

Abstract for “Plans for Multi-Year NMME”  
Emily Becker and Ben Kirtman

This talk will cover plans for the development of a North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) for the 13–36-month prediction range. The goal of this project is to bridge the gap between the seasonal and decadal multi-model efforts. Current seasonal multi-model systems focus on predicting monthly and seasonal means up to one year in advance, while the decadal problem typically focuses on 5-year means (i.e., year 1–5 or 6–10). We are seeking to bridge these two timescales with prediction and predictability efforts by examining monthly and seasonal means out to 36 months and near-term annual means (i.e., averages of months 18–30, 19–31, ... 25–36). Predictability and potential forecast skill on these timescales stems from interannual ENSO variability, re-emergence processes of extratropical oceanic anomalies, land surface memory, and sea-ice processes, among others. A large array of potential user communities exists for such interannual forecasts, as many entities have planning horizons one or more years into the future.