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JUNE/JULY
 Newsletter for the Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science (COECSS)

COECSS Report



Image from [John Allen's stormchasing blog](#). Picture John Allen

Welcome to the second newsletter from the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science (CoECSS). There is a lot of material in this second newsletter that we hope you find both interesting and useful.

Letter from the Director

Building collaborations with CAWCR and other partners

An area of vital importance for the CoECSS is our collaboration with CAWCR. CAWCR is a critical partner and we have been working together to try to expand collaboration. Advice for CAWCR scientists on how to engage with the CoECSS, and who to talk to about collaboration is now available.

[Read more.](#)

From the desk of Mike Rezny



CALENDAR

JUNE

June 25-27

Conference - [Taking the temperature of the Earth: Temperature, variability and change across all domains of the Earth's surface.](#)

(First annual Earth Temp Network Meeting)

The meeting aims to share a broad, authoritative overview of the state of the science relating to Earth's surface temperature and to allow participants to start new conversations that will further the science in future.

Keynote speakers: Phil Jones, Jose Sobrino, Elizabeth Kent, Chris Merchant, Ignatius Rigor, Dorothy Hall, Albert Klein Tank and John Kennedy.

Location: Edinburgh

June 26-28

Climate adaption on action

The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility invites you to its annual conference: Climate Adaptation in Action: sharing knowledge to adapt. The Climate

Mode development in a community supported model

As we move forward in the Centre of Excellence some terminology needs to be taken on board to help us communicate in common ways. [Read more at Mike's Corner.](#)

NEWS

COECSS completes its first CMIP5 historical run on ACCESS 1.0

Researchers from the Centre of Excellence have recently completed their first CMIP5 historical simulation for the Australian Community Climate and Earth System Simulator (ACCESS) 1.0 coupled model. [Read more.](#)

WCRP names Prof Jakob Co-chair of Modelling Advisory Council

The Deputy Director of the Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science, [Prof Christian Jakob](#), was recently appointed as the inaugural Co-chair of a new high-level modelling advisory panel for the [World Climate Research Programme \(WCRP\)](#).

The new [WCRP Modelling Advisory Council's \(WMAC\)](#) role is to strengthen the co-ordination and synergies between modelling efforts across all of the wide-ranging projects and programs of the WCRP. Prof Jakob's appointment was unanimously approved by the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee. He will serve in the position for an initial term of three years.

Prof Jakob says: "It is a great honour to be asked to serve as WMAC co-chair. I am looking forward to helping the WCRP in coordinating its modelling and model improvement efforts. Weather and climate models underpin many of society's key decision-making processes on many time-scales. It is important to bring to bear the resources available to us to improve those models and the predictions they make."

High resolution data for NSW climate impact researchers

Researchers studying climate change impacts will soon have access to high-resolution regional climate model data for New South Wales through a new web portal. [Read more.](#)

COECSS website conversion

The COECSS website has now been converted to Drupal. This gives us more control and simple updates to the website can now be made immediately.

Adaptation in Action Conference will showcase the contribution of adaptation science to planning and policy making across Australia, and how robust adaptation decisions can be made in the face of uncertainty.

Speakers: COE's Prof David J Karoly; For other speakers, [click here.](#)

Location: Sebel Hotel, Albert Park, Melbourne

JULY

July 1-5

Conference – [Marine extremes and everything in between](#)

Keynote Speakers:

Dr Susan Wijffels (Opening Address)
Dr David Griffin (Extreme Oceanic Events)

Prof Mike Coffin (Deep Sea)
Dr Dennis Gordon (Biodiversity – in this decade of Biodiversity)
Dr Scott Nodder (Southern Ocean/Ocean Acidification)

Location: Wrest Point Hotel, 410 Sandy Bay Rd, Hobart, Tasmania,

July 2, 5pm-6pm

Seminar - Progress in detecting anthropogenic influence on temperature and precipitation extremes.

Speaker: Director, Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium, University of Victoria, Francis Zwiers

Location: Level 4, Matthews Building, UNSW

July 9-13

COECSS Winter School: A high level educational program for honours and graduate students interested in climate science.

Location: School of Earth Sciences, The University of Melbourne

July 20

Symposium - 2012 AMOS NSW Centre Postgraduate Student Symposium This event will give postgrad students working in

meteorology, oceanography or the climate the opportunity to share their research with other students and hone their presentation skills in a presenter-friendly environment.

Speakers: Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate

It will also be possible for blogs to be written through the website, where entries will be passed through the website to Alvin for editing and approval. Anybody interested in writing a regular blog can contact [Alvin](#) for a logon.

We already have some very impressive blogs from stormchaser [John Allen](#) and [Jackson Tan](#) about his Maldives research but would like to see more from other staff members.

ERA-Interim data now available

[ERA-Interim data](#) from the [European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts \(ECMWF\)](#) is now available for Centre researchers. ERA-Interim is the latest global atmospheric reanalysis produced by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). [Read more.](#)

On-line workshop for Giovanni data and analysis tool

During September 2012, the NASA Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center (GES DISC) will host an online workshop focused on the use of the pioneering data visualisation and analysis tool, Giovanni. [Read more.](#)

Adding a QR Code to a poster

You might notice the QR code at the top of this newsletter which will bring mobile devices straight to the COECSS website. QR codes or quick response codes can add enormously to posters at conferences. [Read more.](#)

Understanding CMIP5

Many of us can find it hard to get a good sense of what CMIP-5 is all about - what the experiments are, what the philosophy is behind it and what is and is not available. Rather helpfully, BAMS has just published [an overview of CMIP-5 by Karl Taylor](#).

Centre scientists receive awards from Australian Academy of Science

Congratulations to Andy Hogg and Todd Lane, who were presented with their Australian Academy of Science awards (Frederick White Prize) and (Anton Hales Medal) at the annual Science at the Science Dome event on May 3. Videos of their presentations can be viewed by clicking on the links below.

Dr Todd Lane's (Anton Hales medal) presentation: [Thunderstorms, waves and turbulence.](#)

Dr Andy Hogg's (Frederick White Prize) presentation: [Surprises in the](#)

System Science, Prof Andy Pitman, Postdoc at UNSW, Dr Sarah Perkins
Location: CCRC, Level 4, Matthews Building, UNSW

To attend the event, please RSVP to Andrew King

(andrew.king@student.unsw.edu.au), by Friday, June 29, indicating:

1) Whether you wish to give a talk at the event or not and, if you do, the title of your talk.

2) Whether you have any special dietary requirements.

SEPTEMBER

September 24-28

Workshop - COECSS Annual Workshop

Chief investigators workshop

Location: Hobart

September TBC

Online workshop - Online Giovanni Workshop

The NASA Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Centre (GES DISC) will host an online workshop focused on the use of the pioneering data visualisation and analysis tool, Giovanni.

Location: Online.

For the purpose of planning and scheduling, please indicate your interest with an email message sent to Dr. James G. Acker

(james.g.acker@nasa.gov).

[Click here for more information.](#)

OCTOBER

October 8-12

Conference - Chapman Conference on The Agulhas System and its Role in Changing Ocean Circulation, Climate, and Marine Ecosystems On the Climatic Importance of the Greater Agulhas System, with the support of AGU. Organised by SCOR/IAPSO/WCRP Working Group 136.

Conference convenors: Will de Ruijter, Rainer Zahn, Arne Biastoch, Lisa Beal

Location: Spier Wine Estate, Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa.

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Southern Ocean.](#)

Click on this [link for a full list of speakers and their presentations.](#)

30th Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology

Despite the possibility of encountering an alligator at the conference centre as you can see in [Todd Lane's photo](#), Centre of Excellence researchers were well represented at this important international conference. Presentations and posters can be viewed under the links below.

Muhammad Hassim gave an oral presentation on [Ground-based observations of overshooting convection during the Tropical Warm Pool-International Cloud Experiment \(TWP-ICE\)](#) and a poster on [Convection-permitting simulations of diurnally forced convection over the Maritime Continent \(abstract only\)](#).

Jackson Tan gave an oral presentation his work on [The Large-Scale Properties of Tropical Convection](#). You can follow [this link to find the paper](#) that was the basis of his talk.

Dr Todd Lane chaired the Convection IV section of the conference and gave an oral presentation on [A Persistent Regime of Organized Convection without a Mesoscale Downdraft](#).

PhD awarded to Muhammad Hassim

Congratulations to Muhammad Hassim who was awarded his PhD on May 16 for his paper, [The influence and observability of overshooting convection in the tropical tropopause layer](#).

RECENT PAPERS OF INTEREST

Thunderstorms could cause clear-air turbulence

Did you know that 97% of people injured on airplanes due to turbulence aren't wearing their seatbelt? In the last decade there have been significant improvements in our understanding of the mechanisms underlying aircraft turbulence. A recent paper by COECSS chief investigator Todd Lane and collaborators, [Recent advances in the understanding of near-cloud turbulence](#), has been published in Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. It summarises the progress in turbulence research with particular emphasis on turbulence around thunderstorms.

NOVEMBER

November 26-27

Conference - Ticking time bomb in the Human-Earth system: Second Australian Earth System Outlook Conference

This Second Australian Earth System Outlook Conference, open to all, will explore a small selection of globally significant "ticking time bombs" which pose risks of unmanageable undesirable change unless anticipatory actions are taken that fall well outside the corrective capacity of the invisible hand of economic market forces. There will be opportunity to present posters on Earth System Science results and issues.

Conference Conveners: Australian Academy of Science

Location: Shine Dome, Australian Academy of Science, Canberra

[Click here for more information.](#)

Ocean circulation measured by temperature salinity co-ordinates

Jan Zika with COECSS researcher Matthew England and the [CCRC's](#) Willem Sijp have proposed an alternate coordinate system for looking at the ocean's overturning circulation in a recent paper, [The Ocean Circulation in Thermohaline Co-ordinates](#). The temperature- salinity (T-S) coordinates revealed in the paper were considered to be a more natural framework for those interested in how the ocean fluxes heat and freshwater around the globe. Interestingly, when the authors transformed the main cell back to geographic coordinates, they recovered [Wally Broecker's](#) famous [conveyor cell](#). This was a quite a remarkable result, as the conveyor belt cartoon is considered to be a simplistic view of the full ocean overturning circulation.

World first measurement of global fronts

In a study supported by COECSS, Prof Christian Jakobs collaborated with lead author Dr Jennifer Catto to produce a world-first study that has quantified the amount of precipitation associated with global frontal systems in a way that is fully reproducible. To get the results for their paper, [Relating global precipitation to atmospheric fronts](#), the Australian researchers identified frontal systems from every region in the globe over a 12-year period. They then brought together measurements from satellites and rain gauges to determine the amount of rainfall associated with each.

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