

e-zine N° 10 – June 2008

## Science Highlights

### **WCRP Joint Scientific Committee discusses progress and the programme's future**

At the annual JSC meeting in Arcachon, France, 31 March-4 April, progress in implementing the WCRP Strategic Framework 2005-2015 and its future directions were discussed. Professor Tony Busalacchi is newly elected Chair of the WCRP-JSC, Dr David Griggs is Vice-Chair. [More](#).

### **Climate modellers call for establishing a World Climate Research Facility**

At the [World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction](#), Reading, UK, 6-9 May, scientists agreed that model limitations are due to our inability to represent properly small-scale features such as storms and our lack of powerful enough computers. [Nature news & editorial](#). [Statement](#).

### **A short history of a long success story**

Read about WCRP accomplishments during its 28 years' history in [La Météorologie](#).

### **ICSU reviews WCRP and IGBP performance**

Until 15 May, ICSU collected all stakeholders' answers to a comprehensive poll around the question "what do you get out of supporting WCRP/IGBP that you would not have gained if the programme did not exist?" The final report is expected in September 2008. [More](#).

### **Climate model projects short-term cooling**

A study published in *Nature* predicts a slight cooling of Europe and N-America due to a temporary weakening of the ocean current, masking the effect of climate change. [More](#).

### **More evidence for man-made changes in precipitation**

Dr Xuebin Zhang and his team found "a detectable and attributable anthropogenic forcing of the latitudinal pattern of large-scale precipitation change". Read [article](#).

### **The WMO La Niña update: Cooling only temporary**

La Niña causes a temporary cooling but global climate on average is warming. [More](#).

### **Successful ClimEco training seminar for young marine scientists**

Early-career physical climate scientists and marine biogeochemistry/ecosystem communities met in Brest, France, April 2008, to enhance cooperation in ocean research. [More](#).

### **US CLIVAR Madden-Julian Oscillation Working Group provides key recommendations**

As an outcome of their Nov. 2007 workshop new diagnostics to enable systematic evaluation of model simulations and forecasts of equatorial rainfall anomaly were introduced. [More](#).

### **World Meteorological Day 2008**

On 25 March, WMO and its 182 Members celebrated World Meteorological Day around the theme "Observing our Planet for a Better Future". [More](#).

## People

### **Farewell to WCRP/CLIVAR scientist Professor Schott**

Physical oceanographer Professor Fritz Schott passed away on 30 April 2008. His research was focused on the 'grand' problems of ocean dynamics and climate in general.

### **WCRP scientist Dr Shukla receives annual IMO Prize**

This year's 52<sup>nd</sup> International Meteorological Organization Prize was presented to Dr Jagadish Shukla who has been associated with the WCRP since its inception 28 years ago.

### **New Management for the WMO Research Department**

Dr Ghassem Asrar ([more](#)), Director of the WCRP Joint Planning Staff, and Dr Len Barrie, Director of the Atmospheric Research and Environment Branch share the leadership for the new WMO Research Department ([organigram](#)).

### **WCRP scientists Professors Ramaswamy, Shukla and Lohman elected AGU Fellows**

Congratulations to this year's elected Fellows of the American Geophysical Union! [More](#).

## **Publications**

### **Developing strategies for future climate change science**

The report of the Sydney Workshop "Learning from IPCC AR4" is now available for [download](#).

### **Year of Tropical Convection Science Plan**

1 August is the starting date of this joint initiative of WCRP and [World Weather Research Programme-THORPEX](#) aimed at coordinated observing, modelling and forecasting of organized tropical convection and understanding its role in climate predictability. Read its [Science Plan](#).

### **Stochastic physics and climate modelling by Palmer & Williams (eds.)**

The special issue of Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society can be [browsed online](#).

### **Assessment of Global Precipitation Products**

The comprehensive report published by the WCRP/[GEWEX Radiation Panel](#) is available [online](#).

### **International Symposium: Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans**

WCRP was one of main sponsors of the [symposium](#) (Gijon, Spain, 19-23 May 2008), which assembled 380 scientists from around the world. Download [abstract book](#).

### **JRA-25 Atlas: A long-term record of the state of the atmosphere**

The Japanese 25-year Reanalysis covers the period from 1979 to 2004. [Online atlas](#).

### **ESSP-Global Water System Project Digital Water Atlas**

The ESSP-GWSP has published a comprehensive set of online maps on water issues. [More](#).

### **Climate Mapper tool for SERVIR**

The tool developed jointly by USAID, NASA and IAGT provides access to historical weather data as well as projections of climate change covering Africa and soon the entire globe. [More](#).

### **WMO World Weather Research Programme launched quarterly newsletter**

To subscribe to WWRP eNews send an email to [wwrp@wmo.int](mailto:wwrp@wmo.int). Download [newsletter](#).

### **Latest news from WCRP activities**

Read the latest newsletters from CLIVAR ([No. 45](#)), CLIVAR/VAMOS ([No. 4](#)), SOLAS ([Issue 7](#)).

## **Events**

### **El Niño Southern Oscillation Summerschool, 14-23 June 2008, Hawaii, USA**

Documents for this training in ENSO dynamics and forecasting are available [here](#).

### **SPARC 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, 31 August-5 September 2008, Bologna, Italy**

Registration for this major WCRP event for atmospheric scientists is still open. [More](#).

### **Ibero-American Workshop on Seasonal Prediction, October 2008, Guayaquil, Ecuador**

Four sessions on Modelling Science and its Contribution to Development are planned. [More](#).

### **World Climate Conference-3, 31 August-4 September 2009, Geneva, Switzerland**

WMO, supported by WCRP, organizes this [event](#) to mobilize global efforts in climate prediction.