

**February 2006**  
**U.S. CLIVAR News-gram**

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

**February 2006:**

- 1: U.S. CLIVAR Committee Meeting
  - 13-16: CLIVAR WGSIP Meeting
  - 15-17: CLIVAR Pacific Panel Meeting
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20-24: AGU Ocean Sciences Meeting  
23: U.S. CLIVAR Salinity Session at Ocean Sciences

**March 2006:**

13-18: 2<sup>nd</sup> ARGO Science Meeting  
13-18: 2<sup>nd</sup> 15 yrs of Progress in Radar Altimetry Symposium  
21-24: Climate Prediction Applications Science Workshop  
27-29: Workshop on Tropical Cyclones and Climate  
27-31: DOE ARM Meeting

**April 2006:**

19-21: International CLIVAR SSG-14  
22-23: 9<sup>th</sup> VAMOS Meeting

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**Research Opportunities and Call for Papers**

**1. NASA Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences (ROSES) 2--6  
Proposal Due Dates: Starting April 14, 2006 through February 10, 2007**

The NASA Research Announcement (NRA) NNH06ZDA001N, entitled "Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences - 2006" (ROSES-2006), is available by opening the NASA Research Opportunities homepage at <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/> and then linking through the menu listings "Solicitations" to "Open Solicitations." This NRA solicits proposals for supporting basic and applied research and technology across a broad range of Earth and space science program elements relevant to one or more of the following NASA research programs: Earth Science, Heliophysics, Planetary Science, and Astrophysics. Proposal due dates are scheduled starting on April 14, 2006, and continue through February 10, 2007. Electronically submitted Notices of Intent to propose are requested for most program elements, with the first such due date being February 28, 2006. Electronic submission of proposals is required by the respective due dates for each program element, and must be submitted by an authorized official of the proposing organization. Participation is open to all categories of organizations, foreign and domestic, including educational institutions, industry, not-for-profit organizations, NASA centers, and other Government agencies.

Note that electronic submission of all proposals is a new requirement for ROSES this year. Electronic proposals may be submitted via the NASA proposal data system NSPIRES or via Grants.gov. Every organization that intends to submit a proposal in response to this NRA must be registered with at least one of the two systems, and such registration must identify the authorized organizational representative(s) who will submit the electronic proposal. Principal investigators may not submit proposals directly to NASA. Each electronic proposal system places requirements on the registration of principal investigators and other participants (e.g. co-investigators). Potential proposers

and proposing organizations are urged to access the system(s) well in advance of the proposal due date(s) of interest to familiarize themselves with its structure and enter the requested information.

Further information about specific program elements may be obtained from the individual Program Officers listed for each program element in this NRA, while questions concerning general policies and procedures for the ROSES-2006 NRA may be directed to Dr. Paul Hertz, Chief Scientist, Science Mission Directorate, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20546-0001; E-mail: paul.hertz@nasa.gov; Telephone: 202-358-0986.

## **2. NSF Releases Solicitation for IGERT Program**

The National Science Foundation continues the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program into its ninth annual competition. Proposals for new IGERT projects as well as for renewals of existing IGERT projects are invited. The IGERT program has been developed to meet the challenges of educating U.S. Ph.D. scientists and engineers who will pursue careers in research and education with the interdisciplinary backgrounds, deep knowledge in chosen disciplines, and technical, professional, and personal skills to become, in their own careers, leaders and creative agents for change. The program is intended to catalyze a cultural change in graduate education, for students, faculty, and institutions, by establishing innovative models for graduate education and training in a fertile environment for collaborative research that transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries. It is also intended to facilitate diversity in student participation and preparation, and to contribute to the development of a diverse, globally-engaged, science and engineering workforce.

IGERT is an NSF-wide endeavor involving the Directorates for Biological Sciences (BIO), Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE), Education and Human Resources (EHR), Engineering (ENG), Geosciences (GEO), Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS), Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE), the Office of Polar Programs (OPP), and the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE). The IGERT program is managed by the Division of Graduate Education in EHR.

For investigators planning proposals for IGERT programs involving research in the Arctic or Antarctic, feel free to contact Renee Crain (rcrain@nsf.gov) or Vladimir Papitashvili (vpapita@nsf.gov) in the Office of Polar Programs for more information specific to polar IGERT programs.

## **3. NSF Releases Solicitation for IPY**

The National Science Foundation solicitation "International Polar Year (IPY)" (NSF 06-534) has been released:  
[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf06534](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf06534)

The "International Polar Year 2007-2008" (IPY) will extend from March 2007 through

March 2009. IPY is envisioned as an intense scientific campaign to explore new frontiers in polar science, improve our understanding of the critical role of the polar regions in global processes, and educate the public about the polar regions. Projects are expected to involve a pulse of activity during the IPY period; have multi- and interdisciplinary scopes; leave a legacy of infrastructure and data; expand international cooperation; engage the public in polar discovery; and help attract the next generation of scientists and engineers.

A number of NSF programs will respond to proposals for support of IPY activities over the next several years. These are listed on an IPY web page maintained by NSF's Office of Polar Programs (<http://www.nsf.gov/od/opp/ipy/ipyinfo.jsp>). This list will be updated from time to time and should be consulted when considering proposal submissions.

In anticipation of IPY, the Office of Polar Programs (OPP) and the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) have identified special emphasis areas that will require preparation in advance of IPY. The research emphasis areas are: ice sheet history and dynamics; biological adaptations at the cellular and genomic level to life in extreme cold and prolonged darkness; and the arctic observing network. Proposed research activities must be integrally related to one or more of these emphasis areas and adhere to the guidance of the National Research Council's report "A Vision for the International Polar Year 2007-2008" (<http://www.nap.edu/html/ipr2007-2008/0309092124.pdf>), including specific significant linkages to international activities.

The educational emphasis areas for this solicitation are: formal science education experiences for K-12 teachers and undergraduate or graduate students; informal science education for the broader public; and coordination and communication for IPY education projects. In addition to the educational activities normally integrated into research proposals, this solicitation will consider standalone proposals that specifically address one or more of these focus areas.

Proposals for IPY activities outside of these emphasis areas should be directed to other solicitations from OPP and NSF. Related programs are listed at the website above. Proposals submitted under this solicitation may be co-reviewed with other NSF programs.

#### **4. Call for contributions to the WGNE report on "Research Activities in Atmospheric and Oceanic Modelling"**

There is considerable activity in many countries in the development of numerical models for the purpose of climate simulation and for forecasting on various time-scales. In order to keep abreast of these activities and to foster the early interchange of information, the joint CAS/JSC Working Group on Numerical Experimentation (WGNE) recognizes the importance of maintaining contact with scientists engaged in all aspects of model developments, evaluation and use related to the WMO World Weather Research Programme and the WMO/ICSU/IOC World Climate Research Programme or in other numerical experimentation and investigations. One of the essential ways in which this is

accomplished is the preparation of the report on "Research Activities in Atmospheric and Oceanic Modelling" annually by WGNE, which includes brief reports from scientists on their current activities.

Scientists are invited to submit the usual reports of research activities, developments and progress made in numerical weather forecasting and/or climate modelling. New research findings should be particularly stressed. Contributions should consist of a brief description of the activity and include some results, albeit of a preliminary nature, preferably in the form of figures or tables. Areas of interest include:

- (1) atmospheric data assimilation schemes, analysis and initialization, data impact studies, observing system experiments;
- (2) data sets, diagnostic and dynamical investigations, statistical post-processing, multi-year reanalyses and associated studies;
- (3) computational studies including new techniques, the effect of varying model resolution, parallel processing;
- (4) parameterization of important atmospheric and surface processes, effects of different parameterizations;
- (5) development of and studies with regional and smaller-scale atmospheric models, regional ensemble forecasting;
- (6) developments in global forecast models, case studies, predictability investigations, global ensemble, monthly and seasonal forecasting;
- (7) global and regional climate models, sensitivity and impact experiments, response to external forcing;
- (8) development of and advances in ocean modelling and data assimilation, sea-ice modelling, wave modelling;
- (9) development of and studies with coupled ocean-atmosphere models.

Any information, notification of, or reports on workshops which have been organized or are being planned that would be of interest to the numerical modeling community as a whole are invited.

It is preferred that you use the interactive electronic form that will transfer your document directly to the web site (<http://collaboration.cmc.ec.gc.ca/science/wgne/BlueBook>) and is available under **Submission Form**. Note that this site is now password protected and if you do not have the password please follow the instructions given therein. If you absolutely cannot use this submission mechanism, instructions will be posted later on this site explaining how to proceed. The length of the contribution (including any diagrams, figures, tables, references) must not exceed the equivalent of two printed single-spaced pages (21 x 28 cm or 8.5 x 11 inches), with 2.5 cm or 1 inch wide margins on all sides. A title and the author's name and affiliation, and e-mail address must be included. **Please do not number the pages** as it complicates the pagination of the report. Portable document format (PDF) is greatly preferred although compressed postscript (PS) files are acceptable.

Contributions are due at the latest by **17 February 2006**. The assembled report will be placed electronically at the web site on 1 March 2006. A limited number of hard copies will also be printed and mailed to those who so requested in the survey of the WGNE mailing list. It is the responsibility of the authors to insure that their color illustrations are legible when printed in black and white.

### **Position Announcements**

#### **5. Position Announcement - Executive Director, U.S. Arctic Research Commission (USARC)**

**Application Deadline: Open Until Filled**

**First Review of Applications: Tuesday, 31 January 2006**

Details of application requirements can be found at: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>  
(Vacancy Announcement ARC-SES-06-001)

The U.S. Arctic Research Commission (USARC), an independent government agency, invites applications from qualified individuals with terrestrial, marine, or atmospheric research experience in the Arctic, including research management and participation in the field or at sea. A Ph.D. is desired. The USARC encourages applications from individuals whose research expertise is complemented by knowledge and experience in: 1. the Federal planning and budgetary processes; 2. international arctic research activities; and 3. the ongoing research interests of the State of Alaska, local jurisdictions, and NGOs.

Strong interpersonal skills are important. The Executive Director is the senior government employee of the Commission. Duties include development and recommendation of a national arctic research policy and facilitation of cooperation in arctic research and logistics activities between Federal, State, local, indigenous, and international entities. The Commission is mandated under the Arctic Research and Policy Act of 1984 (as amended). Additional details about the Commission, its activities, and its publications may be viewed at <http://www.arctic.gov>.

This opportunity is an SES position. The salary range is \$109,808 to \$152,000 USD. It may be filled through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act authority. U.S. citizenship is required. The position is located in Arlington, Virginia, near the National Science Foundation and Metro.

#### **6. Florida State University (COAPS) announces 3 Postdoctoral positions**

The Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Predictions Studies (COAPS) at the Florida State University (FSU) invites applications for three (3) postdoctoral positions available for a one-year appointment, renewable for a second year. A Ph. D. in Physical Oceanography or related fields (Meteorology, Computer Sciences, etc.) is required. The successful applicants are expected to interact and collaborate with the scientists/faculty of COAPS and other FSU departments. We are especially interested in candidates with a strong modeling background to work on a) coupled ocean-atmosphere climate modeling with HYCOM in the NCAR CCSM, b) evaluation of ocean data assimilation techniques in the

Gulf of Mexico, and c) decadal variability of the Mediterranean outflow. Preference will be given to applicants who are interested in starting their own research programs. COAPS is expending and research opportunities will be available to the successful candidates. Review of applications will begin after **March 1, 2006**.

Applications, including curriculum vitae, a statement of research interests, and three letters of recommendation, should be sent to:

Prof. Eric Chassignet  
Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Predictions Studies  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2840

The Florida State University is committed to a policy of non-discrimination for the university community on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran's or marital status, or any other protected group status.

### **7. Post-doctoral Researcher Sought for Collaborative Project Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**

A post-doctoral researcher in the field of physical oceanography is sought to participate in a collaborative project between the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to evaluate and utilize emerging global ocean state analyses of ocean circulation and air-sea fluxes derived through the combination of observations and numerical models. The arctic and subarctic regions are now being targeted and a postdoctoral researcher is sought with interest in and experience with modeling the arctic climate system to work with evaluating and improving the arctic part of the ECCO model.

The researcher will be resident at the WHOI, but frequent exchange visits with MIT will be encouraged. Please submit your CV, a statement of research interests, and the e-mail addresses of three referees to:

Steve Jayne, WHOI  
E-mail: [sjayne@whoi.edu](mailto:sjayne@whoi.edu)  
Peter Winsor, WHOI  
E-mail: [pwinsor@whoi.edu](mailto:pwinsor@whoi.edu)  
John Marshall, MIT  
E-mail: [jmarsh@mit.edu](mailto:jmarsh@mit.edu)

### **8. Postdoctoral Fellowship Available - Southern Ocean Modelling Institut d'Astronomie et de Geophysique Georges Lemaitre Universite Catholique de Louvain**

**Application Review Begins: Wednesday, 1 March 2006**

Further information is available at:  
<http://www.astr.ucl.ac.be/index.php?page=JobSouthernOceanModelling>

The Institut d'Astronomie et de Geophysique Georges Lemaitre of the Universite Catholique de Louvain in Belgium invites applications for a postdoctoral fellowship in 3-D modelling of the sea-ice ocean system and biogeochemical cycles in the southern ocean. The successful candidate will be in charge of the physical component of the model but will also take part in the coupling between the physical and biogeochemical modules as well as in the analyses of the results of the coupled model.

The research will be in collaboration with the Universite Libre de Bruxelles, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the Musee Royal d'Afrique Centrale, and the Universite de Liege in the framework of a new project funded by Belgian Science Policy.

The postdoctoral fellowship is for twelve months. Suitable candidates should have a Ph.D. in physical oceanography, atmospheric science, applied mathematics, or a related discipline. Applications should include a detailed curriculum vitae, a letter describing relevant experience and research interests, and two letters of recommendation. Review of applications will begin Wednesday, 1 March 2006 and will continue until a candidate is selected. Application materials and questions should be sent to: Hugues Goosse  
Institut d'Astronomie et de Geophysique G. Lemaitre 2, chemin du Cyclotron  
B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve

Belgium

Phone: 32-10-473295

Fax: 32-10-474722

E-mail: [goosse@astr.ucl.ac.be](mailto:goosse@astr.ucl.ac.be)

URL: <http://www.astr.ucl.ac.be/index.php?page=hgs%23HomePage>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **NSF Launches New Web Portal - International Polar Year 2007-2008**

The National Science Foundation has launched a portal website to provide the general public and members of the news media with easy access to news releases, classroom resources, listings of museum and gallery exhibits, and catalogs of video and still images and other materials produced or supported by the federal government as part of the U.S. contribution to the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008.

The site, at <http://www.us-ipy.gov>, includes information on the IPY for a general audience as well as basic information for scientists interested in obtaining IPY funding from the U.S. government. New content will be continually added to the comprehensive site.

The IPY will take place exactly 50 years after the International Geophysical Year (IGY), a similar global scientific research endeavor during which scientists first spent the long Antarctic winter at the South Pole, among other accomplishments. The polar "year" will include two calendar years to permit a full 12 months of observations in regions where six months of extreme cold and darkness can hamper fieldwork.

In the spring of 2007, scientists from more than 100 countries will embark on an intensive, coordinated campaign of multi-disciplinary scientific observations, research, and analysis as part of the IPY. The research is expected to dramatically

expand our understanding of the Arctic and Antarctic regions--including their relationship to the global ecosystem--and to provide unprecedented insight into how societies in high northern latitudes are coping with environmental change.

- **NOAA Climate Program**

NOAA's new Climate Program Office (CPO), created in October 2005, integrates the Office of Global Programs, the Arctic Research Office, and the Climate Observations and Services Program and coordinates climate activities across all NOAA. The new CPO focuses on developing a broader user community for climate products and services, provides NOAA a focal point for climate activities, leads NOAA climate education and outreach activities, and coordinates international climate activities. The NOAA Climate Program unveiled their new web page this week:

<http://www.cpo.noaa.gov/index.jsp>

- **The Science Plan and Implementation Strategy of the DIVERSITAS Cross-Cutting Network agroBIODIVERSITY is now available**

The Science Plan and Implementation Strategy of the DIVERSITAS Cross-Cutting Network agroBIODIVERSITY is now available online. Follow the link [www.diversitas-international.org](http://www.diversitas-international.org) to download the PDF.

The goal of the agroBIODIVERSITY Science Plan and Implementation Strategy is to establish the scientific basis needed to address the trade-offs between food production, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, and human wellbeing in agricultural landscapes. Three key research foci of the agroBIODIVERSITY Science Plan integrate the biological and social sciences:

To assess biodiversity in agricultural landscapes and the anthropogenic drivers of biodiversity change; To identify the goods and services provided by agrobiodiversity at various levels of biological organisation, e.g. genes, species, communities, ecosystems and landscapes; To evaluate the socioeconomic options for the sustainable use of biodiversity in agricultural landscapes.

Implementation of the agroBIODIVERSITY Science Plan will involve collaboration between geneticists, ecologists, anthropologists, and economists among other disciplines, to understand the environmental and social drivers of biodiversity change, ecosystem services provided by biodiversity in agricultural landscapes, and how to use this information for policy-relevant strategies to meet human needs.

For more information on the project, please contact the chair Louise Jackson ([lejackson@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lejackson@ucdavis.edu))

If you would like some paper copies, please contact the DIVERSITAS secretariat ([secretariat@diversitas-international.org](mailto:secretariat@diversitas-international.org))

## **Meetings and Workshops**

### **9. U.S. CLIVAR Town Hall Meeting**

The U.S. CLIVAR held an AMS Town Hall Meeting on 31 January 2006. Panel chairs of the three central themes: (1) Prediction, Predictability and Applications Interface (2) Process Studies and Model Improvement, and (3) Phenomena, Observations and Synthesis discussed their upcoming plans. Each panel will be helping lead, coordinate, and recommend efforts and activities that address several CLIVAR goals as well as CCSP milestones. The co-chairs from each panel presented their goals, steps towards achieving those goals, and how the scientific community can become involved in U.S. CLIVAR. Presentations from this Town Hall Meeting are available online at [www.usclivar.org](http://www.usclivar.org).

### **10. Call for abstracts for the 36th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)**

(COSPAR) will bring together approximately 2000 scientists and engineers from all over the world to present the latest results in 82 symposia and special events covering all areas of space science. The Assembly will take place **16 - 23 July 2006** in Beijing, China. Scientific program and abstract instructions: <http://meetings.copernicus.org/cospar2006/>

Abstract deadline: **17 February 2006**

Registration and hotel reservations:

<http://www.cospar2006.org/>

Early registration deadline: 15 May 2006

The program for distinguished interdisciplinary lectures and panel events is now available and may be consulted on the first site listed above.

### **11. Special sessions for the Spring AGU Meeting 23-27 May 2006, Baltimore, Maryland**

The cutoff date for abstract submissions is **1 March 2006**.

Information regarding the meeting and the abstract submission is available from <http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja06/>

**A03: Role of Circulation in Regional Hydroclimate Variability** (Sumant Nigam and A. Ruiz-Barradas)

**A07: Attribution of Climate Variability during the Past 100-years** (M. P. Hoerling and A. Kumar)

**A09: Downscaling and Higher-Frequency Statistics in Global Climate Models** (S. Cocke and T. LaRow)

**A10: Diagnosing, Modeling, and Forecasting Subseasonal Variability** (K. Weickmann, and D. Waliser)

Operational forecasts are now being routinely issued on weather as well as seasonal time scales. For the time scales shorter than 15 days, predictions are largely influenced by the initial conditions, whereas on seasonal time scales influences from the slow evolution in boundary conditions, e.g., sea surface temperatures, is the primary source for useful predictability. Despite such

successes, a critical gap remains in our ability to make useful predictions on time scales roughly between 15-60 days. The variability in this time band is dominated by phenomena such as atmospheric blocking, different modes of atmospheric variability (e.g., PNA, NAO etc.), the tropical MJO, land surface conditions, among others. Although the importance of such atmospheric phenomena in influencing extremes events has been recognized, not much progress has been made in understanding their predictability, and further, the ability of the current generation of general circulation models to simulate such phenomena remains poor, even on the short range (<15 days). Talks in this session are sought to bring together researchers active in the area of subseasonal predictability, modeling, and predictions. Contributions are invited on: (1) predictability of atmospheric flow on subseasonal time scales, (2) simulation of subseasonal variability by atmospheric general circulation models, (3) relative influence of initial vs. boundary conditions in subseasonal predictions, (4) role of land-surface conditions in subseasonal predictions, (5) statistical processing techniques for improving subseasonal predictions, (6) empirical and dynamical prediction techniques, (7) impact of subseasonal phenomena on short range (<15 day) predictions, (8) importance of air-sea interactions in simulating subseasonal variability, (9) diagnosing MJO vertical structure using satellite and conventional analyses and (10) initialization techniques for subseasonal predictions.

**A12: Dynamical Regional Climate Modeling** (R. Arritt, and R. Leung)

**A15: Outstanding Issues in Seasonal to Interannual Climate Prediction** (Gil Compo, P. D. Sardeshmukh, M. Ji, P. Chang, A. W. Robertson, and D. M. Straus)

Contributions are solicited on all aspects of seasonal to interannual climate prediction and predictability. Investigations of climate signals and distributional changes associated with ENSO and/or other boundary forcings, empirical and/or GCM prediction techniques, multi-model and large ensemble methods, signal sensitivity and/or nonlinearity, and prediction error diagnoses and correction would be relevant in this session. In view of the obvious practical importance of this topic, and also the many valuable contributions made by more active researchers than can be accommodated in a single session, none of the presentations will be explicitly "Invited" talks. We very much hope that your active participation and vigorous discussion will clarify the outstanding issues in this area and suggest avenues for further progress.

**A16: Seasonal Predictions and their Applications** (J. Roads, A. W. Wood, M. Ji, and C. Penland)

## **12. Second Argo Science Workshop**

**Venice, Italy Wednesday March 15th - Saturday March 18th 2006**

Program for the Second Argo Science Workshop can be viewed at <http://www.argo.ucsd.edu>. The program for the "Integrated approach" session is accessible at <http://earth.esa.int/venice06/programme.html>

**Registration** can be done online at <http://earth.esa.int/venice06/registration.html>

**13. Rapid Climate Change - International Science Conference  
24 - 27 October 2006. Birmingham, U.K.**

Some models predict that rapid (decadal-scale) climate change could occur under the scenario of global warming that is likely to happen over the next century. The Atlantic Ocean's thermohaline circulation (THC) is thought to have played a key role in rapid changes in the past and to have the potential to do so in the future, although other processes may also cause rapid climate change to occur. This conference will explore the scientific understanding of rapid climate change, with a main but not exclusive focus on the role of the THC in such change. The topics of interest include, but are not limited to: present day observations of the strength and structure of the Atlantic THC, paleo data (ice, land, ocean) on past rapid climate changes, modeling of past and possible future rapid climate change, understanding of processes controlling the strength of THC, testing models using present day and paleo observations, impacts of rapid THC change on climate and weather, probability of rapid climate change occurring, impacts of rapid climate change on society.

The conference seeks to bring together the international community of scientists carrying out oceanographic observations, paleo studies and ocean and coupled climate modeling in order to discuss recent research findings and to identify outstanding problems and ways forward in the science of rapid climate change.

A call for papers will be issued early in 2006. For more information and to register your interest in the meeting: [www.rapid.nerc.ac.uk/rapid2006](http://www.rapid.nerc.ac.uk/rapid2006)