**AGENDA**

***Using the metacommunity concept to synthesize biodiversity patterns across LTER sites***

**LTER ASM 2015 Workshop**

**Organizers:**

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| Eric R. Sokol (MCM, NWT)Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)University of Colorado, Boulder, COEmail: sokole@gmail.com | Christopher M. Swan (BES)Dept. of Geography & Environmental SystemsUniversity of Maryland, Baltimore County, MDEmail: cmswan@umbc.edu |

**Working group URL:** <http://asm2015.lternet.edu/working-groups/using-metacommunity-concept-synthesize-biodiversity-patterns-across-lter-sites>

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Task** |
| Mon (8/31) | 1600-1630 | *Introduction** Working group introductions (Sokol)
* What questions are researchers asking about LTER metacommunities? (All participants)
* Discuss/define working group objectives (Swan)
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|  | 1630-1700 | *Background and ideas for synthesizing LTER metacommunity data (5-10 min presentations)** Using metacommunity concept/modeling to interpret biodiversity patterns (e.g., see Sokol et al. 2015 attached document on working group website).
* Other researchers present ideas and/or past work
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|  | 1710-1800 | *Group discussion to narrow focus on specific research questions** How can we apply the metacommunity concept to synthesize LTER biodiversity?
* What quantitative approaches should we use?
* What data sets are available?
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| Tues (9/1) | 1330-1430 | *Group discussion to define research approach** Identify the types of variables, biodiversity metrics, and metacommunity parameters that are needed to address research question(s).
* Discuss, identify candidate LTER data sets that should be included in the synthesis project.
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|  | 1445-1530 | *Breakout groups to outline/draft products** GROUP 1 – Working group preliminary report -- summary of what was discussed, participants, etc.
* GROUP 2 – Data/metadata group -- amass data, strategy for analysis, outline workflow and standards for vetting data
* GROUP 3 – Proposal for follow-up workgroup (maybe same as report?)
* GROUP 4 – Outline synthesis manuscript for peer review publication.
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