

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee consisting of Tom Delworth (NOAA/GFDL), Chet Koblinsky (US Climate Change Science Program, NASA), Eric Lindstrom (Ocean.US, NASA), Zhengyu Liu (Univ. of Wisc./CCR), Jay McCreary (Univ. of Hawaii/IPRC), Jerry Meehl (NCAR), Vikram Mehta (CRCES), and Jim O'Brien (Florida State Univ./COAPS), I am pleased to invite you to the NASA-CRCES-IPRC Workshop on Decadal Climate Variability, to be held in the Hilton Waikoloa Village (<http://www.hiltonwaikoloavillage.com>) near Kona, Hawaii, from 23 February to 26 February 2004.

This will be the fifth in the series of quasi-biennial Workshops on Decadal Climate Variability. Following the previous Workshops, the format of this Workshop will also consist of oral presentations and discussion sessions. Oral presentations on all aspects of decadal-multidecadal climate variability will be welcome, but presentations on the following themes are particularly solicited.

1. Long-term observations for understanding and prediction of decadal-multidecadal climate variability
2. Interactions between decadal-multidecadal variability and interannual variability, and between decadal-multidecadal variability and anthropogenic climate change
3. Important processes in decadal-multidecadal climate variability
4. Societal impacts of decadal-multidecadal climate variability
5. Decadal-multidecadal climate predictability

The main topics of discussion sessions will be

1. How can the decadal-multidecadal variability and climate change research communities guide the development of observing systems and data products?
2. Which are the most important processes in decadal-multidecadal climate variability? What do we know and what do we not know about these processes? How can we increase our understanding of these processes?
3. Which quantities would be useful to societies (and why) if they can be predicted with significant skill at multiyear-multidecadal lead times?
4. How to assess societal impacts of decadal-multidecadal climate variability?

Abstract submission and review, registration, extended abstract submission and viewing, solicitation of comments/suggestions on the draft Workshop Program, and the competition for financial support will be done in the Workshops/Conference Information area of the Virtual Center for Decadal Climate Variability (DecVar; <http://www.DecVar.org>). Abstracts for oral presentations should be submitted before or on 31 October 2003. The preliminary Program of the Workshop, including discussion topics, will be available for comments/suggestions in DecVar in early November. Extended abstracts of presentations (1-2 pages text, 1 page figure) should be submitted before or on 15 January 2004; these will be available for viewing from 1 February 2004. Entire presentations and a summary of proceedings will be available in DecVar soon after the Workshop.

There will be no registration fee for participating in this Workshop, but participants must register before or on 10 January 2004. There will be a complimentary reception outside the Lagoon Lanai in the Hilton complex from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, 23 February, 2004. Complimentary continental breakfast and afternoon snacks-beverages will be available on the Workshop days outside the meeting area. A paid excursion to the astronomical observatories on Mauna Kea may be arranged if there is sufficient participant interest; the cost and other details of this excursion will be provided later.

In keeping with the tradition of these Workshops, travel and per diem expenses for a maximum of ten graduate students (M.S. or Ph.D.) and junior (maximum two years after obtaining Ph.D.) post-doctoral scientists may be available. Grantees will be selected by the Organizing Committee from their performance in the competition outlined here. Applicants, either individually or in groups, will write a literature review on a topic of their choice from one of the themes of this Workshop outlined above. Applicants are free to choose their co-authors if they so wish and are strongly encouraged to use the papers, abstracts, and other references found in the DecVar documents area, and other DecVar facilities such as the Writing Room, the collaborative group area, and the Discussion Room in creating a presentation quality paper of their review. Each review paper should be no longer than twenty pages of double-spaced text (including references) with a maximum of fifteen figures. A maximum of ten authors of the best review papers will receive full travel and per-diem expenses to go to this Workshop; one of the authors of each paper will be required to orally present his/her review paper in the Workshop. Note that for winning papers with multiple authors, all authors may receive travel and per diem expenses to go to the Workshop. Initial applications should be submitted before or on 15 September 2003. The review papers must be submitted before or on 15 November 2003.

A limited block of rooms has been reserved for this Workshop at \$149 per night. The booking code is CFR for on-line booking and Decadal Variability Workshop for phone/FAX booking. The special rate for this block is available from 20 February 2004 to 28 February 2004. This block will be available until 21 January 2004 for reservation. Please reserve your room early because it may be difficult to obtain additional rooms at the block rate. Participants should make their reservations directly with the hotel, using any of the following contact information.

Hilton Waikoloa Village
425 Waikoloa Beach Drive
Waikoloa, HI 96738
Phone number: 808-886-1234; FAX number: 808-886-2901

The various deadlines for this Workshop are:

Abstract submission: 31 October 2003
Extended abstract submission: 15 January 2004
Registration: 10 January 2004
Hotel reservation: 21 January 2004
Initial application for financial support: 15 September 2003
Student/post-doc paper submission: 15 November 2003

Best regards,
Vikram

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All of us could learn from the weather; it pays no attention to criticism.
-Anonymous