

Luquillo CZO Update
Dec 2009

Administrative

- Luquillo Website has been established: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/lczo/>
- We have hired a part time web-page manager (S. Horton) and a full time Data Manager (M. Leon) who will start in January
- Subcontracts to Penn State, UCB, UNH have been established.
- PI meeting in January 2010 and All Scientist Meeting in late May are planned.

Education

- Advertisements for Graduate students and Post-docs have been posted and we are conducting initial interviews of applicants.
- Several Graduate Student projects have already begun:
 - Nicol Khan: UPENN PhD student working with B. Horton on Coastal Sediments, also going to UK for special CZO training at the British Geological Survey
 - Cindy Nawal: UPENN MSAG capstone project on Hg contamination in historic Luquillo mine sites, Advisors Shanley, Vann, and Scatena
 - Rafael Jimenez: UPENN MSAG capstone comparing ground water hydrology in Volcanoclastic and Grandiorites, Advisors Mastropolo & Scatena
- Short course on “Climate and Critical Zone Processes in the Luquillo Mountains” is being planned for May 2010. The course will be taught by Scatena and Mayol and involve UPR students and LCZO data sets.

Infrastructure

- New climate station tower has been installed on East Peak by USFS and bulk rain samples will be collected and analyzed
- USGS WEBB program has obtained quotes for deep wells and is seeking additional funding for their installation
- USFS Sabana Field Station is being renovated and should be open by May

Cross-site activities

- LIDAR: submitted permit to National Forest for over flight
- Participated in CZO Data Management Committee
- Plante and Willenbring have been involved in starting cross-site research with the Delaware/Christina and Sierra CZO respectively

Collaborative Studies; Discussions regarding collaborative projects that will use LCZO infrastructure have been underway with the following groups

- O. Maylo UPR NSF African Dust project & JP. Pettridge Oregon State
- S. Porter, Brown University; NSF project on granitic weathering and P cycling
- Chiara Lepore & R. Bras, MIT, landslide modeling project
- Eric Lajeunesse, IPGP - Université Paris Diderot, will collaborate with Jerolmack on monitoring and modeling bedload and suspended load in Luquillo, with comparison to the Guadeloupe CZEN where Lajeunesse is a co-PI.
- Simona Balan and Ron Amundson from the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management University of California, Berkeley will be using LCZO facilities and rain water samples for a project on sulfur cycling.