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IM Exec VTC 2011-10-11

Sun, 10/09/2011 - 7:25pm — mobrien [1]

11 October 2011 -- 10:00 AM Mountain

Participants
Members: Don Henshaw, Margaret O'Brien (co-chairs), Dan Bahauddin, Sven Bohm, Emery Boose, John Chamblee, Jason Downing
Ex officio: James Brunt, Yang Xia

Topics
1. EML Congruency Checker
2. All-Scientists Meeting
3. IM-Exec Tasks
4. Working Group Liaisons
5. Water Coolers
6. Workshops
7. LTER Core Areas

1. EML Congruency Checker

For now the ECC should be regarded as in-house tool to help sites prepare datasets for the NIS. Recommend waiting until later (perhaps the Science Council meeting) before bringing the ECC to the attention of the EB.

Next steps? The LNO is anticipating a workshop or buy-out proposal. Duane will not be available to work on the ECC this fall. It may be possible to update the report appearance fairly easily.

The ECC can be run by Margaret or anyone with CuRL. There is a plan to run the entire report again in December 2011.

Not all ECC responses are informative at this point. It would help to have someone (e.g. Gastil) work with individual sites to interpret their reports. This would be a significant effort (maybe 25% of someone's time over the next year).

The Data Manager Library is not scheduled for further work until early next year. Duane is moving to a different part of the NIS. It may be June before the LNO can get back to the ECC. Explore other avenues to fund work on the core Java code. Maybe redirect some NIS developer salary. If possible include some support for individual sites.

2. All-Scientists Meeting

The ASM 2012 organizing committee includes Dan, Jonathan, and Kristin.

At past ASM meetings, the IM cabin has been useful for meetings and socializing. Request the cabin again next year. The cabin has been assigned to IM-Exec in the past. Maybe assign to non-IM-Exec (or randomly) next year.

3. IM-Exec Tasks

Updated task assignments for IM-Exec members:

Co-chairs = Don & Margaret
Meeting organizer = Dan
Keeper of the lists = Jason
Water coolers = Sven
Scribe = John
EB representative = Emery

4. Working Group Liaisons

Updated working group liaisons from IM-Exec:

Controlled vocabulary = Don
Units = Sven
Governance = Emery
Web services = Sven
GIS = Jason
EML best practices = Margaret
EML congruency checker = Margaret
IM website = John
DEIMS = Dan

5. Water Coolers

Normally water coolers are scheduled 3-4 months ahead.

November = workshop proposals (see below)
December = QA/QC for aggregated data (postponed from IMC meeting). Wade & Suzanne.

Update IM website with future water coolers. If possible, move schedule link to header at top of page. Maybe separate past and future pages. Past page could include notes.

Fewer IMs sign up for the Tuesday 11 am (ET) slot. Is this time inconvenient or do people prefer the first meeting? Circulate an email proposing Tuesday noon (ET).

6. Workshops

See IM website for a list of action items and workshop topics from the IMC meeting. Some topics are closely related and might be combined.

Ideas for production workshops: (1) FGDC to EML 2.1 conversion, (2) EML congruency checker requirements, (3) extending SiteDB for use with value-added databases, (4) Endnote XML to EML citation conversion.

Ideas for training workshops: (1) web services, (2) XSL stylesheets, (3) controlled vocabulary with Tema Tres. Note: workflows workshop is already funded.

Ideas for buy-outs: (1) finish PersonnelDB, (2) ECC on-call help for site IMs.

BiblioDB. Off-the-shelf solutions are now available. But links to other databases (such as PersonnelDB) are needed.

SiteDB. Wrap in web service to support extraction of EML metadata for other projects such as ClimDB (e.g. site descriptions and coordinates). This would facilitate the inclusion of StreamChemDB into the NIS. Extension of SiteDB is relatively easy; the challenge is to design the web service to support future uses.

Our current programming needs may exceed the available time, expertise, and funding.

Web service languages. PersonnelDB web service is PHP. No standard approach at this time. Other LTER web services are written in Java or Perl. Others use Ruby. Once the API is specified, the choice of language becomes less important. However it may be important from a maintenance standpoint, esp. for multiple web services.

Use early November water coolers for discussion of workshop topics and proposals. Proposed dates = Oct 31 and Nov 7.

Proposed submission dates for production workshop and buy-out proposals: Nov 18 = submission to IM-Exec, Dec 15 = submission to LNO. These proposals are reviewed by IM-Exec. LNO makes the final decision.

The conflict of interest problem was discussed at the last IMC meeting. Solicit a few volunteers to help IM-Exec with proposal reviews. Include a NISAC liaison (or the entire NISAC IM membership). IM-Exec can simply list the merits of each proposal and indicate the relative strength of support. LNO can then engage NISAC as needed.

Training workshops are reviewed by the EB. The submission schedule will be set shortly.

Send an email to the IMC. Margaret will create a website listing ideas and currently funded workshops and inviting suggestions. Funding constraints for this year: two production workshops, two training workshop, and two buy-outs.

7. LTER Core Areas

The core areas should apply to the dataset, not the project. So a search for primary production should not return climate data.

Not every dataset has a corresponding LTER core area.

More discussion is needed on the role of the core areas.

Meeting Notes [2]

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