

sDiv working group meeting summary

"sUrBioCity2"

- focal areas of discussion + main results/conclusions + open questions

All came to the meeting prepared to discuss the three papers we have planned: (1) focus on bird distribution within and across cities, (2) plant species distribution within and across cities, and (3) a conceptual paper aimed at developing the logic and rationale for a predictive frame to explain spatial variability in biodiversity within cities. At the commencement of the meeting, the group members responsible for the bird piece were quite far along, including drafting of the text. The work on the plants needed significant effort in terms data organization and cleanup. The conceptual paper was taken up by 3 and sometimes 4 members throughout the week.

- content of presentations

The meeting began with the PI presenting the status of the project, re-orienting the group back to the proposal, and reporting the outcome of some previous conference calls. Short presentations were made daily to bring the group up to speed on the three main efforts outlined above.

- which outputs were discussed and which steps were undertaken (e.g. journal article in Journal XYZ, presentation on conference XXZ, follow-up meeting ...)

The bird paper was nearing completion by the end of the workshop. No decision yet had been made on a publication outlet. This certainly can be done soon. The plant synthesis was still in the data organization stage, so we had not yet determined a publication outlet. In terms of the conceptual paper, much headway was made, and the desire to submit to TREE was agreed upon, but we are limited by the number of authors. We are mulling over a solution.

- balance between work on outputs, general brainstorming/ information exchange and participants presentations in %

This was much more of a working meeting compared to the first. Much headway was made on all three aspects of the project. Some brainstorming was taking place with regard to the conceptual paper.

As such, we see light at the end of the tunnel. By far, this aspect of the working group was the most difficult.

- inspiration for own work and/or further cooperation

One further development has been the acceptance of a species “issue” of *Frontier in Ecology and Evolution* on Urban Biodiversity. Swan is leading that with Brown and Knapp agreeing to co-edit. We are in the process now of codifying the proposal with the details needed before the call for papers will go out.

- general working atmosphere and feedback on sDiv support

As for the first meeting, the atmosphere was great, as was the sDiv support.

- next steps

The next steps are to learn the status of each paper. The data papers are likely further along than the conceptual paper. However, for the latter, all of the pieces are done, they just need to be put in place. We envision a quite thorough, well-rationalized, predictive framework for urban biodiversity within and among habitats in cities. It will be a fine addition to the literature.