

## 1. LNO report – February 25, 2009

### a. Annual review of LNO

Text from bylaws regarding annual review of LNO:

**Article IX, Section 2. Review of Network Office Performance:** An annual review of Office performance shall be conducted by the Executive Board at its first meeting of the year. The review will be based on 1) the annual report of the Office, which will be circulated to LTER Sites in January of each year, 2) a survey of Sites administered by the Executive Board at least biennially in January of each odd-numbered year, and 3) goals set in the LTER Strategic Plan. The Executive Board will recommend modifications to Office tasks. Those recommendations approved by the Executive Board will be submitted by the Office to the NSF for possible incorporation into the Cooperative Agreement.

- Annual report and EB review from 2008 sent out to EB on February 19, 2009
- Site survey still in preparation (see below)
- Completion of review will have to occur at May meeting

### b. Status of annual survey

The UNM Institute of Public Policy (IPP) has been contracted at a cost of \$4200 to devise the survey instrument based on the questions used in the 2008 survey. They will create, program and implement a web-based survey of all personnel associated with LNO. Working with LTER staff, IPP will prepare a summary report of findings for the Executive Board and for use in site feedback discussion. Performance period shall be from March 1, 2009 – April 30, 2009.

### c. ASM report

The ASM Program Committee met via teleconference on February 18. The results of that meeting are as follows:

#### Timeline for major activities

- February 25 – second call, including preliminary program
- March 1 – Information to sites on funding
- March 15 – working group submission opens
- April 1 – housing reservations open
- May 1 – poster submission opens
- June 1 – meeting registration open
- July 1 – working group and poster submissions close
- August 15 – final program

Draft program

**Long Term Ecological Research Network All Scientists Meeting**  
**YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado**  
**September 14-16, 2009**  
**"Integrating Science and Society in an Ever-Changing World"**

**Saturday - September 12**

International LTER meeting on Ecosystem Services – day 1  
Grad Student Evening Mixer

**Sunday – September 13**

IM Meeting  
Graduate Student Symposium  
International LTER meeting on Ecosystem Services – day 2

Welcome talk

“The pre-history of LTER”, David Coleman (40 min + 20 min for questions)  
Evening mixer (video from 2006 meeting)

**Monday September 14**

Morning plenaries  
Welcome/logistics (15 min)  
“Thirty years of long-term ecological research” - Phil Robertson (30 min +10 min for questions)  
NSF representative (30 min +10 min for questions)  
“Integrating science, society, and education” - William Clark (invited; 40 min + 20 min for questions)  
Afternoon Workshops  
Evening Posters

**Tuesday September 15**

Morning plenary  
“Continental-scale network level research” - Dave Schimel (NEON; 40 min + 20 min for questions)  
Afternoon plenary  
“Successful integration of ecological and social sciences within the LTER” - Laura Ogden (40 min + 20 min for questions)  
Morning and afternoon workshops  
Evening posters

**Wednesday September 16**

Morning plenary  
“Science and education” - Dave Udovic (40 min + 20 min for questions)  
Morning and early afternoon workshops  
Afternoon panel discussion of integration at the network level; Suggested speakers/programs include: Phil Robertson (LTER); Dave Schimel (NEON); (ULTRA/Experimental forests)

(National Phenological Network); Marie Bundy (National Estuarine Research Reserve System); (ILTER); expert on science of integration

Entertainment

d. Review of working group progress

	PI	Title of Working Group	Date of Meeting
44	Bain \$17,475	Long term hydrologic change: Disturbance legacies in material fluxes.	February 8-12 2009
45	Foster \$30,000	Future scenarios of land change	March 31-April 4, 2009
46	Peters \$24,500	Workshop to promote synthesis products from EcoTrends project	
A	Lugo, Chapin, Peters	Disturbance characteristics and responses	April 8-9, 2009
B	Knapp	Patterns and long-term trends in primary production	April 2009
C	Grove, Boone, Gragson	The utility of the LTER Network to evaluate past and future scenarios of change and path dependencies of social ecological systems	June 2009
D	Driscoll, Groffman	Surface water and air biogeochemistry	
E	Peters	State changes	April 2009
F	Willig, Waide, Stapp	Animal population dynamics	
47	O'Brien/Gries \$18,600	Collaborative development of a project database	November 18-19, 2008
48	Larson \$17805	Socioecological dynamics of residential landscapes	February 17-20, 2009
49	Zimmerman \$40,000	Design challenges and solutions for establishing a network of Socio-ecological research sites	December 16-18, 2008
50	Fountain \$17,000	Ecosystem response to changing ice, snow and permafrost in a warming climate	March 30-April 2, 2009

e. Status of LNO renewal proposal; priorities for facilitating DP activities

- At present, the only secure funding is at current levels, the same as other sites renewing this year
- Cost of living increase will depend on 2009 and 2010 budgets being considered by Congress
- Cyberinfrastructure and Decadal Plan activities might be funded with stimulus funds
- To be eligible for stimulus funds, we will have to submit a separate proposal
- The due date for the separate proposal is March 19

f. DataNetOne and implications for the LNO

Bill Michener is PI on the \$20,000,000 DataNet proposal incorporating partnerships with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII), National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS), National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent), and others. If the grant is funded, Bill's role in the LNO will be greatly diminished. In addition to DataNet, he is state EPSCoR Director as well as lead PI on three other substantial grants or subcontracts. Therefore, the second part of the renewal proposal needs to address any issues caused by Bill's diminished participation. These issues will include development of the communication plan, development and maintenance of strategic partnerships, and informatics training.

g. EB role in the communication plan

The LNO will produce a "living" Strategic Communication Plan for the LTER Network. The plan will address: (1) *who* LTER wishes to communicate with; (2) *why* LTER wants to communicate with them; (3) *what* LTER desires to communicate; (4) *how* the information can be communicated most effectively; and (5) *when and how often* LTER needs to communicate with its stakeholders. The plan will include suggested public communication and outreach tools and products; proposed activities and tasks (e.g., development of an LTER media kit); and timelines, metrics and milestones.

Participation by the EB is important for determining the answers to the above questions. The EB needs to address the means for their participation and work with the EB to complete the communication plan in 2009-10.