Education Committee:
Schoolyard LTER
‘working group’

Monica Elser  (CAP, Educator)
Rich Boone   (BNZ, Researcher)
Karen Baker  (PAL, Information Manager)
Patty Sprott (NET, Liaison)
Stephanie Bestlemeyer (JRN, Educator)

COMMITTEE INFORMATION PAGE
http://intranet.lternet.edu/committees/education/

SCHOOLYARD LTER PAGE
http://schoolyard.lternet.edu
SLTER History

• (1998) Education Committee first meeting
• Activities
  • Oct 1998 Biosphere meeting (13 LTER sites)
  • Nov 1999 Kellogg meeting (13 LTER sites)
    – Mission Statement
• (2000) Schoolyard LTER group first meeting
  -Activities
  -Recommendations
SLTER Activities

- Meetings & Presentations
  - Feb 2000 AAAS Poster
  - Aug 2000 LTER All-Scientists Meeting
  - Workshops
  - Dec 2000 Schooolyard Subgroup
  - Meeting at SDSC
  - Mar 2001 SDSC/NPACI Poster
  - Aug 2001 ESA Poster
SLTER Recommendations

The SLTER programs should promote and enhance opportunities for the K-12 school community to:

- Experience the nature of science with an emphasis on long-term ecological research (based on real-world science)
- Describe the local environment through observation, data collection, analysis and synthesis
- Interact with scientists to observe the research process, use of technology and communication of results
- Acquire an understanding of ecosystem diversity through linkages with a network of LTER sites
- Promote inquiry-based learning
- Explore the greater social context of science
SLTER Site Activities

- Schoolyard Experiments
- Classroom Visits
- Field Trips
- Teacher workshops
- On-line resources
- Curriculum Development
- Linking with other Ecol. Educ. programs
- General Outreach Activities
SLTER Cross-site Activities

• **Survey**
  - On-line survey to find more information about SLTER
  - People involved (per year)
    • 40 to 50 LTER PI’s, post-docs, and staff
    • 40 LTER undergrads & grads
    • >100 teachers
    • >2000 students
  - Funding
    • NSF Supplement
    • Other (Local, GK-12, USDA, other NSF)

• **Web Page**
  - Resource for Teachers & Kids
    • LTER site information
    • LTER data (basic ecological concepts for cross-site comparisons)
    • Multimedia Technology (images, video clips)
The Schoolyard LTER Website

• Interactive Virtual Tours of LTER sites and research projects

• Live Video Cameras from LTER sites

• Pre-recorded information about LTER research

http://schoolyard.lternet.edu
SLTER Future

• Continue Network-level Activities and Coordination
• Pursue External Funding Opportunities
• Promote Partnerships
  – Scientist-Educator-Information manager
  – National partnerships (NSTA, SDSC/NPACI, TEA, DLESE)
• Develop New Projects
  – NSTA publication
  – New and linked Web sites
  – Increase dataset availability