

e-zine N° 5 – March 2007

## News

### **Fourth crucial Climate Assessment Report released on 2 February 2007**

Many of the WCRP climate experts contributed to the IPCC AR4 Working Group I report *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis*, released on 2 February ([press release](#)).

### **Hot Climate Science in Cold Regions: New Study on Under-Ice Lakes in Antarctica**

In a study published 16 February in *Science* WCRP/CLIC scientist Dr Helen Fricker and colleagues observed sub-glacial lake discharges in Antarctica and discussed a possible sudden sea-level rise, an issue addressed by the WCRP Task Force on Sea-Level Rise ([feature article](#)).

### **Climate Change Assessment Strength from WCRP Multi-Model Archive and Analyses**

WCRP's Working Group on Coupled Modelling initiated the world's first comprehensive collection and analyses of climate model projections, an effort underpinning IPCC AR4. The data base registered its 1000<sup>th</sup> user and provided input to over 200 scientific papers ([press kit](#)).

### **New Effort to Capture and Share the Benefit from Tropical Data**

Jointly with THORPEX, a global atmospheric research programme, WCRP has initiated efforts to assemble as much tropical convection information as available using the new WMO Information System, WIS ([www.clivar.org/data/convection/background.php](http://www.clivar.org/data/convection/background.php)).

### **Sea-Level Rise is on the Rise**

The sea-level is rising faster than previously estimated. A new study published in *Science* suggests that past projections underestimated the extent of global sea-level rise ([article](#)).

### **Briefing on WCRP Oceanographic Activities for IOC Member States**

WCRP's diverse ocean research is summarised for our sponsor the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Members: read about [WCRP's 'ocean agenda'](#) and provide [input](#).

### **ICSU 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference with WCRP Young Scientists Awardees**

WCRP is supporting young climate modellers Dr Molly Hellmuth and Dr Kei Yoshimura to present their climate-related research at the ICSU Conference *Global Scientific Challenges: Perspectives from Young Scientists* to be held in Lindau, Germany ([web](#)), 4-7 April 2007.

### **Spanish CLIVAR seeks Governmental Support for Stimulating Climate Research**

WCRP's Climate Variability Project (CLIVAR) urges the Spanish government to support multidisciplinary climate research (*El Pais* [article](#) [in Spanish]).

### **Director WCRP joins Prince Albert of Monaco's Sustainable Earth Advisory Committee**

The first Scientific & Technical Committee meeting of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, which supports the goal of enhancing sustainable development, occurred on 16 Feb ([web](#)).

### **African Partnering and "How to Join the WCRP"**

Together with WCP-Director, Dr Nyenzi, and START-scientists, WCRP is organizing an 'African Network Day' on 28 March in Zanzibar to identify climate research needs in Africa. More on how you can be part of the WCRP network at [http://wcrp.wmo.int/AP\\_NetworkContacts.html](http://wcrp.wmo.int/AP_NetworkContacts.html).



## One Year Birthday for WCRP's New Communications

In 2006, three major new communications efforts were launched: the quarterly e-zine, our new web front page 'newspaper' and a completely new Annual Report (fill out [questionnaire!](#)).

### Cuts threaten Work on Climate Change in Great Britain and the States

Britain's world lead in climate change research is being put at risk by proposed government spending cuts (*The Independent* [article](#)). After having frozen the federal budget in the US, the National Science Foundation is barely able to fund one in five proposals (*Science* [article](#)).

### Journal of Climate Special Issues on Climate Predictability

Issues 20 and 23 of Volume 19 of the AMS Journal of Climate include special sections with papers on major CLIVAR events: on the 1<sup>st</sup> WCRP CLIVAR Science Conference and the CLIVAR Workshop on Atlantic Climate Predictability, both held in 2004. See issues [19\(20\)](#), [19\(23\)](#).

### 2006 – Ranking among Record Years

In a Press Release from 4 January, UK's Met Office predicts the world is likely to experience the warmest year on record in 2007 (see [press release](#)). The year 2006 was the 6<sup>th</sup> warmest year on record says the *WMO Statement on the State of Climate* ([feature article](#)).

### Special Issue of Climate Research Online with Open Access

[Issue 16](#) on *Advances in Applying Climate Prediction to Agriculture* is available for free.

### US Congress' first Hearing on IPCC AR4 Presented by WCRP Scientists

For the first time a House Speaker has appeared as witness before Congress with WCRP experts, key IPCC contributors, to testify about climate change ([article](#)).

### WCRP Project News: Climate Variability & Stratospheric Research

The *CLIVAR Exchanges* newsletter on *The Oceanography of the North Atlantic and adjacent Seas* is a joint CLIVAR-ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) collaboration ([download Exchanges](#)). The latest *SPARC Newsletter* is also available for [download](#).

### New Faces in the WCRP Secretariat and the Joint Scientific Committee

2007 welcomes Dr Hans-Werner Jacobi to our secretariat and 6 new JSC members ([article](#)).

### WCRP joins Earth System-Agriculture Agenda Setting Workshop

New joint climate change and agriculture research was discussed by experts from ESSP and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). [www.gecafs.org](http://www.gecafs.org).

### WCRP Annual Report 2005-2006: Building on Great Success

A new-look-and-feel Annual Report on the WCRP activities, cross-cutting initiatives and collaborations is available in hardcopy upon request from [wcrp@wmo.int](mailto:wcrp@wmo.int), electronically ([PDF](#)).

## Events

### Launch of International Polar Year 2007-2008 on 1 March 2007

The ICSU- and WMO-sponsored IPY will be launched 1 March in Paris, France. Over 30 of the 220 IPY projects have WCRP involvement or leadership. See [illustration](#) on WCRP participation.

### 28<sup>th</sup> session of WCRP's Joint Scientific Committee meets in Zanzibar, March 2007

The WCRP's JSC will meet in Tanzania from March 26-30: see documents <http://wcrp.wmo.int>.

### Connecting ESSP Research on Global Warming to Earth System Policy

WCRP is organizing an ESSP Side Event at the 26<sup>th</sup> session of UNFCCC SBSTA during 7-18 May 2007. For more information and updates visit <http://wcrp.wmo.int>.

### Improving Seasonal Prediction Workshop, Barcelona, 4-7 June 2007

Recognising that advances in seasonal prediction reduce potential economic and societal impacts CLIVAR is organizing a Workshop on Seasonal Prediction. Deadline for submissions: 15 March (<http://www.clivar.org/organization/wgsip/spw/main.html>).