

MAREO GOVERNANCE WORKING RESOLUTION

DRAFT – 27 September 2004

Name and Purpose:

The name of this organization shall be *Mid-Atlantic Regional Ecological Observatory* (MAREO). MAREO will be the mid-Atlantic component of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), a new initiative by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a national platform for integrated studies of ecological processes and associated human-environment interactions at all spatial and temporal scales and levels of biological organization. NEON observatories will provide support and infrastructure for ecological research that will enhance our understanding of the natural world, improve our ability to predict the consequences of natural and anthropogenic events, and inform decision-makers. The purpose of the MAREO governance group is to oversee the development and operation of the MAREO consortium of sites and to develop a short and long-term governance structure for MAREO.

Membership:

Membership in the MAREO governance group is open to all individuals interested in advancing the NEON initiative within the mid-Atlantic region. Members must be in attendance at official MAREO meetings to suggest and vote on motions, resolutions and activities to be undertaken by MAREO.

Management:

The management of MAREO shall be vested in an Executive Board consisting of a 3-member Executive Council, and not more than 17 other members. The membership of the Executive Board shall be drawn from and approved by the MAREO membership.

The initial term of service of the appointed Executive Board will be for 1 year (ending October 1 2005). The Board is responsible for conducting regular, announced meetings for the MAREO membership, coordinating and communicating the development of MAREO with other observatories in the NEON initiative, and responding to opportunities for funding provided by NSF. Furthermore, the Executive Board will recommend a Constitution, By-laws, and a slate of officers to be approved and elected by the membership before the conclusion of their term on 01 October 2005.

Other Organizational issues

The Organization shall have no capital stock. No member shall be entitled to receive as dividends, profits, or otherwise, any property or money derived from the operation of said Organization, but all property earnings and income of the Organization, after the payment of necessary charges and expenses of operations, shall be used exclusively to carry out the scientific and educational purposes of the Organization.