

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
WASHINGTON, D C 20550

October 7, 1987

Dr. Susan G. Stafford
Forest Service
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331

Dear Dr. ^{Susan} Stafford:

I wish to convey my gratitude for your agreeing to serve on the Advisory Committee on Scientific Technological & Planning for LTER Projects. We all feel that a successful completion of its task is of crucial importance to the future success of the LTER network and to fulfilling its foreseen role of "biospheric observatories" in the Global Change (ICBP) Program.

The attached memorandum provides an overview of the projected activities with which your committee will be involved. Several items need comment beyond that provided in the memorandum, items all in relation to the November Briefing Session.

The initial meeting of the committee will be on Wednesday, November 4, at 2:00 PM in my office, Room 215, NSF. This will provide an opportunity to discuss the charge to the committee and to plan a course of action.

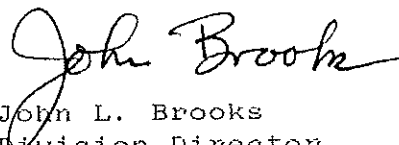
On the following day the committee will attend the morning (first) rehearsal for the Briefing Session. At a time convenient to Bill Parton, the only participant involved with both the Briefing and the Advisory Committee, the committee will reconvene to integrate new insights into the current state of the science with previous knowledge and to produce a draft agenda to guide the discussions at the meeting of project directors in January. The agenda should be completed in mid December for submission to the participants.

A second item of business will require completion by late November, namely the nomination of technological specialists for the late January meeting. The November 5th meeting will provide an opportunity for the committee members to begin a discussion of the matter, especially since the selections will require close coordination with NSF (BSR) staff.

You will be shortly receiving travel information from Mrs. Gloria McCabe, Administrative Manager, BSR. The Foundation will pay for the expenses associated with the meeting.

Again, my thanks to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Brooks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John L. Brooks
Division Director
Biotic Systems and Resources

MEMORANDUM

October 5, 1987

To : Addressees

from : Division Director, Biotic Systems and Resources,
NSF

Subject : Scientific & Technological Planning for LTER Projects

In order to make reasonable and realistic budget plans the Division of Biotic Systems and Resources, NSF, will need to call upon LTER scientists in several ways during the next few months. We propose that this interaction/consultation be in three formats; namely,

- An Advisory Committee of four members,
- A 1 1/2 - day meeting (early January) with a principal from each LTER project to discuss scientific trends and technological needs,
- A 2 (?) day meeting of technological experts to advise on technological implementation required by the on-going and projected LTER research.

Advisory Committee

The responsibility of the Advisory Committee is to provide the Foundation with a brief report of the perceived scientific trends of the next three-five years and the technologies required to make these advances possible.

It is planned that the final report will be submitted by the end of February 1988.

To achieve this goal, the Committee will -

1. Attend the scheduled LTER Washington Briefing Session, November 5-6, 1987 to gain an overview of current status of research in the LTER network, to assess current technological capabilities and to identify areas of research that will likely be important in the future.
2. Meet in January with project representatives from the 15 LTER projects to discuss scientific questions requiring consideration in the next five years and the technologies needed to answer these questions. Prepare brief agenda for technologists.

3. Meet in late January with selected group of technologists (including experts outside of LTER Projects). Prepare draft of report on the design of hardware and software systems needed to address important scientific questions
4. Complete report and submit to NSF by end of February 1988.

Membership of the Advisory Committee

Parton, William J. Natural Resources Ecology Laboratory Colorado State University Fort Collins, CO 80523	303/491-5571
Shaver, Gaius R. - Executive Secretary Ecosystem Center Marine Laboratory Woods Hole, MA 02543	617/548-3705
Shugart, Herman H. - Chairman Department of Environment Sciences University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA 22903	804/924-7761
Stafford, Susan G. Forest Service Oregon State University Corvallis, OR 97331	503/754-2111

We are grateful to these busy people for their willingness to help with this task vitally important to the future of the LTER activity. We especially thank Hank Shugart for agreeing to serve as Chairman, and Gus Shaver as Executive Secretary.

January (early) Meeting of LTER Project Directors

Invitations to this meeting will be issued soon to all project directors and to Chairman of LTER Coordinating Committee.

January (late) Meeting of Technological Specialists

Attendees to be selected by Advisory Committee in consultation with BSR Staff. Invitations in late November

These two meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. at NSF expense. Travel information will be forthcoming at an appropriate time.



Addressees: Advisory Committee
LTER Project Directors
Chairman, LTER Coordinating Committee
Committee of Technological Specialists
Dr. Paul Risser, Chairman U.S. SCOPE Committee

David Kingsbury, AD/BBS