



e-zine N° 13 – March 2009

## Science Highlights

### **WCRP 2007-2008 Accomplishment Report: Climate Research in Service to Society**

The WCRP Annual Report chronicles WCRP accomplishments in 2007/2008. Download the report ([PDF](#)) or request hard copy from the WCRP secretariat: [wcrp@wmo.int](mailto:wcrp@wmo.int).

### **First WCRP Regional Climate Projections Workshop held in Toulouse, France**

From 11-13 February, around 50 specialists in regional downscaling and modelling met to assess available downscaling techniques and regional/sectoral needs. [Report](#); [presentations](#).

### **WMO-ICSU International Polar Year Ceremony, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 February**

These days, the official IPY concludes with a release of early results from international polar science and a legacy outlook. IPY (2007-08) boosted international research at the poles. [More](#).

### **Year of Tropical Convection (YOTC): Database of high-resolution forecasts available**

ECMWF has made the database of high-resolution forecasts from **YOTC**, an initiative of WCRP and the World Weather Research Programme, available to the research community. [More](#).

### **WCRP-CLIVAR Spain network discusses Climate in Spain: Past, Present and Future**

From 11-13 February, the CLIVAR-Spain community met in Madrid, Spain, to determine current understanding of climate variability and change in the Iberian Peninsula. [More](#).

### **WMO El Niño update: La Niña-like conditions weakening in first half of 2009**

The tropical Pacific will most likely return to neutral conditions by March-May 2009. [More](#).

### **Call for contributions: Commemorative issue of Ocean Modelling**

CLIVAR prepares a special issue dedicated to the life & achievements of Dr Killworth. [More](#).

### **World Meteorological Day 2009 focus on air quality and its effects on human health**

On 23 March, the World Meteorological Organization with its 188 Members will celebrate World Meteorological Day around the theme: Weather, climate and the air we breathe. [More](#).

### **Travel grants available for CLIVAR Workshop on Ocean Mesoscale Eddies, Exeter, UK**

Applicants for the [workshop](#) in April 09 should contact [Ms Anna Pirani](#); deadline is 15 March.

### **First issue of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) newsletter published**

GCOS news 1/09 welcomes Dr Carolin Richter as new Director of the GCOS Secretariat. [More](#).

## Welcome & Congratulations

### **Welcome to the new members of the WCRP steering groups**

The WCRP Joint Scientific Committee and other steering groups gained new experts. [Article](#).

### **Professor Le Treut appointed as the new Director of IPSL, France**

Hervé is a member of the WCRP-JSC and leads the Anthropogenic Climate Change activity.

### **2009 AMS Sverdrup Gold Medal for Dr Christopher Fairall**

Christopher is Chair of the WCRP Working Group on Surface Fluxes. [More](#).

### **Dr Michael Kurylo receives 2008 Hillebrand Prize**

Michael is ex-officio member of the WCRP-SPARC Scientific Steering Group. [More](#).

### **Professor Gordon McBean appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada**

Gordon was Chair of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee from 1988-1994. [More](#).

## **New Releases**

### **BAMS: Revolution in climate prediction is both necessary and possible**

The declaration issued at the World Modelling Summit for Climate Prediction has been published by WCRP leading scientists in BAMS ([more](#)). See Summit report: [WCRP No. 131](#).

### **PNAS: Irreversible climate change due to carbon dioxide emissions**

The [study](#) led by former IPCC WG1 Co-chair, S. Solomon, shows that current climate change driven by increases in CO<sub>2</sub> concentration is irreversible for 1'000 years after emissions stop.

### **Report: Third Meeting of WCRP Observation and Assimilation Panel, Boulder, Sept 08**

The meeting focussed on the quality and continuity of climate data records. [WCRP 10/2008](#).

### **Acting on Climate Change: The UN System Delivering as One**

The [UN report](#) promotes a more coordinated approach to the challenges of climate change.

### **Nature: Evidence of warming of the Antarctic ice-sheet surface**

A new [study](#) reveals for the first time significant warming well beyond the Antarctic Peninsula.

### **WMO-IUGG science assessment on the effects of aerosols on rain- and snowfall**

The analysis of temporal and spatial trends in precipitation indicated a relation to changes in atmospheric dynamical processes rather than changes in cloud-aerosol microphysics. [More](#).

### **Special Issue: Hydrological Effect of a Shrinking Cryosphere**

The [review](#) was prepared by WCRP-CliC and the Water and Climate Impacts Research Centre.

### **Review of Geophysics: State of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean Climate System**

The comprehensive publication reviews the state-of-Antarctica over the past millennia. [Article](#).

### **U.S. assessments on climate change impacts on coasts and the high latitudes**

Two recent U.S. reports prepared for policy-makers focus on sea-level rise and coastal communities ([report](#)) and on rapid climate changes in the Arctic and high latitudes ([report](#)).

### **IOC-UNESCO declaration and report on Ocean Acidification**

On 30 January, leading marine scientists called for immediate action by policy-makers to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions sharply, so as to avoid severe damage to marine ecosystems. [More](#).

### **Latest News from WCRP Activities and Projects**

Issued recently: CLIVAR-Vamos ([No. 48](#)), Journal of Climatology - Special Issue: Climate Extremes ([Vol. 29:3](#)), SPARC ([No. 32](#)), SOLAS ([No. 8](#)).

## **Events**

### **Registration Open: International Lund RCM Workshop, Lund, Sweden, 4-8 May 09**

Register for '21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges in Regional Climate Modelling' before 15/03. [More](#).

### **Call for abstracts: GEWEX/iLEAPS Conference on Energy & Water Cycle Research**

From 24-28 August 09, WCRP-GEWEX and the IGBP Integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Processes Study hold a joint Science Conference in Melbourne. Submit abstract by 15/03. [More](#).

### **NCAR Colloquium on Marine Ecosystems and Climate, Boulder, CO, USA, 2-14 Aug. 09**

Applications to this WCRP co-sponsored Advanced Study Program are due by 31 March. [More](#).

### **OceanObs '09: Ocean information for society, Venice, Italy, 21-25 Sept. 09**

The WCRP co-sponsored symposium invites for abstract submission by mid March. [More](#).