MC Meeting  
Jan 11, 2016  
  
- The annual report was submitted, focusing mainly on the drought. We had 50 publications in 2015  
- We can use 90 day predate spending policy until we receive award money  
- Next proposal is due March 2018  
 - Whendee suggested using the 2015 proposal to build a plan for the 6 year proposal focusing on drought/disturbance interaction and also said it would help determine what data we need to collect to strengthen the future proposal  
 - Mike suggested using the comments and critiques from the recent proposal to refine the 2018 proposal and that we should use it to help prioritize publication  
 - Grizelle asked that Whendee share her notes from writing the 2015 proposal with the group  
 - Bob Waide should be encouraged to remain involved in writing the new proposal

- Instead of a drought special issue, it was suggested that people try to publish as soon as possible to a high profile journal and then focus later on a synthesis paper  
- There will be a position created at UPR for a new associate professor with the idea that they will be involved in the LTER after Nick’s retirement

- Logo -  
 - Sarah will create a dropbox account with LTER logos  
 - The competition will be announced soon with a March 15th deadline for submissions  
 - Submissions can be either a drawing or text and can be added to the dropbox account or emailed  
 - Judgement process TBD. Winning ideas will be used by a professional graphic designer to create the final logo

Next MC meeting: Feb 16, 3 pm AST, 2 pm EST  
Next LTER monthly meeting: Feb 23, 3 pm AST, 2 pm EST