

## STEAC MEETING REPORT

(08/11/2021)

The STEAC met on August 11, 2021 with a quorum of seven members present (Anne Giblin, Kim Novick, Mike Dietze, Rob Guralnick, Jackie Matthes and Sparkle Malone). Five NEON-Battelle staff attended (Chris McKay, Kate Thibault, Darcy Gora, Nico Franz, and Zoe Gentes).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Approval of previous minutes; II. NEON Announcements; III. STEAC Term Lengths; and IV. Fall Meeting Planning.

**I. Approval of previous minutes:** Minutes approved.

### **II. NEON Announcements:**

- The call for ambassadors was sent out and NEON is looking for mentors for the program to serve in a leadership role.
- The new STEAC members are joining next month.
- The NEON recompetes is due in January.
- A Microbiologist position will be available at NEON.

**III. STEAC Term Lengths:** To allow for broader representation of the scientific community on the STEAC, term lengths for the STEAC can be reduced. It is important to note that it takes time for members to become active on the STEAC and to find replacements for members rotating off the STEAC. The STEAC identified an optimal term length: a 3 year term with the option to extend for an additional year, which can be done twice (3+1+1). We will vote in the Fall meeting.

**IV. Fall Meeting Planning:** Unfortunately it is not possible to have an in person meetings this fall. The STEAC selected the following meeting dates: 10/5 and 10/7. The STEAC also identifies a few potential topics of discussion:

- Update on the postdoc program. If possible, the STEAC would like the postdocs to give lightning talks.
- Update on the Ambassador program, the renewal and how the STEAC can assist, data, CI, and outreach.
- Vote on STEAC Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary appointments.
- How can the STEAC be more beneficial for early career individuals?
- Opportunities to meet at upcoming meetings.