

Virtual Update Notes February 2 & 3, 2009 - ILTER update



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Mon, 01/26/2009 - 10:07am — sremillard

ILTER Happenings and Update

Participants:

Monday (2/2): Kristin Vanderbilt (moderator), Suzanne Remillard, John Porter, Jason Downing, Margaret O'Brien

Tuesday(2/3): Kristin Vanderbilt (moderator), Mark Servilla, James Brunt, Jonathon Walsh, Corinna Gries, Nicole Kaplan, Theresa Valentine, Ken Ramsey, Emery Boose

Monday Notes:

by Suzanne Remillard

See attached PowerPoint presentation.

Slide 1 - map of ILTER; currently 4 regions (used to be 6). Countries come and go in participation.

Slide 2 - established in 1993 at ASM in Estes Park. Current chair is Terry Parr.

Slide 3 - activities; annual meetings, regional meetings, establishing a secretariat. The hope is to have an actual office; there needs to be some sort of structure.

NSF will provide 50K to hire a director and the other countries must provide the other 50K.

What are the objectives of ILTER? The secretariat will continue to get grants to support their position. The objectives are to support collaborative research. Slide 4 - Kristin participates in the EML and Ontologies group. This workshop was to support IM within the ILTER. The workshop discussed the 2 standards. ILTER decided to adopt EML as its metadata standard and provide metadata to an archive in English. Needs to train people on how to turn their metadata into EML.

Slide 5 - Some interaction with the US LTER. The first IM training was held at SEV in 1993 for CERN.

Slide 6 - Another workshop in 1996 for Czech Republic and Hungary.

Slide 7 - Another workshop in Vacratot, Hungary in 2000. This was a follow-up to the 1996 workshop.

Slide 8 - Workshop in 2002 in Maputo, Mozambique.

Slide 9 - Lessons learned from early ILTER IM workshops.

Slide 10 - Beijing 2005; a sequence of workshops.

Slide 11 - Follow-up in Taiwan in 2006.

Slide 12 - Students created email list.

Slide 13 - ASM 2006

Slide 14 - Shanping Forest, Taiwan 2007. Kepler, Scientific Workflows. E-learning is likely the wave of the future.

Slide 15 - IM Training Videos to help ILTER with various types of training.

Slide 16 - It would be nice have participation from LTER IM community to create new videos.

Slide 17 - 75K to bring ILTER folks to ASM (4 scientists and some IMs). Kristin will nominate some international people that can contribute to our working groups (see list from Winter IMEXEC meeting, Feb 2009 in Albuquerque). Kristin is looking for suggestions about who would be good candidate IMs to invite. Perhaps asking for a one paragraph justification/purpose from interested IMs and then select from these documents.

Tuesday Notes:

by Emery Boose

See Kristin's power point for additional details.

ILTER began at 1993 All-Scientists Meeting. Jim Gosz was lead organizer at first.

ILTER strategic plan in 2006. Still no central office. NSF provided initial funding but is now stepping back. Each country makes a contribution.

ILTER vision: "a world in which science helps prevent and solve environmental and sociological problems." Similar to LTER vision.

10-year goals are contained in strategic plan. IM plays a key role.

Activities include annual meetings and science workshops. Recently some syn-

thetic activities. Also regional meetings, esp. Asia and Europe.

Need for a director. Only volunteers to date. New director would seek funds for own position and for collaborative research. NSF to provide \$50k if ILTER can match. Kristin is IM chair.

ILTER needed to choose between EML and European ontological system as its metadata standard. EML was selected for now with the expectation of transitioning to an ontological system in the future. The current European system lacks tools and existing tools are mainly in German.

But how to implement EML standard? No money for IM in other countries.

IM training workshops (see power point for details): Seville 1993, Seville 1996, Hungary 2000, Mozambique 2002, Beijing 2005, Taiwan 2006, ASM 2006, Taiwan 2007, Korea 2007.

Biggest need for training is in information management. Workshops are best option, but e-training is more cost effective.

Current training videos by Kristin, Inigo, and Karen. Available on this website. Volunteers for future videos include Mark and Jonathan.

Need a Getting Started video. What do you need to know about your site? What is the role of an information manager?

Videos might be shared as an ASM evening event (but might be too long).

Bob Waide has asked us to nominate ILTER individuals for the ASM. We might match individuals to ASM workshops. Solicit suggestions from the sites.

Each ASM workshop needs a dedicated leader to submit a proposal and organize the session. Are any ILTER individuals interested in leading a workshop? Perhaps co-lead a workshop. Or give a presentation.

Need to finalize workshop list before sending out invitations. We are waiting for ASM announcement from Bob Waide. ASM planning committee has not met recently but will meet in a couple of weeks.

IM meeting at ASM will likely be only 1 day.

Could VTC be used for international IM training? Time zone difference could be a problem, but might be feasible for occasional sessions. No bandwidth in some areas (Africa).

ILTER has a website and is looking for site information. US LTER has not provided site data yet. Plan is to use SiteDB. James will post a list of required information on this website.

Some relevant parts of SiteDB have not been filled out by all sites. See list posted by James. For example: primary research site info, climate info, site picture. Need a collective effort by IMs to complete. How to get sites to provide info?

Use LTER Intranet to access admin feature on SiteDB.

Some ambiguity in current SiteDB fields that requires clarification. Collective memory is failing. Just needs someone to clarify.

US IMC is working on documenting its history, organizational structure, etc. Is this of interest to ILTER? At this point ILTER has only its charter and limited participation.

Attachment	Size
ILTER.ppt [1]	9.93 MB
ILTER-Sitedb.pdf [2]	10.47 KB

- Virtual Updates [3]

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Links:

[1] <http://im.lternet.edu/sites/im.lternet.edu/files/ILTER.ppt>

[2] <http://im.lternet.edu/sites/im.lternet.edu/files/ILTER-Sitedb.pdf>

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