SEAC meeting, May 9, 2016

* Notes from last meeting approved
* Letter to Saran
  + Virtual panel for the award was held. Saran’s comments were replaced by more positive comments from the panel that now appear on Fastlane. No longer need to send a letter
* Review of agenda for June meeting
  + Public session at El Portal on June 9th, June 10th meeting at baseball field in Luquillo.
  + Joint field trip with LCZO on June 8th with a meeting later at El Verde for grad students and SEAC
    - Meeting will be ~1.5 hours
  + Maria suggested it would be helpful to send out a summary/update on what has been done and what needs to be done for in each working group in order to make the best of the allotted time
* Engaging graduate students/LUQ community
  + Jess would like the LUQ community as a whole, especially the graduate students, to be more cohesive and engaged. This will be important for the site review in 2017 but would be an overall positive achievement for LUQ
  + Maria said distributed seminars have worked well at Columbia
  + Maria suggested sending out a questionnaire to the students to see how they would prefer to interact and participate
  + Mike suggested asking what issues they face as graduate students, what the PI’s can do to assist them
  + Alan thinks it is important for the students to read the Tapestry book so that they have the important background information about the site
  + Alan also suggested researchers can speak with the graduate students about how their careers have changed and been shaped by their involvement in LTER
  + Maria proposed to start a small grant competition to fund a project proposal from students working at different institutions in order to promote interaction outside their normal student group
  + CAP and Sevilleta have graduate programs – could look for information or protocol from them
  + Tamara said there used to be graduate student meetings in between ASM meetings
  + Bob said that sometimes there are network sponsored events at ESA
  + **Aaron Hogan has created a draft survey incorporating these ideas and emailed it to the group. Please provide him with feedback**
* Site review
  + Will be March 2017
  + Whendee suggested trying to schedule it for spring break so that more people can attend
    - Sarah will send out a Doodle poll to determine best week