



e-zine N° 10 – June 2008

Science Highlights

WCRP Joint Scientific Committee discusses progress and the programme's future

At the annual JSC meeting in Arcachon, France, 31 March-4 April, progress in implementing the WCRP Strategic Framework 2005-2015 and its future directions were discussed. Professor Tony Busalacchi is newly elected Chair of the WCRP-JSC, Dr David Griggs is Vice-Chair. [More](#).

Climate modellers call for establishing a World Climate Research Facility

At the [World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction](#), Reading, UK, 6-9 May, scientists agreed that model limitations are due to our inability to represent properly small-scale features such as storms and our lack of powerful enough computers. [Nature news & editorial](#). [Statement](#).

A short history of a long success story

Read about WCRP accomplishments during its 28 years' history in [La Météorologie](#).

ICSU reviews WCRP and IGBP performance

Until 15 May, ICSU collected all stakeholders' answers to a comprehensive poll around the question "what do you get out of supporting WCRP/IGBP that you would not have gained if the programme did not exist?" The final report is expected in September 2008. [More](#).

Climate model projects short-term cooling

A study published in *Nature* predicts a slight cooling of Europe and N-America due to a temporary weakening of the ocean current, masking the effect of climate change. [More](#).

More evidence for man-made changes in precipitation

Dr Xuebin Zhang and his team found "a detectable and attributable anthropogenic forcing of the latitudinal pattern of large-scale precipitation change". Read [article](#).

The WMO La Niña update: Cooling only temporary

La Niña causes a temporary cooling but global climate on average is warming. [More](#).

Successful ClimEco training seminar for young marine scientists

Early-career physical climate scientists and marine biogeochemistry/ecosystem communities met in Brest, France, April 2008, to enhance cooperation in ocean research. [More](#).

US CLIVAR Madden-Julian Oscillation Working Group provides key recommendations

As an outcome of their Nov. 2007 workshop new diagnostics to enable systematic evaluation of model simulations and forecasts of equatorial rainfall anomaly were introduced. [More](#).

World Meteorological Day 2008

On 25 March, WMO and its 182 Members celebrated World Meteorological Day around the theme "Observing our Planet for a Better Future". [More](#).

People

Farewell to WCRP/CLIVAR scientist Professor Schott

Physical oceanographer Professor Fritz Schott passed away on 30 April 2008. His research was focused on the 'grand' problems of ocean dynamics and climate in general.

WCRP scientist Dr Shukla receives annual IMO Prize

This year's 52nd International Meteorological Organization Prize was presented to Dr Jagadish Shukla who has been associated with the WCRP since its inception 28 years ago.

New Management for the WMO Research Department

Dr Ghassem Asrar ([more](#)), Director of the WCRP Joint Planning Staff, and Dr Len Barrie, Director of the Atmospheric Research and Environment Branch share the leadership for the new WMO Research Department ([organigram](#)).

WCRP scientists Professors Ramaswamy, Shukla and Lohman elected AGU Fellows

Congratulations to this year's elected Fellows of the American Geophysical Union! [More](#).

Publications

Developing strategies for future climate change science

The report of the Sydney Workshop "Learning from IPCC AR4" is now available for [download](#).

Year of Tropical Convection Science Plan

1 August is the starting date of this joint initiative of WCRP and [World Weather Research Programme-THORPEX](#) aimed at coordinated observing, modelling and forecasting of organized tropical convection and understanding its role in climate predictability. Read its [Science Plan](#).

Stochastic physics and climate modelling by Palmer & Williams (eds.)

The special issue of Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society can be [browsed online](#).

Assessment of Global Precipitation Products

The comprehensive report published by the WCRP/[GEWEX Radiation Panel](#) is available [online](#).

International Symposium: Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans

WCRP was one of main sponsors of the [symposium](#) (Gijon, Spain, 19-23 May 2008), which assembled 380 scientists from around the world. Download [abstract book](#).

JRA-25 Atlas: A long-term record of the state of the atmosphere

The Japanese 25-year Reanalysis covers the period from 1979 to 2004. [Online atlas](#).

ESSP-Global Water System Project Digital Water Atlas

The ESSP-GWSP has published a comprehensive set of online maps on water issues. [More](#).

Climate Mapper tool for SERVIR

The tool developed jointly by USAID, NASA and IAGT provides access to historical weather data as well as projections of climate change covering Africa and soon the entire globe. [More](#).

WMO World Weather Research Programme launched quarterly newsletter

To subscribe to WWRP eNews send an email to wwrp@wmo.int. Download [newsletter](#).

Latest news from WCRP activities

Read the latest newsletters from CLIVAR ([No. 45](#)), CLIVAR/VAMOS ([No. 4](#)), SOLAS ([Issue 7](#)).

Events

El Niño Southern Oscillation Summerschool, 14-23 June 2008, Hawaii, USA

Documents for this training in ENSO dynamics and forecasting are available [here](#).

SPARC 4th General Assembly, 31 August-5 September 2008, Bologna, Italy

Registration for this major WCRP event for atmospheric scientists is still open. [More](#).

Ibero-American Workshop on Seasonal Prediction, October 2008, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Four sessions on Modelling Science and its Contribution to Development are planned. [More](#).

World Climate Conference-3, 31 August-4 September 2009, Geneva, Switzerland

WMO, supported by WCRP, organizes this [event](#) to mobilize global efforts in climate prediction.