Please forward to interested colleagues. If you do not wish to receive further newsgrams, please send a message to Cathy Stephens in the US CLIVAR Office (**cstephens@usclivar.org**)

August 2008 U.S. CLIVAR News-gram
The U.S. CLIVAR Western Boundary Current Working Group (http://www.usclivar.org/WBCWorkshop2009.php) and the Drought Working Group (http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/outreach/CDPW33.shtml) will both be hosting workshops in the coming months. Please see below for additional details.

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CALENDAR of UPCOMING EVENTS
(for more information-www.usclivar.org/calendar.html)

September 2008
3-5: NOAA Ocean Climate Observations Annual Meeting (Silver Spring, MD)
29 – Oct 1: NOAA CPPA PI Meeting (Silver Spring, MD)

October 2008
6-8: CLIVAR GSOP Intercomparison Meeting (Tokyo, Japan)
20-24: NOAA Climate Diagnostics and Prediction Workshop/US CLIVAR Drought Workshop (Lincoln, NE)
20-24: WMO 4th International Workshop on the Monsoon (Beijing, China)

Research Opportunities
1. NSF Announcement of Opportunity
Arctic Observing Network
Full Proposal Deadline: 30 September 2008

The National Science Foundation (NSF) invites investigators at U.S. organizations to submit proposals for projects that will contribute to the further development of the Arctic Observing Network (AON) and enable the Study of Environmental Arctic Change (SEARCH). Compared

with much of the Earth, the Arctic is a data-sparse region where large, rapid, and system-wide environmental change is occurring. The goal of AON is to enhance the environmental observing infrastructure required for the scientific investigation of Arctic environmental change and its global connections. This solicitation invites proposals for the following activities:
- Continuation of existing NSF-supported AON projects
- The initiation of new AON projects
- Projects that address environmental observing system coverage, design and optimization

AON encompasses physical, biological and human observations, including indigenous knowledge, of the land, ocean and atmosphere (to a maximum altitude of ~90 km, i.e., the top of the mesosphere). Proposals must include a scientific rationale that includes an explanation as to why the proposed activity, data (including frequency and duration of observations) and geographic location are essential to research that will advance the understanding of arctic environmental change. Proposals for the research, e.g., data analysis, data synthesis, process studies and computer modeling, that will lead to understanding of Arctic environmental change will not be considered.

For the complete AON solicitation, please go to:
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503222&org=OPP&from=home

Position Announcements
2. The National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) Data Operations Division

Title: Supervisory Physical Scientist/Computer Scientist, ZP-1301-IV / ZP-1550-IV Vacancy Announcement Information:

NESDIS-NCD-2008-0013 (MAP or current government employee) NESDIS-NCD-2008-0014 (DEU or any U.S. citizen)
Opened: 7/8/2008; Closes: 8/11/2008

The vacancy can be found by visiting http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/ and typing in the vacancy number under the search options. Please ensure that you select the appropriate response for the Applicant Eligibility question located at the bottom of the Search Jobs Screen. The default response is "No" (i.e., you are not eligible for reinstatement, are not a current federal employee, etc.). If the default is not changed, eligible federal employees will not be able to view the MAP vacancy.

3. University of Miami Postdoctoral Associate – Physical Oceanography
The Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies (CIMAS) of the University of Miami (UM), Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS), invites applications for a scientist to participate in a collaborative project between the University of Miami and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (NOAA-AOML). The project's goal is to perform observing system simulation experiment (OSSEs) and related studies to evaluate how to most effectively monitor the meridional overturning circulation in the Atlantic Ocean, which plays an important role in the earth's climate system. The work will involve modifying and running ocean data-assimilative models, comparing model output with oceanographic observations, diagnosing the causes of model-data differences, estimating error variances and covariances, and implementing data assimilation procedures. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Physical Oceanography or in a related field. The successful candidate should have hands-on experience with numerical modeling and data assimilation and should be familiar with observational data, with descriptive oceanography,

and with the concept of an OSSE. Strong computer skills, in particular facility with FORTRAN in a Unix environment, and the ability to work with large amounts of data (both observations and model-generated), are required. Familiarity with the hybrid-coordinate ocean model (HYCOM) would be particularly valuable.

Apply online at: www.miami.edu/careers. Position #037336. A curriculum vitae, a statement of interest, and the contact information for three references from whom letters of recommendation may be requested are required. The University of Miami offers competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package including medical and dental benefits, tuition remission, vacation, paid holidays and much more. The University of Miami is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

4. University of Quebec – Postdoctoral position in downscaling

This position is funded by the National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada to participate on a collaborative project on "Probabilistic assessment of regional changes in climate variability and extremes" within Canadian, European and US partners.

Responsibility

The successful candidate will help to interpret and analyze different regional models outputs (both over the current and future climate states available over Canada), to participate to produce regional climate change scenarios, and to extract and prepare regional climate model data used as potential predictors for statistical downscaling methods currently in development. The duties include data handling, gaining expertise with dynamical downscaling, and performing diagnostic analysis.

Job knowledge requirements

The successful candidate will have at least a recent PhD in atmospheric or related environmental sciences (diploma obtained within the last 1 to 3 years) with strong computer skills and experience working with dynamical downscaling and related methods used for creating high-resolution climate change scenarios. Background on extreme climate events and analysis could constitute an advantage. Work experience in relevant areas is preferred, with research experience being an asset. Bilingual ability (English and French) is required. The candidate will report jointly to the centre Director and a research scientist from Environment Canada. Good interpersonal skill and ability to work in a team setting are essential.

Conditions of employment

The initial appointment is for 2 years at an annual salary of $40,000, renewable for another one year subject to satisfactory performance and the availability of funds.

Application

Please submit your CV, 2-3 pertinent examples of research contributions and arrange to have three letters of reference sent directly to the following address, before August 31, 2008:

Ms. Delphine Person
Assistant to the Director, Centre ESCER
Université du Québec à Montréal
Case postale 8888, succursale Centre-Ville
Montréal (Québec) Canada
H3C 3P8, Quebec, Canada H3A
Tel: (514) 987-3000 poste 4339
Fax : (514) 987-6853
E-mail : person.delphine@uqam.ca

In accordance with Canadian employment and immigration regulations, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. However, applications from all outstanding candidates without the status of Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada will be considered. UQÀM is committed to equity in employment.

5. Max Planck Institute for Meteorology – Postdoctoral position
The Max Planck Institute for Meteorology (MPI-M), a multidisciplinary center for Climate and Earth System research located in Hamburg, Germany, invites applications for a Postdoctoral position in the field of coupled data assimilation, the analysis of long-term climate variability and climate predictions. The position is part of a Max Planck Fellowship to intensify the co-operation with the University of Hamburg and integrated in its Institute of Oceanography. The successful applicant will join a team working on the development of a coupled atmosphere-ocean-land ice assimilation system. He or she is expected to work jointly and in close cooperation with the model development teams at MPI-M.

The applicant is expected to have a Ph.D. in applied mathematics, physics, meteorology, or oceanography, as well as further post-doctoral experience in this field. The applicant must have a thorough knowledge of the basic processes of geophysical dynamics and of the advanced mathematical tools used in state-of-the-art atmosphere-ocean models. The applicant's ability to propose original and effective solutions in this field must be demonstrated by an appropriate track record. Advanced scientific programming skills (FORTRAN90, C, UNIX, MPI) are required, and the ability to work efficiently in a team is regarded as essential. The position is offered for approx. five years. The payment depends on qualification and experience according to a civil service position (TVoeD E13/14) including extensive social security plans. The conditions of employment, including upgrades and duration, follow the rules of the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Sciences and those of the German civil service.

For further information please contact Detlef Stammer (Detlef.Stammer@zmaw.de).
The Max Planck Institute for Meteorology seeks to increase the number of female scientists and encourages them to apply. Handicapped persons with comparable qualifications receive preferential status. All applications (including a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, copies of scientific degrees, and the names and contact information of two references), received before 1 **September 2008** will be considered.

Meetings and Workshops
6. American Meteorological Society's (AMS) 89th Annual Conference
11-15 January 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona

25th International Conference on Interactive Information Processing Systems (IIPS) encourages you to consider submitting an abstract that you think would be relevant to this topic (e.g., observing system work, related data management and access issues, new developments, etc.). The formal AMS call for abstracts can be found at http://ametsoc.org/meet/annual/ The actual session will be held on Thursday morning 15-January-2009. If you are interested in submitting an abstract for this IIPS session, please submit your abstract electronically via the Web by **01 August 2008** (refer to the AMS Web page at (http://ams.confex.com/ams/89annual/25iips/papers/index.cgi) for instructions. A slightly higher ONE-TIME abstract fee of $90 (payable by credit card or purchase order) is charged at the time of submission (refundable only if the abstract is not accepted). Authors of accepted presentations will be notified (via e-mail) by mid-September 2008, and invited at that time to submit an extended abstract. Unlike in past years there is NO additional manuscript charge this year; instead

of a preprint CD-ROM, ALL extended abstracts will be published via the AMS web site as well as Web posting of the recorded meeting presentation; authors of invited and accepted papers ARE ENCOURAGED to contribute to this body of work via extended abstract. Registrants will NO LONGER receive a preprint CD-ROM at the conference, but again, all materials will be published by the AMS and will be on-line for perpetuity.

Please note that the deadline for submitting abstracts for consideration for AMS-89 is **01-August-2008**, and that is a rather firm date.

6. US CLIVAR Western Boundary Current Workshop
Phoenix, Arizona
15-17 January 2009

The U.S. CLIVAR Western Boundary Current (WBC) Ocean-Atmosphere Interaction Workshop will be held on January 15-17, 2009, in Phoenix, AZ. The Workshop is sponsored by the U.S. CLIVAR WBC Working Group (http://www.usclivar.org/wbc.php).The timing of the Workshop will overlap with (by one day), and follow, the AMS's 89th Annual Meeting of January 11-15, 2009, in Phoenix, AZ.

The overall objective of the Workshop is to seek better understanding of WBC ocean-atmosphere interaction that can improve the decadal and longer timescale predictability of the climate system, and to assess our present knowledge and to explore future directions/opportunities in studies of WBC ocean-atmosphere interaction. The Workshop will feature focused oral sessions with a mix of invited and contributed presentations, thematic poster sessions, and a round-table discussion. For additional information: http://www.usclivar.org/WBCWorkshop2009.php

Four half-day sessions are planned on the first two days of the workshop.

Sessions: 1) Findings from the KESS and CLIMODE programs 2) Frontal Scale air-sea interaction in WBC regions 3) Basin-Scale air interaction in connection with WBC variability 4) Impact of upper ocean variability in WBC regions on midlatitude climate variability and predictability.

The Western Boundary Current (WBC) WG is co-sponsoring two sessions at annual AMS meeting in the 16th conference on Air-Sea Interaction (ASI) on i) Air-sea interaction over eddies and ii) Air-sea interaction over tropical and Southern Hemisphere fronts. We encourage those attending the WBC workshop to also attend the ASI conference and submit abstracts to these air-sea interaction sessions, but participation in the AMS meeting is **optional** for those attending the Workshop. Note that the abstract submission deadline for the AMS meeting is **August 8, 2008**. Abstracts for the ASI sessions can be submitted electronically at
http://ams.confex.com/ams/89annual/16airsea/papers/index.cgi

ANNOUNCEMENT
New Products and Reports Available:

- Climate Change Science Program Issues Report on Climate Models - Report available on http://www.climatescience.gov/

WASHINGTON, DC ˆ The U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) today announced the release of the report „Climate Models: An Assessment of Strengths and Limitations,‰ the 10th in a series of 21 Synthesis and Assessment Products (SAPs) managed by U.S. federal agencies. Developed under the leadership of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), this

report, SAP 3.1, describes computer models of the Earth‚s climate and their ability to simulate current climate change.

The SAP 3.1 report describes complex mathematical models used to simulate the Earth‚s climate on some of the most powerful supercomputers, and assesses their ability to reproduce observed climate features, and their sensitivity to changes in conditions such as atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide. The report notes that „the science of climate modeling has matured through finer spatial resolution, the inclusion of a greater number of physical processes, and through comparison to a rapidly expanding array of observations.‰ The authors find that the „models have important strengths and limitations.‰ The report assesses how well models simulate the recent observational period; it does not deal with climate change predictions.

The report organizes the discussion of these strengths and limitations around a series of questions, including: What are the major components and processes of the climate system that are included in present state-of-the-art climate models? How uncertain are climate model results? How well do climate models simulate natural variability? How well do climate models simulate regional climate variability and change?

To develop the SAP 3.1, DOE chartered a Federal Advisory Committee comprised of 29 members drawn from academia, government scientists, non-profit and for-profit organizations that drafted and oversaw the review of the report in accordance with the CCSP guidelines. The lead authors include David Bader (coordinating lead author) and Curt Covey, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; William J. Gutowski Jr., Iowa State University; Isaac Held, NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory; Kenneth Kunkel, Illinois State Water Survey; Ronald Miller, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies; Robin Tokmakian, Naval Postgraduate School; and Minghua Zhang, State University of New York, Stony Brook. SAP 3.1 is the third and final SAP that DOE coordinated for the CCSP.