Virtual Update Notes January 5 & 6, 2009 - Planning ASM Workshops

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Tue, 01/06/2009 - 5:59pm — sremillard

Planning ASM Workshops

To begin planning for the September 14-16 ASM Workshops

Participants:
Monday (1/5): Corinna Gries (CAP; moderator), Don Henshaw (AND), Karen Baker (PAL), Margaret O'Brien (SBC), Jason Downing (BNZ), Suzanne Remillard (AND; note taker)
Tuesday(1/6): Nicole Kaplan (SGS; moderator), Barbara Benson (NTL), Sven Bohm (KBS), Jonathan Walsh (BES), John Porter (VCR) note taker), Jim Laundre (ARC), Theresa Valentine (AND), Emery Boose (HFR)

Monday Notes:

Workshop Ideas:
(1) Data Access/Data Authoring/Data Provenance
(2) Work Flows (Matlab, Keppler, R scripts, others)
(3) Cross-site databases (ChemDB, VegDB)

(4) Sensor Networks
(5) GIS/Social Science

General Questions/Comments about ASM:
Workshop registration dates for ASM have not yet been announced.
Are we planning workshops for IM meeting or for ASM?
Do we want to plan workshops geared towards IMs or more general science?
Is there ILTER participation?

It's not clear that we will have money to support international folks. It seemed like our meeting benefited from having such a strong international representation. Kristin Vanderbilt and Peter Arzberger organized this component last time. We can check with Kristin.

We will have a one day IM meeting before ASM. Last time we had a one day IM meeting, a committee day, then 3 ASM days. Our IM meeting didn't bring in any non-IM folks and then the IM folks participated in science workshops during ASM. This year's format will be different. We should try to find a happy medium between an IM centered workshop and science oriented workshops.

(1) Data Access/Data Authoring/Data Provenance Workshop (Corinna)
Perhaps organized around issues that Henry has brought up recently regarding data access. Authorship; who is getting credit and who is responsible? Chain of responsibility. Where should PI names appear and where should they not? Writing citation for data set use, which relates to originators and scientists that should get credit. Signature and Provenance where provenance is a way of describing ownership and change of a data set. Expand idea on data set credit, data set online. Discuss the problem that IMs really have with getting the data set online. Some issues were discussed at data access VTC (Dec 8/9). One real problem is that PIs don't even ever submit their data.

Is a panel with invited speakers a good way to bring in scientists to discuss this issue?
We could expand on this idea and decide who we could invite.

General panel organization (5 or 6 people)
An LTER IM
An LTER Scientist
Henry Gholz
Network office representative
External person to LTER

Specific people to invite:
James Frew (USBC) - http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/people/Faculty/james_frew.htm [1]
United Nations; Scientific committee on Oceanic Research, Dr. Urban (SCOR, Belgium)
DRYAD (NSF) data publishing for ecological data sets
Ecological Archives (SDSC) - Bill Michener

NCEAS person
John Briggs or Barbara Bond (NISAC??)
Someone from library community

(2) Work Flows Workshop

Matlab users – basic goal of sharing code and common practices. (Margaret & Wade)

Not enough time to do analysis on data. Perhaps a Matlab workshop would encourage scientists to participate.

Keppler – is it stable enough now? Matlab can be used within Keppler. Can we couple a workshop to use Matlab and then to use Keppler. Is the Taiwan group using Keppler? (Chin) Are there others that have used Keppler? An NCEAS person is using Keppler for a met tower.
R scripts (Christine). Margaret will work on a workflow for data processing.

(3) Cross-site Databases Workshop
ChemDB (Sherri Johnson)
VegDB (Mark Harmon)

In the past, IM participation has been part of other cross site workshops. This led to the expansion of ClimDB to include HydroDB. For example this year, ChemDB may have its own workshop and should include IM. We should maintain an IM component in any cross site study workshops. Don will talk to Sherri and Mark.

Could be generalized to two broader workshop topics such as
1. 2009 ASM: Network science and lessons learned from cross-site database efforts
2. 2012 ASM: Local information environments and scientific cross- site data integration

So as to consider the particulars and lessons learned with cross-site efforts in practice (2009: technical) framed by the context within which we work where the solutions are emerging (sociotechnical).
There's a natural link to draw in the scientists via a panel with leads from the science projects. They might appreciate this opportunity to share and compare their experiences.

The recent mandate to have sites summarize and post categorized lists of their datasets has prompted some productive local discussions. Seems we would learn from what could be a long- term proactive approach, ie an overview of cross-site database efforts (and their links if they exist)? A summary of efforts and list of 'signature cross-site datasets' might help us begin to see similarities and differences as well as to reflect upon design and information infrastructures.

(4) Sensor Networks Workshop

Sensors – some sort of follow up from Environmental Information Management

Conference in September 2008 (Barbara Benson, Barbara Bond)
Don will talk to Barbara Bond.

(5) GIS/Social Science Workshop

GIS – census data; human dimension data (with social science perspective)
(Theresa Valentine)

Karen talked about her experience at the Social Science meeting in Puerto Rico
in December 2008. Social scientists tend to use spatial data.

GIS working group has been making headway over last several years. Work
became a bit ruffled once Barry left CWT since his site was serving as the
backbone to much of this data. Ted Gragson mentioned that they already have
the person on site that will replace Barry and that person is a GIS person.
Perhaps this person can become engaged with the existing working group.

Don and Suzanne are sure that Theresa is planning something and she will be
on the call tomorrow.

Tuesday Notes:
IM VTC 1/6/2009 - planning for ITC

A. In attendance
1. Kaplan
2. Benson
3. Bohm
4. Walsh
5. Porter
6. Laundry
7. Valentine
8. Boose
B. Report from Nicole on discussions at recent workshop regarding Socio-
ecological (SES) research issues

pertaining to data management, models and cross-site SES studies. Look for
white papers, which are under

development.
C. Possible workshops
1. Policy Makers and SocieoEcological Research - suggestion
from Susan - Judy Cushing and Susan working with policy
makers etc.
a) Think about workshops related to socioecological science planning meeting in
Mid December
1) how to conduct cross site socioecological research projects
2) how to deal with sociological data issues
3) modeling

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b) will be creating 3 white papers to address ISSE

c) IMs can help deal with data integration issues

d) tools that work with policy makers and land managers

e) cross site research planning discussions

f) Interested parties

1) Kaplan

2. Facilitating Data Discovery - build on Controlled
vocabulary ?

a) may not be sexy enough to bring in PIs

1) NISAC may be better route, but need communicatio between NICAC and
IMs and NISAC and PIs or

IMS and PIs

b) need to be creative about how we frame it. . . .

1) Data discovery workshop might draw in more PIs

a> also might be good for graduate students

1> could make one of the themes - data discovery in the context
of cross-site work

c) interested parties

1) Porter

3. TRENDS

a) invested a lot in EcoTrends - opens new avenues in science

b) also lots of issues about how trends will become dynamic and
updatable

c) activities

1) presentation on how TRENDS works - data in and data out

2) build on discussions of scientists - research ideas

a> brief reports

3) would provide input for IT side

4) could compartmentalize TRENDS system so it can by dynamic
and updatable

5) are there other Ecotrends workshops out there

a> expectations for system

b> lead to Part II workshop - issues with interface, data and
information flow

6) want articulate expectations

4. GIS

a) social scientists and demographic data

b) report on server interface

1) touch base with Coweeta on geospatial database under development (GIS
server)

2) GIS server came up at SES workshop in December as resource to support
x-site SES research

a> Coweeta did bring it up quite a bit

b> PIE talked about GIS models using 2 maps from every site to
look at change

3) use server to meet questions regarding landscape change

c) Interested parties

1) Walsh

2) Valentine

5. Sensor Systems

a) sensor systems papers coming out....

1) is 3 years time enough to revisit

6. International IMs

a) check with Kristin

7. Training emerging scientists in IM and IT

a) want to involve scientists about making this part of
graduate education

b) NTL has done graduate seminar

c) VCR teaches graduate class

d) AND does annual seminar for graduate students

e) Nicole is interested - starting to get involved at CSU

f) Interested parties

1) Bohm

8. Data ownership from yeseterdays meetings

9. IM committee governance

a) Eda Karen and Nicole working on governance issues for IM
committee

1) will go through IMEXEC

2) question

a> is this internal in IM or should it be more widely dealt
with

b) may be more internal than ASM . . . . . .

10. Data models for QA/QC systems

a) could frame workshop as identifying issues - involve
scientists

b) aim - comprehensive system for tracking sensor status etc.

c) may be better internal

d) what is status so far?

e) could lead to a paper

1) could delineate realm of QA QC

2) longer range goals - develop some standards

f) might be a good workshop for IMs that involved outside folks

- Virtual Updates [2]

Source URL: http://im.lternet.edu/node/388

Links:
[1] http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/people/Faculty/james_frew.htm
[2] http://im.lternet.edu/taxonomy/term/169