

WIRED

IM **W**ebSite Improvement & **RE**Design Group

Origin: Resulted from the 2016 IMC Annual Meeting in Santa Barbara

Original Membership:

Brian Herndon (CWT), Jason Downing (BNZ), Corinna Gries (NTL), Suzanne Remillard (AND) and Marty Downs (LNCO)

Original Objective:

Migrate IM.LTERNET.EDU from Drupal 6 to Drupal 7

Original Scope:

1. Identify all the broken links and missing information at the current sites
2. Address the structure and content of the current sites and decide what should reside where

WIRED Year 1 progress

- Committee created a website decisions document that attempted to identify basically four categories of content on the current website; (1) move to EDI, (2) stay as active content (3) archive or (4) out of date
- Nick Outin (LNCO) set up a sandbox Drupal 7 site and migrated the content from the old site
- Brian and Jason were evaluating various modules and their use on old website as not all modules were supported from Drupal 6 to 7
- LNCO was working on a new website and their progress was slower than anticipated; it was unclear whether we could continue to use our im.lternet.edu domain

WIRED Year 2 progress

- Change in committee membership to Suzanne Remillard (AND), Marty Downs (LNCO) and Margaret O'Brien (EDI)
- Margaret has begun migrating those items identified as moving to EDI
- LNCO has a new WordPress website
- Marty created a proposal regarding content disposition in this new era of collaboration
- Committee met to discuss this proposal and hash out some details

<http://im.lternet.edu/>



LTER Information Management

▼ Meetings

- Annual IMC Meetings
- Virtual Update
- Training Workshops

Includes working documents and meeting notes

▼ Resources

- IM Practices
- IM Guidelines
- Training Materials

Includes final products

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Includes working group notes, products, software, etc.

▼ Projects

- NIS Proposals
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- EML Congruence Checker WG
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- IMS Guidelines
- Data Package Reporting WG
- Digital Asset Management
- IM Website Improvement and Redesign (WIRED) WG
- IM training WG

Proposal at a glance

See full proposal: https://docs.google.com/document/d/16gaeq-mjjndHvOnYcjZEJB_8YYwe5N1zMnX7ucSMznc/edit

- Information on resources, best practices, and completed projects should be incorporated into the existing LTER and EDI websites
- Working groups could have webpages like the synthesis WG with pointers to active documents or collaboration resources
- Active WG's may be better served through more fluid avenues of collaboration (GitHub, Google Docs, Trello, Dropbox, Slack, Waffle, etc.) with annual reports serving as the formal document that would be preserved on the LTER website
- Completed or inactive WG's should be documented like any other LTER working groups (participants, dates, abstract, final report)
- Make use of the IM Committee webpage on LTER website to house formal or final documents

WORKING GROUPS

The LTER Network has grown from a handful of independent sites to a true network with cross-site experiments, synthetic science, coordinated data management, and standard community practices. LTER community members managed a great deal of that growth, with modest financial support from the LTER Network Office in the form of working group funds. The record of past working groups is – in many ways – a record of the focus and priorities of the LTER Network through time.

Working Group Title	Principal Investigator	Type	Award Year	Final Report
LTER Metabase Software-as-a-Service development		Information Management	2011	
Data Management for LTER Ecologists Shortcourse – August 14 – 16, 2012		Information Management	2011	Final Report (PDF)
Synthesis and Establishment of Guidelines Toward the Management of Next-Generation Sequence Data		Information Management, Research	2010	Final Report (PDF)
An LTER Unit Registry: In Support of Data Integration		IM Product, Information Management	2009	
Collaborative development of a project database		Information Management	2008	Final Report (PDF)
Workshop to define quality management standards for data completeness in derived data products	Wade Sheldon	Information Management, Other	2006	Final Report (PDF)
Geospatial team		Information Management	2002	
Advancing the Sharing and Synthesis of Ecological Data: Guidelines for Data Sharing and Integration		Information Management	2000	Final Report (PDF)

WORKSHOP TO DEFINE QUALITY MANAGEMENT STANDARDS FOR DATA COMPLETENESS IN DERIVED DATA PRODUCTS

Published December 15, 2009

Integration of data sets from multiple sources is an important prerequisite for network level and cross-site synthesis studies in LTER, and scaling or re-sampling of primary data is often performed as part of this process. In the EcoTrends project, for example, fine-scale (e.g. hourly) measurements collected by LTER sites are rescaled to monthly or yearly time steps for analysis and display of long-term trends. However, discussions within the LTER IM community and in ASM workshops elucidated problems with both handling and reporting of missing and flagged measurements in source data when derived data sets are produced by and for the EcoTrends project and also by the LTER ClimDB/HydroDB database. We believe it is essential that LTER establish standards for re-sampling and temporally scaling incomplete and flagged measurement data used in synthesis projects, and for documenting this process to provide quality control information for the derived data products. In addition to benefiting LTER synthesis projects, these standards will inform development of data integration tools by LTER sites, LNO, and other projects and organizations such as NCEAS, SEEK, the Canopy Databank and CUAHSI.

In order to address these issues, we conducted an initial 2-day workshop on Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2007, in Las Cruces New Mexico. This workshop was attended by 13 people with broad expertise in environmental monitoring, data synthesis, and information management. Participants represented 9 LTER sites, the LTER network office, CUAHSI, NCEAS, the Canopy DataBank Project, as well as various standing committees and working groups in LTER (NISAC, IM-Exec, EcoTrends). Additional information about the workshop, major findings and products is presented in the attached report.



Start Date: November 30, 2006

Participants: Todd Ackerman

Sites Represented: NWT, CAP, NWK, NTL, JRN, SBC, CGE, AND, VCR, LNO

[Final Report \(PDF\)](#)

Product:

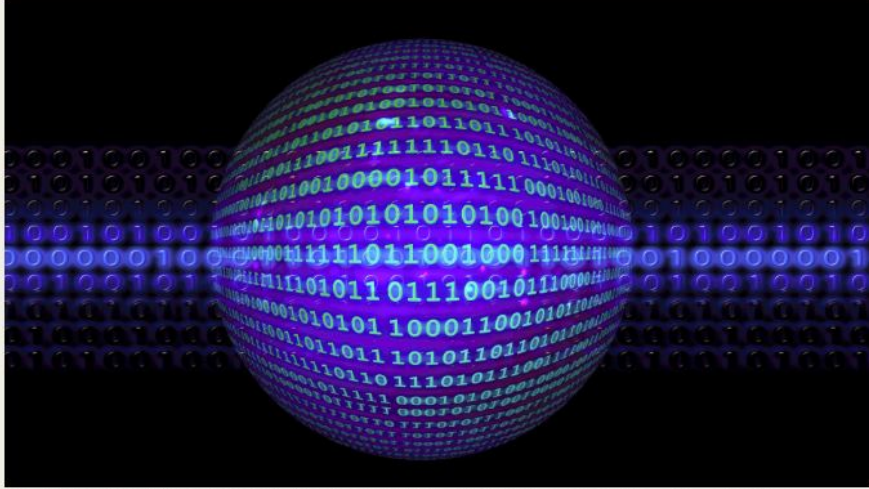
Publication: Sheldon, W.M. “Dynamic, Rule-based Quality Control Framework for Real-Time Sensor Data.” Proceedings of the 2008 Ecological Information Management Conference, Albuquerque, NM. Paper accepted

Proposal: Burd, A. and W. Sheldon. “prRAMID – Python Application for Real-Time Access to Metadata Integrated Datasets.” Proposal to the Marine Ecosystem-Based Management Tool Innovation Fund. (status: pre-proposal accepted, final proposal declined)

Software: GCE Data Toolbox for MATLAB (http://gce-lter.marsci.uga.edu/public/im/tools/data_toolbox.htm)

- Two working group sessions were held at the 2007 LTER Information Managers meeting in San Jose, Ca:
 - o QA/QC for Real-time Data (Sheldon and Henshaw)
 - o QA/QC for Metadata and Data Synthesis (Sheldon and Henshaw)
- An ad hoc QA/QC IMC working group and mailing list was established to follow up on issues raised in these workshops

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



The Information Managers Committee is a network-wide standing committee, and so includes representation from each site. The committee meets annually to plan and coordinate Network data management activities, and a steering committee (IMExec) meets monthly. Every third year, the IMC co-hosts the larger Environmental Information Management Conference. Activity areas that have broadreaching impact include:

- Metadata standards for ecology
- Published guidelines for managing research data
- Development of Network Information System modules
- National and international training in information management
- Sponsoring and participating in symposia and other outreach

Active Subcommittees (2016-2017):

- IM Exec
- Information Management guidelines
- Website guidelines
- Training
- The NISAC committee (combining IM and science) is relatively inactive at present.

Activities over past 2 years:

Annual in-person meetings, monthly online meetings, a mail list, working groups, primarily working online. In 2015-2016 the IMC contributed significantly to the envisioning and proposal for what became the Environmental Data Initiative.

Description: Committee of information management representatives from each site.

Chairs:

Document Archive

Includes:
 Abstract
 Description
 Current Chair(s)
 List of Members
 Related Links
 Documents

DOCUMENTS — INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

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Document	Post Date
Information Management Committee Annual Report (2018) Presented by Wade Sheldon, Information Management Committee Representative to the LTER Executive Board, May 2018 https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/IMC-LTER-Science-Council-2018.pdf	June 7, 2018
Guidelines for Website Design and Content These website guidelines were developed by a committee composed of information managers, communications professionals, educators and investigators. They were distributed to Information Management, Education, and Communication Committees and the Science Council for comments from March 22 to May 1, 2018. Comments were addressed and guidelines were reviewed and approved by the LTER Executive Board and Science... Read more » https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Guidelines-for-LTER-Web-Site-Design-and-Content-revised-2018-05-17.pdf	May 23, 2018
2018 Information Management Committee Annual Report The annual report of the LTER Information Management Committee, presented at the 2018 Science Council Meeting, is attached. https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/LTER-Information-Management-Committee-Annual-Report-2018.pdf	May 4, 2018
2017 Information Management Committee Meeting Report The 2017 LTER Information Managers Meeting was held in association with the Earth Science Information Partnership meeting in Bloomington, IN. A meeting report is attached. https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/2017IMCAnnualMeetingReport_final.pdf	May 4, 2018
2018 Spring LTER Databits The spring issue of the newly-revived DataBits is out, thanks to a reinvigorated editorial team. The full issue is available as a pdf and individual stories will also make their way onto the Network website over the next few weeks. Table of Contents Spring 2018 DataBits Featured Articles The International Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Global... Read more » https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2018DatabitsSpringIssue-web.pdf	March 22, 2018
Information Management System Guidelines 2018 revision The attached LTER information management system guidelines were updated in the fall of 2017 and approved at the December 2017 Executive Board Meeting. They reflect the current state of LTER information management and the establishment of the Environmental Data Initiative. https://lternet.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/LTER_IMS_Guidelines_V2_1_20180103.pdf	January 29, 2018
Data Access Policy (revised 5/19/2017) LTER Data Access Policy was revised at the 2017 Science Council Meeting to reflect new data sharing standards.	May 27, 2017

Caveats

- There isn't a simple migration path. Everything needs to be evaluated for full documentation and broken links. We need help from active and inactive working groups to migrate content
- We need to create best practices for WG operations going forward to maintain accountability
- We need non-technical training for how to use various collaboration tools and repositories
- In order to use the LTER document archive effectively, it needs attention in terms of tags and document type organization

GitHub as our tool of choice

- LTER/GitHub provides a perfect place for non-technical documents like meeting notes, presentations, and other working documents
- Types of repositories could include:
 - IMC_Admin – to contain IM-Exec meeting notes and other related administrative documents
 - IMC_WG_template – a naming convention template that could be used to house meeting notes and documents from working groups
 - IMC_WG_WIRED – to contain meeting notes and documents from the WIRED working group
 - IMC_WG_EML_BP – to contain meeting notes and documents from the EML Best Practices working group

Next Steps

- Create a few GitHub repositories and test document migration and organization
- Work with LNCO to pare down and improve document archive tags (start with IM documents)
- Share our progress and results with IMC
- Recruit individuals to be responsible for document migration of a particular project or working group

Questions and Discussion