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International Society of Biometeorology Changes in Commissions

1. Creation of a new Commission on Adaptation and Responses with title "**BioPhysics of Adaptation and Response**" (BPAR).

The new Co-Chairs for this Commission are Dr. David Quesada, Associate Professor of Physics, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management, St. Thomas University, Miami Gardens, Florida, USA and Dr. Sheila Tavares Nascimento from the Animal Science Department, Maringá State University (UEM), Brasil.

Scope and Objectives

The understanding of associations between weather, climate and living organisms are very important during processes of decision making for agricultural, livestock, and human health management. There is a considerable body of data and statistical associations between weather parameters and indices and the response of living organisms to different weather and climate conditions. However, a complete understanding of biophysical mechanisms behind such responses is far of being achieved yet. In this end, biophysical experimentation and modeling are needed to complement previous findings. Therefore, this commission is aimed at:

- Create biophysical models of thermoregulation, immune response, and acclimatization for animals and humans.
- Explain statistical associations established across the field of biometeorology.

- Being a research ambassador with projects Exposome and Physiome, aimed at understanding the response of humans under different environmental exposures.
- Develop and promote guidelines preventing and/or mitigating the impact of adverse weather conditions.

Suggested Research Directions

ISB scientists are working on all of the following:

- Biophysical modeling of thermal adaptation and thermoregulation in animals and humans.
- Biophysical modeling of the immune response during adverse weather conditions.
- Mathematical modeling of seasonal epidemics and the interrelation between weather, thermoregulation and the biophysical basis of the triggering of epidemics in plants, animals and humans.

Integration of micro-scale and meso-scale meteorological modeling including the atmospheric chemistry in order to establish biophysical thresholds under different levels of environmental stress (thermal, radiative, oxidative, psycho-social).

2. Dr. Nicola Lacetera, Univ. of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy, is replacing Assoc. Prof. John Gaughan, as a new Chair of the Animal Commission.

3. Dr. Adam J. Kalkstein, United States Military Academy, West Point, USA, is a new Co-Chair in the Human and Health Commission in substitution of Franchesca De' Donato.

21st International Congress of Biometeorology

ICB2017



Venue: Durham University, United Kingdom

Proposed Dates: September 3 – 7, 2017

Widely recognised that atmospheric processes exert a strong influence on a range of human activities, ecosystem services and hence human development

Demand from a variety of sectors for climate information because THEORETICALLY, this can assist with better management of the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change.

However the question remains “what type of climate information and for whom”

Purpose: To reflect upon the efficacy of knowledge production in biometeorology and cognate disciplines in relation to information required for managing climate related risks.

Scope: Papers from the biophysical, social, medical and engineering sciences are welcome.

Papers are likely to touch upon

- improved methods for describing the nature (probability, magnitude, location) of climate events,
- developments in the assessment of exposure and vulnerability to climate extremes,
- how climate anomalies may propagate through socio-ecological systems,
- the evaluation of risk management decision support tools,
- barriers to the uptake of climate information and
- current scientific limitations related to the production of climate information for climate risk management.

Programme:

September 3: Registration Opens (1600hrs) and Evening Icebreaker Event at Durham Castle (1800hrs)

September 4: Opening Session and Plenary followed by paper sessions (0830 – 1800hrs)

September 5: Paper sessions (0830 – 1800hrs) followed by Congress Dinner at Grey College (1900 – 2300hrs)

September 6: Paper sessions followed by closing ceremony (0830 – 1800hrs)

September 7: Optional Tours (0830 – 2000hrs)

Enquiries to: Professor Glenn McGregor, Department of Geography, Durham University. Email: glenn.mcgregor@durham.ac.uk

Accommodation: Single and Double Rooms at Durham University as well as the Marriot Hotel

Registration: This is likely to open May 2017



Call for papers: Likely to open in late 2016 with abstract submission deadline around March 2017



Calman Learning Centre (above) and Lecture Room (below)

As a Society, ISB also supports conferences and activities which align with our purpose.

In **2015** the Society is supporting:

“Global change impact on diseases and alien species expansion” A capacity building workshop supported by ICSU

AIMS, Cape Town, May 2-6 2016

This international, interdisciplinary, educational and capacity building workshop will bring together the two subjects of infectious diseases and invasive species and the context of climate change, thus allowing sharing the methods and building partnerships. The workshop will address the whole range of topics from field-work and collecting of data to the building and validating of models, to the adjustment of models to take into account the changing environment and the social characteristics, and to the design and implementation of strategies to fight infectious diseases and invasive species. Special emphasis will be put on African diseases and invasive species, as well as the characteristics of changing environment in Africa. The workshop is mostly aimed to young researchers and postgraduate students, with a majority coming from Africa. International experts from around the world will give the mini-courses and lectures and will lead the working groups. There will be a limited number of contributed talks and a poster session.

Website: <http://www.aims.ac.za/en/research-centre/workshops-conferences/currentfuture/global-change-impact-on-diseases-and-alien-species-expansion>

Applications: the website will be open for applications in October 2015. The workshop is planned for 50 participants. The participants from Africa will receive full funding.

Partners:

- International Mathematical Union
- International Union of Biological Sciences
- International Union of Immunological Societies
- International Union of Microbiological Societies
- International Social Science Council
- International Council of Industrial and Applied Mathematics
- ICSU Regional Office for Africa
- ecoHEALTH from Future Earth
- International Society for Biometeorology
- African Institute for Mathematical Sciences
- South African Mathematical Society
- DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology
- Mathematics of Planet Earth

Organizers: Jacek Banasiak (South Africa)
banasiak@ukn.ac.za

Christiane Rousseau (Canada)
rousseac@dms.umontreal.ca

Expert Meeting on Biometeorological and Bioclimatic Forecasts, Havana, Cuba.

30 November to 2 December 2015

Organized by the **International Society of Biometeorology** and the Cuban Meteorological Society

The Cuban Meteorological Society and the International Society of Biometeorology have been working in the organization of an international expert meeting for the implementation of biometeorological and bioclimatic forecasts in Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in the city of Havana, Cuba, 30 November to 2 December of 2015. The meeting will be part to the celebration of the VIII Cuban Congress of Meteorology and the same travel and accommodation facilities

during the congress will be available for the participants in the expert meeting. The presentations in the meeting should express the characteristics and observed impacts of actual bioclimatic and biometeorological forecasts services, considering the needs, priorities and projections of international organizations related with the broad spectrum of biometeorology, in the fields of humans, animal health and agrometeorology (phenology), as well as the feasibility for development a regional project oriented to offer bioclimatic advisories and biometeorological alerts to the health authorities of selected case study countries in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The meeting also will promote the interdisciplinary interaction between experts from the different areas of biometeorology (humans, animals, plants), trying to make easier a common methodological approach for the application of biometeorological and bioclimatic services, to assure the validation within the user's community of the service outputs and to implement known best practices in managing efficiently and seamlessly the interaction among the international and national partners involved, the meteorological services, the mass media and the general public.

The specific objectives of the meeting are:

- To review the recent results of monthly and seasonal bioclimatic advisories, short-range biometeorological forecasts and the monitoring of meteor-tropic effects at regional and national levels.
- Address the need for development and validation of bioclimatic advisories and biometeorological forecasts services in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean through some national case studies.

- To recommend best practices and best strategies for the adequate application and interpretation of bioclimatic and biometeorological forecasts within the different user's areas and the general public.
- To prepare the scientific fundament for a cooperated interdisciplinary project oriented to make easier the implementation of bioclimatic advisories and biometeorological forecasts at national and regional level into the region, and
- To recommend a follow-up mechanism for the continuous implementation, upgrade and improvement of bioclimatic advisories, biometeorological forecasts and the monitoring of meteor-tropic effects at regional scale.

Organizers: Andrés H. Planas Lavié (Cuba)
andres.planas@insmet.cu

Luis B. Lecha (Cuba)
lecha@cesam.vcl.cu or
luis.lecha@gmail.com

Regional Reports

The 3rd Symposium on Phenological Observation and Research in China Held in Beijing on Oct. 16 to 17, 2014

The 3rd Symposium on Chinese Phenological Observation and Research, under the auspices of China Phenological Observation Network (CPON), was held in Beijing from Oct. 16-17, 2014. More than one hundred researchers and CPON members from all over the country attended the conference, including three academicians of Chinese Academy of Sciences, namely Prof. Du Zheng, Prof. Dehe Qin, and Prof. Jingyun Fang.

At the opening ceremony, Professor Ge Quansheng, the president of Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research as well as the Chief Scientist of CPON, introduced the progress of observation and research for CPON in recent years. Subsequently, ten excellent observers were given awards for their special contribution to CPON.

On October 16, 17 reports and presentations were delivered given focusing on phenological research hotspots, such as plant phenological model, phenological changes in Tibetan Plateau, the application of remote sensing and cameras in phenological observations. Among these reports, four specially invited reports were given respectively by Professor Qin Dahe, former Administrator of China Meteorological Administration, (topic: Climate change and sustainable development), Fang Jingyun, President of Institute Of Botany, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (topic: Plant phenological changes---from species, communities to regions), Chen Xiaoqiu, Professor from Peking University, (topic:

Forecast the leaf expansion in North China, based on the region continuum model), Zhang Yangjian, Professor of Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources, Chinese Academy of Sciences, (topic: The response of plant phenology to the climate change in Tibetan Plateau). In the end, Prof. Junhu Dai, the deputy director of CPON, also gave a lecture on recent advances in phenological studies based on data of CPON.

Members from 21 observation stations of CPON exchanged their observation experiences on the next day. Finally, Professor Junhu Dai summarized the achievements of observations CPON made in the past and arranged new tasks for the next few years.

Provided by Junhu Dai, Councilor (Asia).

Conferences

Seventh Conference on Environment and Health at the 2016 meeting of the American Meteorological Society

New Orleans, January 10-14th

Abstract submissions are now being accepted for the sessions on environmental health to be held during the 96th Annual Meeting of the AMS. Abstract submissions are now due 17 August 2015 on the [AMS website](#).

The theme of this annual meeting is Earth System Science in Service to Society, which is intended to highlight how the growing knowledge of our Earth system can be used to protect human and natural systems from adverse and / or changing weather patterns. The 12 sessions on environmental health will highlight how increasing understanding of the weather and climate can be used to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities.

We are featuring a Presidential Joint Session:

"Urban studies that support the understanding of urban growth and climate variability impacts on health, adaptation, and resilience." - This will explore the growth and development of urban areas and how cities are impacted by, and must prepare for, climate variability and change in a multitude of ways.

Further planned sessions within Environment and Health at AMS are:

- Integrative Approaches to Understanding Extreme Temperature Risk
- Studies Involving Heat Wave Variability and Intensity Related to our Changing Climate

- Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of Health Early Warning Systems
- Consideration of Human Health in Weather Disaster Preparedness and Response
- Earth Observations that Support Health Early Warning Systems/Disease Risk Monitoring
- NASA Earth Observations and Climate Change
- Climate Change and Infectious Diseases
- Risk Communication of Vector-borne Diseases
- Urban Growth and Connections with Climate and Health
- Oceans and Human Health
- Integrating Health into K-12 Earth Science Education
- Professional Education for Climate Change and Health: Best Practices for Interdisciplinary Training

[Click here for full session descriptions and to submit an abstract.](#)

Abstract submissions due Aug 17, 2015.

Session Co-Chairs:

Kristie Ebi (University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, U.S., krisebi@uw.edu)

Jennifer Vanos (Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, U.S., jennifer.vanos@ttu.edu)

Student Travel Awards & Presentation Awards Available

Please contact Austin

Stanforth: acstanfo@umail.iu.edu

**Pheno-session on phenology at EGU 2016,
Vienna 17 – 22 April 2016**

<http://egu2016.eu/home.html>

Session description (preliminary): Phenology and seasonality in climate change and ecology

Changes in seasonal timing affect species and ecosystem response to environmental change. Observations of plant and animal phenology as well as remote sensing and modeling studies document complex interactions and raise many open questions.

We invite contributions with cross-disciplinary perspectives that address seasonality changes based on recent plant and animal phenological observations, historical documentary sources, or seasonality measurements using climate data, remote sensing, flux measurements or modeling studies. Contributions across all spatial and temporal scales are welcome that compare and integrate seasonality changes, study effects of long-term climate change or single extreme events, emphasize applications and phenology informed decision-making, discuss species interactions and decoupling, advance our understanding of how seasonality change affects carbon budgets and atmosphere/biosphere feedbacks, and integrate phenology into Earth System Models.

This year we emphasize phenology informed applications for decision-making and environmental assessment, mechanistic understanding of the phenological processes, and effects of changing phenology on biomass production and carbon budgets. We also welcome contributions addressing international collaboration and program-building initiatives including citizen science networks and data analyses.

European Symposium on Aerobiology will be organized by European Aerobiology Society in LYON in July 2016

<http://www.alphavisa.com/esa/2016/index.php>

This Symposium will be organized by the RNSA and the AFEDA with the support of different associations dedicated to Air quality. The organizing Committee wishes that many of you will join the Symposium.

The main themes will be:

- General aerobiology
- Phenology
- Health impact (including an allergy day)
- Moulds outdoors and indoor with the participation of different partners
- Ragweed satellite symposium in partnership with the IRS (International Ragweed Society) and a satellite symposium organized by the COST SMARTER.

AAG Annual Meeting in San Francisco

March 29-April 2, 2016

Registration for the AAG Annual Meeting in San Francisco opens on July 31, 2015. AAG will also begin accepting abstracts and proposals for presentations. The 2016 conference will take place March 29-April 2. Researchers, scholars, professionals, and students are welcome to present papers, posters, and panel discussions on all topics relevant to geography. Abstracts are due by Oct. 29, 2015, but may be edited through February 18, 2016.

<http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>

http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting/call_for_papers

Calling all reviewers

The Society in conjunction with Springer is offering members the opportunity to review the new books in the broad area of Biometeorology and have their review of 500 – 800 words published in the Bulletin. Once the review is published a print version will be supplied to the reviewer. A Springer Account is needed to access an Online Book Review Copy.

As this is a new service for members could anyone who is interested please contact Marie Keatley at mrk@unimelb.edu.au or Elena Grigorieva eagrigor@yandex.ru first with the title they are interested in. This is so we can liaise with Springer.

Dear ISB members,

We are preparing for the next issues of the ISB Bulletin in November. Please provide us with any information you may have on upcoming conferences, workshops or other relevant ISB-related events or activities.

Editors,

Elena Grigorieva eagrigor@yandex.ru

and

Marie R. Keatley mrk@unimelb.edu.au