Published on *LTER Information Management* (http://im.lternet.edu)

Home > IM Exec > IMExec VTC 2016/09/07 Notes

IMExec VTC 2016/09/07 Notes

Thu, 09/08/2016 - 10:49am — searl [1]

LTER IM Exec Meeting (via Zoom)
2016-09-07
Attendees: Yang Xia, Gastil Gastil-Buhl (chairing), Stevan Earl (note taker), Margaret O'Brien (for EB report only), Wade Sheldon, Jonathan Walsh (apologies for not being able to attend)

Meeting agenda:

- Review the IM Exec agenda following 2016 meeting
- EB report (Margaret)
- NCO report (Gastil)
- ORCIDs
- IMC annual meeting

Exec agenda, most items are complete:

1. updating imexec@lter - DONE
2. scheduling our Sept vtc - DONE
3. confirming roles - DONE
4. updating the imexec drupal page
   - This page updated: http://im.lternet.edu/home/imexec [2]
   - This page updated: http://im.lternet.edu/node/709 [3]
   - Stevan says: Please review changes!
   - Gastil reviewed & added more edits. - DONE
5. meeting report TASKED (J.Conners). James Conners will produce report from the 2016 meeting

EB report from Margaret:

EB met on the August 29th. They have spent a lot of time recently communicating with NSF. NSF has provided guidelines regarding LTER governance, in part to guide NCO as to funding prioritization. Science council and EB meetings (one each, annually) are items that the EB would like the NCO to prioritize. EB is comfortable with the idea of IMC investigating how to address funding for their own future meetings. EB is planning an online meeting among NSF and all site PIs. Planning also a mini-symposium for Feb or Mar 2017, likely a series of short talks followed by discussion. EB happy to welcome Wade as the IMC rep. Science council meeting in 2017 will be at NTL, Hubbard Brook to follow. EB and NCO still outlining their respective roles. NCO will review Strategic plan (2010, document archive). IMC has been good about considering this document in their plans, more so than other groups. Marty is the keeper of the email lists.

Gastil reporting on monthly meeting with NCO:
Gastil and Marty have a standing meeting the first Thursday of every month, and have had their first meeting. Agenda items from NCO included: (1) IM training, and (2) email lists.

1. regarding training

- The NCO is aware of new sites coming on board. Matt Jones is developing training for the ADC that might also be available to EDI.
- Questions to the group: Do we need to guide the type of training that an IM would need? Do we want to provide input as to the type of individual that new sites should hire?
- Concern that NCEAS may be overly focused on their software stack, so an LTER-centric approach is appropriate. Some ideas include developing a welcome pack, which could capitalize on materials already available on the website. A mentoring program could be effective.
- We should be cautious about recommendations regarding the type of personnel that sites should hire; a preferred approach may be to be helpful if input is sought but not be proactive about this.
- We could curate career development materials that would include training needs, etc. Compiling past IM job descriptions, which are not confidential, may be helpful to new sites.
- Wade would consider being a trainer for GCE toolbox, but that might be facilitated and/or more appropriate via EDI in lieu of generic training so wait to see how EDI develops.
- Though an LTER focus is recommended, we should not necessarily disregard NCEAS resources as they have valuable components.
- We need to identify the needed and desired skills that an IM should possess.
- Generally concluded that we will wait for opportunities that the EDI will present to become clearer, after which we can work to identify areas where the LTER can contribute. Stevan will raise the idea of developing a working group to explore this at the water cooler.

2. regarding email lists

- Before migration of email lists to another system, NCO is identifying those lists no longer in use versus which lists remain useful. In preparation for that, they have shared with us a spreadsheet List of (email) Lists. Most have already been determined to be discarded or kept. So this is mostly just information-only at this stage.
- Marty suggests the site IMs may be the best first contact point at each site to update (or provide input regarding) email lists.
- Generally concluded that the lists should be made available to the IMC, and those that are interested can provide feedback.

ORCID IDs:

- Discussed whether all IMs should have secured an ORCID in advance of the coming water cooler meeting, and asking IMs to volunteer how they will encourage adoption of ORCIDs at their sites.
- Generally agreed that ORCIDs warrant further consideration, and asking IMs to secure their own IDs is appropriate and would be helpful to the conversation. However, given short lead time, this will be a topic for a following water cooler.

IMC annual meeting:
Goal is to discuss the concept in general, but not necessarily to work on meeting details.

- Gastil noted that Marty sees real value in an all-hands meeting after having attended one

herself. Funding through the NCO is highly unlikely, but NCO could assist with the process of securing supplemental or external funding.

- IMExec discussed whether attendance at annual meetings should be required. The general consensus is that, while there is tremendous value in having all sites represented, we do not have the capacity to require attendance (though all sites should be encouraged to participate).
- Recognized that how EDI develops could have ramifications for IMC meeting, and that it is difficult to realistically consider logistics for an IMC meeting until there is additional clarity as to the structure of EDI.
- Stevan suggested that Dave Garrison's thoughts on IMC meetings are critical to identifying how we move forward. Gastil will discuss this issue with Dave.
- Need additional information (i.e., relation to EDI, input from NSF (Dave)) before we can begin to consider the details of future meetings.

Other business:

Yang has suggested that we need to consider putting effort toward updating IM-related criteria for site reviews. Yang will suggest formation of a working group to address this at the coming water cooler on Sept 12th.

Water cooler agenda items:

- EB report
- Stevan to explore creation of working group that would develop IM training materials
- Opportunity to provide feedback on emails lists
- ORCIDs will be on the agenda for the following water cooler
- Yang to suggest formation of a working group to address IM-related review criteria for site reviews

Meeting Notes [4]

Source URL: http://im.lternet.edu/node/1282

Links:
[1] http://im.lternet.edu/user/79
[2] http://im.lternet.edu/home/imexec
[3] http://im.lternet.edu/node/709
[4] http://im.lternet.edu/taxonomy/term/3