

International LTER Committee Report (May 2020–November 2021)

1. **Date of report:** 7 November 2021
2. **Name of Committee:** International LTER Committee
3. **Name and site affiliation of the Committee Chair (or co-chairs or Executive Board):** Tiffany Troxler, FCE (Outgoing Co-Chair), Nancy Grimm, CAP (Co-Chair) and David Iwaniec, CAP (Incoming Co-Chair)
4. **List of current members:** Becky Ball, Nancy Grimm, Niall Hanan, Sally Holbrook, David Iwaniec, Wenjie Ji, Kate Lajtha, Michelle Mack, Jim Morris, Mark Ohman, Russell Schmitt, Tiffany Troxler, Kristin Vanderbilt, Mark Watkins
5. **How membership is determined (identified by sites, voluntary, appointed by the Executive Board, etc.)** New members will be solicited via an email to the all-LTER email list annually (this has not yet been done). Interested persons will submit a statement of interest to the co-chairs, who will select in collaboration with current committee members new members based upon site representation and ILTER regional connections. After a three-year term, former members can re-apply to be on the committee for a second term.
6. **Meeting frequency:** Twice per year; Last meeting July 2021; Next meeting tentatively planned for January 2022
7. **Major activities or accomplishments for the year:** The US LTER will be taking on the role of ILTER coordination, with former US ILTER Committee co-Chair Tiffany Troxler was elected as co-Chair of the ILTER in this Fall's ILTER Coordinating Committee meeting (11/9-11/12) and will become Chair in November 2022. Kristin Vanderbilt was elected to co-Chair of the ILTER Information Management Committee. We have continued to work on ways to fund this international coordination effort, and we welcome ideas from the EB or the network.

In our role on the ILTER EC, we have contributed to the development of plans for the 2022 Open Science Meeting, ILTER webinar series and highlighting key publications to increase visibility of ILTER impact.

The NATURA network of networks, an AccelNet project in which LTER and ILTER are participating networks, has hosted monthly webinars, supported thematic working groups, and supported student, postdoc, and other early-career researchers in fellowships to other networks. We need to do a better job of getting the word out about these opportunities to US LTER early-career scientists.

We submitted an ACCELNET Design Stage proposal entitled: AccelNet-Design: Forecasting and Managing Watershed Urbanization with Globally Distributed Networks (WatUrNet).

8. **Currently active subcommittees or working groups:** none
9. **Priorities for the coming year:** Solicit new committee members and get a better handle on committee membership and terms per our established operating guidelines; invest in additional efforts to secure funding for coordination of ILTER; work to bring US LTER urban sites into the NATURA network; use NATURA as a model to secure funding for additional LTER collaborations; conduct a survey of sites to document and establish a record of international collaborations; and reestablish the Americas Regional Network
10. **Any recent or upcoming changes in leadership, purpose, or process:** Tiffany Troxler will step down as co-chair on the committee in order to focus on being chair of the larger ILTER network. Nancy Grimm will continue as co-chair, and David Iwaniec will step into the co-chair role with Grimm.
11. **Do you see specific opportunities for improving network coordination (or coordination with other networks) that are of interest to your committee?**
 - a. If so, are there specific ways that the network leadership (PIs, LNO) could support your committee to realize those opportunities?

As mentioned above, we will seek to improve communication with the NATURA network of networks and potentially establish a new network (pending funding of AccelNet design-stage project). We are interested in improving awareness of international collaborations across all US LTER sites and recruiting new members to the committee who are committed to such collaborations.

Addendum: The ILTER Coordinating Committee is requesting up to TEN key papers representing US LTER. We have an idea we plan to implement, asking sites to select their top FIVE papers of all time. Potential important criteria: 1) emphasize long-term data, 2) represent research that involves cross-site or international collaboration, 3) transformative science. Once we have the top five from each site, we will organize the list and ask the community to vote on the top ten (probably within bins, to try to cover a range of topics that represents the diversity of the US LTER network).