



November 25, 2016

Dear Members of the EarthCube Advisory Group,

As chair of the EarthCube Leadership Council (LC), it is my pleasure to present to you the attached report created by the LC to convey to you and to the NSF the progress made over the past 9 months by the LC and the EarthCube community in addressing the concerns with the trajectory of the program, laid out in the February 2016 report of the Reverse Site Visit (RSV) Advisory Committee (AC). The LC has taken the critical insights of the RSV-AC and the excellent recommendations for improvement seriously and worked hard to re-direct the path of the program and implement change in accordance with the RSV-AC findings. Once again, the LC would like to express its gratitude to the RSV-AC (of which several of you were members) for helping EarthCube re-focus and move forward in the right direction to achieve its overall goals and scientific objectives. The LC is looking forward to working with the Advisory Group in the future to keep the program on a successful track and thrive.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thanks to the members of the LC for their dedication and service to the program and for the many hours of engaged discussions, writing, document review, and their diligent work over the past 9 months that not only helped generate the attached report, but also re-invigorated the LC and the broader EarthCube community. Thanks are also due to the staff of the ECTEG project at the Arizona Geological Survey and the EarthCube Science Support Office at UCAR for their most helpful assistance with the LC Face2Face meetings, teleconferences, document management, and specifically for keeping us focused and on schedule.

With best regards,

Kerstin Lehnert

Chair, EarthCube Leadership Council

