

AGU Precipitation Committee Meeting
2003 Fall Meeting, San Francisco
9 December 2002

Participants

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AGU Meeting Planning

2004 AGU Spring Meeting (Montreal)

The formal deadline for special sessions for the joint meeting has past. Late-breaking sessions can be proposed up to the 19 February 2004 abstract deadline (to Roger Beckie, Spring Meeting Hydrology Program Chair).

The approved special sessions from the Precipitation Committee are:

- Remote Sensing of Precipitation (POSTER ONLY)
- Advances in Understanding the Global Water Cycle
- Coordinated Enhanced Observing Period (CEOP)
- Ensemble Prediction

2004 AGU Fall Meeting (San Francisco)

The deadline for submitting approved special session descriptions to the Hydrology Fall Meeting Program Chair is early June 2004.

Space constraints for the Fall Meeting will continue to be an issue for the 2004 Fall Meeting. All growth at the meeting will be in poster sessions. All committees were advised to plan some poster-only sessions.

Topics for special sessions were discussed for the Fall Meeting:

- *Mountain Precipitation*
This is an issue of growing concern on weather and climate scales. There are ongoing activities as part of a USWRP initiative and the GAPP program. A poster-only session was suggested as a possible format for this session. Potential session conveners were identified. The Surface Water Committee is planning a related session on Mountain Hydrology; the planning for these sessions should be closely coordinated.
- *Ensemble Prediction Theme*
A follow-up on the two Spring Meeting sessions was discussed. Precipitation components might include analysis of precipitation forecasts and observations, and modeling of precipitation forcing uncertainty for ensemble streamflow prediction. The linkage with atmospheric and hydrologic models could be emphasized. Potential session conveners were identified.
- *Prediction in Ungauged Basins (PUB)*
The precipitation committee should support efforts to schedule a PUB session to include precipitation themes with the Surface Water Committee. The Precipitation Committee might help by providing co-conveners for this session.

- *Coordinated Enhanced Observing Period (CEOP)*
There are planned sessions on CEOP at both the Fall 2003 and the Spring 2004 meetings. If interest and response merit it, then a follow up session for the Fall 2004 meeting will be planned. John Roads would take the lead in helping to organize the session.
- *Precipitation Assimilation*
This may be a relevant topic to consider for upcoming meetings. No formal plans for a special session were discussed.

Other Upcoming Meetings

8th International Precipitation Conference, Vancouver, B.C., 8-11 August 2004.

(<http://www.forestry.ubc.ca/precipitation/>)

Discussion Topics

Several items were discussed by the committee:

- NASA is planning to decommission the TRMM satellite soon and re-orbit the satellite as a safety and cost-cutting measure. However, the satellite still has a long useful life remaining. Continued operations would benefit the precipitation community. Efforts are underway to express the communities' concern regarding the decommissioning. There was a discussion on what AGU could do to support these efforts.

Follow-up discussions at the Fall Meeting were made with senior AGU members and officers (at the Union and Section levels). AGU has a deliberative process for issuing position statements, and time constraints in responding to NASA would prevent such a Union initiative. Union and section officers recommended that the appropriate level for responding to concerns was at the Precipitation Committee. The committee needs to formulate a response by the end of December 2003.

- The Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) is considering a precipitation product based on a combination of global in situ and satellite observations. This effort suggests the need for a global precipitation intercomparison project to assess existing products. The Precipitation Committee might take an active role in this effort by planning sessions or a meeting (e.g., a Chapman Conference). Several contacts on GCOS precipitation product activities were identified. The committee web site might be used to link to available precipitation products.
- The precipitation committee should attempt to coordinate with and better engage the Atmospheric Sciences (AS) section to plan activities in hydrometeorology. Participation in the AS planning activities should be proposed.
- The need to identify new members for the Precipitation Committee was discussed.