S/I prediction continues to be a panel focus. Several members participated in the WCRP seasonal prediction workshop (June 2007). Here is the consensus statement.

- Maximum Predictability Has Not Been Achieved
- Model Errors Continue to Limit Forecast Quality
- Additional Calibration Efforts Needed
  - Cannot be Used to Ignore Need to Improve Models
- Multi-Model Practical Approach to Quantifying Forecast Uncertainty
  - Ad-Hoc; Should Not be Used to Ignore Need to Improve Models
- Need For Baseline Procedure for Assessing Seasonal Prediction
  - Validation, Best Practices, Non-stationarity, Application Models

Climate Prediction Applications Postdoc Program (CPAPP)

Status:

Pilot phase – 3-post-docs funded by NOAA at 50%. Rest of funding from *Decision Making Institution.*

* January 2007 – Initial meeting of Oversight Committee, and development of 2-page program prospectus draft.

* August 2007 – Meeting of Oversight Committee with institutional partners to develop themes for program announcement and solidify process.

* September/October 2007 - Program announcement released

***Decision Making Institutions* Involved:**

* USBR

* Tampa Bay Water

* USDA

* DOE/Batelle/PNNL

* ongoing discussions with four other institutions

BEST PRACTICES IN DOWNSCALING

We started on a list, and developed a consensus on some elements of best practices, e.g.

(1) Regional model predictions should take into account uncertainty in the larger-scale fields.

(2) There is a need for balance between statistical and dynamical downscaling techniques.

Our statement will be refined further by the panel. Once this document is complete, we will forward it to the agencies.

DECADAL WORKING GROUP PROSPECTUS

We had internal discussions on this, as well a dialogue with the POS panel and a focused conversation with key participants after our joint session with POS.

A need was identified to control the scope of the working group so that it has a tractable set of problems that are also useful in meeting the growing demand for decadal prediction. This issue is probably too difficult to confront in the summit format. It was therefore decided to have a two-day workshop to have a focused discussion and reformulate the prospectus.

APPLICATIONS INTERFACE WORKING GROUP

--mechanism to facilitate communication between producers and users of climate data, particularly as resolution increases.

--water resources, ecology, fire, fisheries, agriculture, energy use and production, and human health communities.

--e.g. What do these users wish climate modelers would have saved? Do users understand capabilities and limitations of models (e.g. that model prediction may be a pdf)?

--aim is two-way dialogue from the beginning of climate forecast conception (addresses our goal of improving predictions of ecosystems and water resources)

OTHER DISCUSSION TOPICS

--advantages and disadvantages of seamless prediction

--predictability on decadal to centennial time scales
We had a discussion of best practices. The main outcome was that people shouldn't be putting unrealistic parameters in models just to fix their climate biases.

--IASCLIP. Our panel is providing significant input through membership overlap with VAMOS.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Feedback to agencies in 2 areas:

(1) tropical biases AO (Ben, Wayne)

(2) downscaling best practices (Alex, Kelly, Simon)

Working groups:

(1) tropical biases postponed (Ben will lead)

(2) applications interface, scope and prospectus under development (Kelly, Alex, Simon)

(3) decadal predictability, 2-day meeting to reformulate prospectus (PPAI will contribute)

CPAPP, ongoing (Lisa, Kelly, Ben)

SI prediction review for N America, results complete, manuscript in preparation (Lisa lead)