

Cooperative Institutes Directors' Meeting  
CIRA, Colorado State University  
June 16 and 17, 2009

**Tuesday June 16**

**\*\*\*\*\*Joint Administrators & Directors\*\*\*\*\***

**9:15 Meeting Goals (Guch lead + CI Directors)**

Items to be addressed at the directors' retreat:

          CIs be involved in outreach/education programs. For example, climate change. CREST has capability now.

          CROSS has received limited encouragement from NESDIS.

It was suggested that an invitation be extended to someone from the Office of Education to attend the next CI meeting. Mark said that Jim Gurka, of the GOES-R project, has hired outreach people. ESO and GLOBE programs are also education resources.

It was recommended that larger amounts of Task I money be requested. The amounts should be more realistic.

It was mentioned that Task II should be extended so year 5 is not spinning down in anticipation of the end of a CI. Ingrid explained that the Sunset Plan will keep funding going for CI that does not win recompetition.

There was a discussion of reporting to NOAA Grants Online that affected CI Administrators.

CI Annual Reports are now due 90 days before the end of the fiscal year, not 90 days after. It was suggested that progress statements in continuing proposals be used in an annual report.

**1:30 Satellite Algorithm Test Bed, NOAA Testbeds (Goodman)**

Satellite Algorithm Test Bed, NOAA Testbeds – Steve Miller asked how the SATB will be funded. S. Goodman replied that it could get funds from GOES-R. It could also be included in the SPBS which M. Kalb will submit this year. The plan will be to start with projects which will help define infrastructure needs. GOES-R3 LOIs will be funded by 450k. More than 30 have been submitted.

Steve Goodman anticipates that the Proving Ground project will go until 2016. Current list has 68 products. Thirty four are being tested now. Mark mentioned that not one has been demonstrated in its final form. The next phase would require items on the list to be accessed by

AWIPS at WFOs. Some items on the list have been seemingly completed. Steve Goodman responded that results could be updated by more advanced spatial and temporal resolution from GOES-R instruments. It was suggested that some items be moved through the list – not everything is being worked on. Results can always be refined.

Mark mentioned that data assimilation is one area that is not stove-piped. All data is utilized.

Ingrid asked for input as to the requirements of the Proving Ground project.

1. No more products until program is okayed.
2. CIRA and CIMSS are anchor points.
3. Budget may not grow.
4. Mark said the program needs infrastructure such as AWIPS. CIs should be the main conduit to users.
5. Products will have to be GOES-R related.
6. Steve Miller said it might need to be more international.

## **2:15 GOES-R Satellite Proving Ground**

**(Goodman + CI Directors)**

### Satellite Algorithm Test Bed

Ingrid stated that there is a 50-pp. report with the following comments;

- Scope needs to be defined.
- Use examples of where using testbed would have been important.
- State what projects could use it?

Research to operations slide:

GOES is okay; POES has few funds for developing algorithms for transition to operations. It should have fewer constraints than research transitions to operations.

Ted said CIOSS needs a place to go for funding – there is no GOES-R money for climate.

Test bed could use GIMPAP to PSDI as a model.

It was suggested that the NASA A-train be used as a model.

The NOAA SATB could help determine how CIs do interactive/blended research. There is a need to have a place where “all tools reside.” Water and carbon could be unifying themes.

The need for operations to research (O2R) could exist to later improve operational products.

Otis said that someone is needed to see to the integration. Ingrid said that StAR is in charge.

Oceans does not have means to transition new products. Steve Goodman said that OSD will help with GIMPAP-like operations transitions.

## **2:45 BREAK**

**3:15 Satellite Resources in Climate Science  
and National Climate Service**

**(Bates)**

Long term records are important. NCDC has satellite coverage back to the mid 70s. Other records go back to 1880s. There will soon be a MOU for a NOAA and USGS partnership.

Ingrid asked where the science is in the CDR. Response was that climate assessment is science. Climate science should not be mitigation. But is there danger of science being taken away from climate problem? Is prediction missing from NOAA? Mark asked “where is NCEP in the new climate services”? NWS believes it should have the NCS within it. The CIs participation is through grants, not with deliverables. Ideal would be research to operations.

How do other CIs interact with NCDC? U of WI – AVHRR product team. CIOSS – Ocean climatic data sets. A subcategory is ocean eco systems.

**4:00 Discussion and summary**

**(Guch)**

Proving Ground talk was decided to be helpful. CIs can help with Steve Goodman’s plan. CI Directors should be kept up to date. LOIs will be responded to – 30 have been submitted. Eight will be asked to give oral presentations and 5 will be selected. Reza suggested a one-day climate workshop be scheduled for next year. The CoRP Symposium will be in Asheville in 2010. Steve Miller will send his evaluation of the CIRA recompetition to Ingrid. CIs were asked to give recompetition ideas to Ingrid for the directors’ retreat. Cap money determines the date of the end of cooperative agreements.

**5:00 Adjourn, Return to Hotels**

**6:00 Group Dinner at Jay’s Bistro and Walk Across (All)  
to “Old Town” Fort Collins for Dessert**

**Wednesday June 17**

**\*\*\*\*\* Directors Session 2\*\*\*\*\***

**8:30 Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation**

**(Boukabara)**

JCSDA is working to be competitive with European counterparts. NWP forecasting skills are falling behind international groups. JCSDA needs IT equipment accessible to partners to accomplish O2R. The Satellite Algorithm Test Bed has a similar need.

The US is not ready for new sensors. Tools need to be modularized so use of new sensors does not mean having to start at square one. It would be good to have one package of code. GSI would be a good framework. JCSDA needs compatibility with partners – common software and infrastructure to smooth transition between model components.

Ingrid asked what can CIs do? Response;

1. Link to operational models.
2. More socialization to wider groups of people.
3. Increase StAR funding.

## **9:15 Collaborative Training Efforts**

**(Guch)**

CIIs do not have similar needs – e.g sensors. Cross-CI education is needed. Stan Kidder’s talk via VISITview was mentioned as a model for future talks. Otis asked if a brochure was available – yes. He suggested having a CoRP lecture every semester – accessible by all, share the best presenters.

It was suggested that more community needs to be built, especially among students. Reza suggested Webcasting. Presentations could be at a higher scientific level than VISIT with access for all of NOAA. Mark suggested there be a 1-credit seminar course each semester for students. The CoRP Symposium could be used to kick off this course or series. Juanita Collier is surveying students regarding their plans for participating in the CoRP student exchange this summer at CREST. CIIs will fund the travel. So far, there are no names from CIRA. It was suggested and agreed that CIRA and CICS help fund CREST students. More advance notice of the program was suggested with even a 1-year advance announcement.

The Satellite Constellation Plan is still being worked on. It was stressed that it should be released to the public in the near future.

## **10:00 BREAK, Tour CloudSat Data Processing Center (Reinke)**

## **10:45 NESDIS STAR Priorities, additional discussion (Kalb lead + CI Directors)**

Mike Kalb listed the challenges facing NESDIS:

1. Lower number of workforce – at 95 now.
2. Higher turnover
3. Completion of facilities at College Park has been delayed. Move-in date may be 9/2010.
4. WWB has reached maximum power limit.
5. No access to super computer resources
6. No money for international travel.

In regard to the proposed National Calibration Center, J. Bates said it should be user driven.

Mike replied that all stakeholders will be involved and will be asked for feedback.

Otis said there is a big difference between calibration (NIST applying international standards) and cal/val.

SOAR will be developed to free up scientists’ time for research. FTEs will be hired by StAR for project management. Currently there are no processes to get resources (computer time) from NOAA. NOAA might buy sources – super computing cycles through joint centers. There are security issues.

Paul DiGiacomo has been named director of the Satellite Oceanography and Climatology Division.

The StAR Review will be held in November of 2009. CI people will be invited.

CI new ideas are not easily moved forward, especially POES. Base funding for research as well as administration was suggested again

Thoughts on recompetition:

Ten years is too short a time span between recompetitions. Fifteen years was suggested. Ingrid thought there might be an opportunity to change the current time frame. NESDIS wanted the CIs and OAR institutes to be recompeted at the same time. J. Bates said Congress always wants accountability reported through independent metrics.

**12:00 Group Catered Lunch**

**1:00 Separate NOAA and CI Directors Break-Out Discussions**

**2:00 Report on Discussions, Summary and Action Items (All)**

Steve Miller asked about the CIs role in climate models and climate data analysis. Where does CIRA fit in? The answer was that all CIs will participate in this. Bates mentioned NCDC and state climatologists as resources. CIs can gather customer requirements for the climate service.

Ingrid drafted a list of action items.

**3:00 Adjourn**