**AGENDA**

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

**LTER ASM 2015 Workshop**

**Organizers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Eric R. Sokol (MCM, NWT)  Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR)  University of Colorado, Boulder, CO  Email: [sokole@gmail.com](mailto:sokole@gmail.com) | Christopher M. Swan (BES)  Dept. of Geography & Environmental Systems  University of Maryland, Baltimore County, MD  Email: [cmswan@umbc.edu](mailto:cmswan@umbc.edu) |

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **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) |
|  | 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 |
|  | 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? |
| 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. |
|  | 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. |