problem is the breadth of what sites have been calling LTER publications. For example, there are LTER publications that are related to the LTER (e.g., were written before the LTER site was established) but are not resultant of LTER research directly. Also there is incomplete mapping (e.g., a thesis in BibTex must be a MS or PhD thesis but this is not always distinguished in the LTER bibliography).

### **BiblioDB Issues:**

- In many cases, there was no effort made to enter data into fields. The entire citation was dumped into the title field.
  - Question for those with deep LTER experience -- is that likely to be the case for SITE bibliographies as well as the Network bibliography or is it a protest against the BiblioDB system?
- Few sites distinguish among site products (at any level), foundational documents (pre-LTER publications on which the LTER was grounded), and collateral (media reports, conference proceedings, etc.).
  - Possible mitigation: limit the types of document included to those most likely to be direct research results (journal articles, books & chapters, theses, other?)
- Even fewer sites distinguish the type of connection to LTER funding. See, for example: <https://arcticgreatrivers.org/publications/>
  - There does not seem to be appetite to fix this looking backwards. If we provide clear guidelines, can we at least fix this going forward?
- Inconsistent assignment to document type -- Possible to fix in a one-time effort, by developing a cross-walk key for BiblioDB, Zotero, and EndNote.
- Inconsistent placement of Site ID - can probably be solved by making and communicating a best practice decision

Desired results:

- Includes only products that have resulted from LTER funding (directly or indirectly, but not entirely independent)
- Each publication is included only once, with multiple sites and keywords associated, making it relatively simple to identify cross-site papers
- Each publication is associated with a DOI, if it exists
- The nature of the relationship to LTER funding is identifiable
- Searchable by site, author, keywords, other?

Proposed plan for past entries:

- Request EndNote, Zotero, or Bibtex files from site IMs, covering site launch through 2017
- Ask sites to exclude foundational documents (not all sites can distinguish)
- Filter by document type:
  - Include: journal articles, books, book chapters, theses, technical reports, other?
  - Do not include: maps, newspaper articles, blog posts, conference papers
- Develop crosswalk key for aligning field assignments in EndNote, Zotero, and BiblioDB files.
- Script new field assignments and upload site files to LTER Group Zotero library (with consistent site tags (NSF-LTER-XXX))
- Run crossref query to retrieve DOI's  
(<https://support.crossref.org/hc/en-us/articles/213942866-Author-article-title-query>)
- Merge duplicates based on DOIs
- Review and merge manually articles without DOIs.

Proposed plan going forward, two options:

1. Site-based. Develop and communicate best practices for:
  - a. Site ID (NSF-LTER-XXX)
  - b. Primary/secondary/tertiary indicators (as at GRO)
  - c. Assignment to document types
  - d. Contribution to group Zotero library
2. NCO-based
  - a. Direct add to LTER Group Zotero Library from Web-of-Science/Google Scholar search (currently about 30 pubs/month)
  - b. Search is based on LTER inclusion in funding/acknowledgement fields, so it all breaks down if investigators don't include support information.
  - c. Assign to site collections (or tags?) based on site information in funding acknowledgements

**water cooler**

The January water cooler will center on a discussion of the 40-year review self study.