

**ARC Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science Centre
Board Meeting**

Location: Monash CBD Conference Centre. Level 7, 30 Collins St Melbourne

Date: 19th November 2014

Time: 0930-1530

Emergency contact – Andy on 0422 411 756

Item	Time	Topic	Notes and Actions
1.	0930-0935	Introductions and welcome	Present: Helen Cleugh, Peter Doherty (Chair), Ian Dunlop, Stephen Gray (minutes), Melissa Hart, Christian Jakob, Dave Johnson, Peter May, Jean Palutikof, Andy Pitman, Laura Poole Warren. AP informed members that Bruce Mapstone has retired. Helen Cleugh is now the CSIRO representative on the board.
2.	0935-0950	Actions from last meeting [SG + AJP]	Action notes tabled. All matters flagged at the last meeting have been resolved.
3.	0950-1010	Update by the Director [AJP] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel [paper 1] [paper 2] • Update on Centre threats [AJP] [paper 3] • Centre Impact 2014 [paper 4] 	AP gave a synopsis of 2014 Centre activities. Highlighted successes in the recent DECRA round, positive anecdotal feedback from the mid-term review and growing student numbers. Personnel: HC suggests adding a 1 sentence description of the project new personnel will be working on to the document circulated to the board to help identify partner organisation synergies. [SG] Discussion on gender balance. LPW suggests targeting invitations to female

			<p>visitors to the Centre.</p> <p>AP advises that Ian Watterson has replaced Penny Whetton as a PI after her retirement.</p> <p>After some discussion with the UKMO, John Petch has been invited to take Julia Slingo's place on the board. This was endorsed by those present.</p> <p>Discussion on centre impact and its measurements. LPW to circulate Dept of Industry paper on commercialisation of research [LPW] as illustration of current government priorities around research.</p> <p>HC and JP recommend measuring the Centre's performance against the landscape prior to ARCCSS existence (e.g. number of PhD students who would not otherwise have been enrolled, ACCESS progress, availability of data etc).</p> <p>PD recommends the US edition of <i>The Conversation</i> as a means for disseminating the Centre's science.</p> <p>ID triggered a discussion around the re-insurance industry and the possibility of representation from that industry on the board of a renewed centre.</p> <p>AP undertakes to continue building effective relationships with other initiatives in the climate space including the MCV program, NESPs and existing formal partners.</p> <p>Centre Risks: Getting executive level engagement from NCAS has been unsuccessful though some researcher-to-researcher collaboration is going on. Uncertainty in the e-research landscape and sustained funding of NCI is a possible future threat.</p> <p>JP and HC recommend rephrasing paragraph 3 of the threat pertaining to the CAWCR relationship.[AP]. CAWCR discussion segued to talking about a possible strategies that encourage (or mandate) ECRs and students to spend time at partner organisations such as BoM and CSIRO. LPW cautions against internships that may be a time-sink of student candidature.</p>
4.	1010-1100	Centre mid term review outcomes	Item 4 deferred to next meeting as the Centre had not received formal feedback

		<p>[paper 5*]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of ARC feedback [*if available] • Actions arising 	from the ARC of the outcomes of the mid-term review.
	1100-1115	Coffee	
5.	1115-1245	<p>Centre re-bid strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing • Draft expression of interest [paper 6] • Discussion of scope, foci, threats etc • Partners 	<p>Indications from the ARC are that the next round of funding will commence in 2017. EOI round likely to take place in the first half of 2015. Full applications due late 2015 or early 2016. The ARC aim to announce funding by mid 2016, prior to govt going into caretaker mode.</p> <p>Draft EOI tabled and discussion followed. The new Centre will seek to build on the groundwork of the current centre and continue to focus on processes in the climate system that underlie extremes and anomalies.</p> <p>Discussion ensued on the four key foci of the EOI being drought, wind, heat, precipitation/water. Paleo-climate and tipping points were raised but will unlikely be considered as standalone research themes in the renewed Centre.</p> <p>Partners will include recently added (via MOU) partners MPI, Oxford University and ETH. Domestic stakeholders to include NCAARF, MCV, BoM & CSIRO. There was some further discussion of the insurance industry and of partnering with the military. Engaging the right senior levels within the military is a challenge. DJ also recommends raising awareness of the centre among state attorneys general.</p> <p>LPW recommends the EOI briefly outline the Centre's people development strategy.</p> <p>Nest steps – the scientific focus will be further refined at upcoming centre workshop and Chief Investigator meetings. By the next Board meeting there should be clarity on the exact timeline and a further developed EOI</p>
	1245-1345	Lunch	
6.	1345-1415	Graduate program update and strategies [Hart]	Melissa Hart (Graduate Director) presented growth metrics of the graduate program and spoke of accomplishments such as winter schools, writing workshops

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last 12 months • Next 3 years • In a re-funded centre 	<p>and the formation of an ECR committee.</p> <p>Goals for the next three years include: improving student inductions; building the virtual components of the program such as streamed and recorded lectures; technical training in conjunction with the Computational Modelling Support team in the Centre; and individual needs assessments for incoming students. HC recommends this include a holistic career planning approach including skills supervisors may not always remember to focus on such as communication, teamwork etc. All agreed that identifying student needs is vital, but implementing the provision of those needs over a 3-4 year candidature presents challenges. The graduate program in a renewed centre will seek to further solidify the cross-institutional elements of the current program. There was discussion about the inclusion of coursework and the benefits and impediments of offering a cross-institutional Grad Dip or similar. LPW suggests investigating the Australian Higher Education Graduate Certificate (AHEGS) as a means of recognising semi-formal coursework undertaken during a research degree. [MH/SG] She also recommends enlisting help from recent alumni to act as mentors for current students and as a means of keeping former students engaged.</p>
7.	1415-1445	<p>Experiences in national and international partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next 3 years • Longer strategy 	<p>ACCESS five year strategy finalised. ARCCSS is still concerned by continued opaqueness around the governance structure. The centre advocates a collaborative solution between the CAWCR partners and the university sector.</p> <p>PM states that a recommendation has been put forward for ongoing ACCESS implementation plan.</p> <p>NESPs DJ indicated that the department aims to release funding decisions by the end of the year. Dave stepped out of the meeting at this point to avoid a conflict of interest during discussion of the NESP bid led by Helen Cleugh that involves CSIRO, BoM and the five universities involved in the CoE, but not the CoE its self. The focus of the bid is on end user requirements and applied science.</p>

			<p>CAWCR Update: A recent review recommended maintaining the BoM/CSIRO CAWCR partnership for the national benefit. The collaboration will be focused on project-based partnerships rather than cross-line management.</p> <p>International partners: MOUs signed with Oxford University and MPI. Ramaswamy's visit from GFDL for the mid-term review highlighted the strength and value of the partnership. An agreement with NIWA (NZ) is pending. A number of ARCSS staff are involved in the WCRP "grand challenges" initiative.</p> <p>Other initiatives MCV program joint project between Monash and the Bureau; Maritime Continent co-funded position between the CoE and BoM.</p>
8.	1445-1515	Science: the Grand Challenge of clouds and precipitation and its links to extremes across scale.	Talk given by Professor Christian Jakob
9.	1515-1530	Wrap up and close	No other business. The meeting was closed.
10.		Next meeting – (25 Feb??)	This tentative date to be circulated to EAs with the minutes for confirmation of members' availability.