

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Arid Lands III Summary global.arizona.edu/arid-lands

March 1, 2016

Members of the UA arid lands research community convened on March 1, 2016 for a third Arid Lands event (AL III). This meeting, planned based on participant suggestions in the December town hall, featured assets available to UA arid lands researchers.

Following lunch and introductory comments by Don Slack, the audience heard from four speakers:

- Tom Sheridan: Altar Valley Conservation Alliance
- Mitch McClaran: Santa Rita Experimental Range (SRER) and National Ecological Observation Network (NEON)
- Istvan Molnar: Arid Lands Resource Science Graduate Interdisciplinary Program (ALRS GDP)
- Ash Scheder Black: Office of Global Initiatives Opportunity Tracker and Arid Lands Expertise Database

Ash Scheder Black introduced a new platform (Arid Lands Expertise Database) for tracking UA researchers' arid lands expertise, which allows UA researchers will to identify their research expertise, geographical regions of interest and/or expertise, and researchers they have collaborated with.

Summary

There was significant consensus on several items at the December town hall meeting, including the need to draw in more graduate students, the need for events in which researchers can share their results with peers, and the need for a short-term strategy document with a capability statement. Arid Lands III was successful in that it attracted far more graduate students than the previous events. It also provided an opportunity for researchers to learn more about UA arid lands assets. Attendees also reviewed an outline for the short-term strategy document.

Next Steps

The UA Arid Lands Steering Committee will continue to work towards a short-term strategy document with a capability statement by building on the outline distributed at Arid Lands III. This document will help focus the direction of the group and will be useful in any meetings with the VPR, funding bodies, federal groups, etc. that may occur.

In addition, a poster session, which will likely occur near the end of the semester, will be planned.



Tues • Mar 1, 2016
SUMC • Tucson Room

UA Arid Lands III

global.arizona.edu/arid-lands

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 – Tucson Room, Student Union

Agenda

11:30 am	Buffet Opens
12:00 pm	Program Begins <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Don Slack – Welcome<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) Objective(b) Summary of December town hall(c) Short-term plan(d) Introduce speakers
12:10 pm	Speakers <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Tom Sheridan – Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (AVCA)2) Mitch McClaran – Santa Rita Experimental Range (SRER); National Ecological Observation Network (NEON)3) Istvan Molnar – Arid Lands Resources Sciences Graduate Interdisciplinary Program (ALRS GIDP)4) Ash Scheder Black<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) maps.global.arizona.edu for arid lands research opportunities(b) New platform for collaboration
1:00 pm	Event Concludes

Attendees

Saleh Ahmed
Mabel Alsina
Mary Ann Berg
Sandra Bernal
Cody Brown
Frank Camp
Sam Chambers
Jenny Columbus
Kamel Didan
Suzanne Fish
Stefanie Herrmann
Josephine Hilliard
Scott Jones
Kelly Mott Lacroix
Ryan Lee
Joy Liu
Donella Ly
Mitch McClaran
Thomas Meixner
Istvan Molnar
Marylou Myers
Rodolfo Peon
Yulia Peralta
Marie-Blanche Roudaut
Ash Scheder Black
Ibrahima Sall
Christine Scheer
Justine Schluntz
Tom Sheridan
Don Slack
Lois Wardell
Connie Woodhouse
Jeremy Weiss
Audra El Vilaly
Omar Youssef
Dragos Zaharescu