

Summary Notes

Climate Initiative Meeting

May 11, 2007

Held at UCOP, Oakland, CA

Meeting Attendees (in person):

Phil Duffy, LLNL
Carl Blumstein, UCOP
Mike Allen, UCR
Peter Atkinson, UCR
Bill Collins, LBL
Greg Pottie, UCLA
Bisher Imam, UCI
Soroosh Sorooshian, UCI
Dan Cayan, UCSD
Michael Loik, UCSC
Tom Durbin, UCR
Norman Miller, LBL
Jay Famiglietti, UCI
Maximillian Auffhammer, UCB
Michael Wehner, LBL
Doug Rotman, LLNL
Cathie Magowan, UCOP
Rita Gaber, UCOP

By phone:

John Rundle, UCD

DISCUSSION SYNOPSIS

Purpose of the meeting:

1. To discuss the budget proposal
2. To discuss what UC can offer state agencies
3. To discuss strategic planning process

Budget proposal elements:

- The Climate Initiative will explore participation in the biennial "Scenarios Assessment" for the Governor's Office – second biennial assessment will be published in summer 2008.
- Engaging with the biennial assessments is synergistic with the state's mission/vision; allows entrée into an existing infrastructure and process; builds relationships between agencies and academic researchers. Dan Cayan (UCSD) and many other UC scientists contribute to this project.
- Link to 2006 biennial report, Executive Summary:
http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/biennial_reports/2006report/index.html
- Potential research areas: work-force preparation, observation, human dimensions of climate change

- In addition to standard 5-year review, also do mid-term review of the Initiative
- Ensure that the Initiative's role as a "complement" to existing efforts doesn't mean "support"
- Emphasize continuity of efforts as a guiding principle – both developing a new generation of scientists and agency workforce, and long term investment in research.

What UC offers state agencies:

- Coordination of multiple efforts across agencies
- Prioritizing across problems
- Unifying economic and policy models by drawing on UC expertise in economics, governance, political science, etc.
- Focus on adaptation, mitigation, & impacts (agency perspectives) and better link those areas to climate modeling/research
- Need for very fine scale spatial resolution (SIO has downscaled models to CA problems for approx. 10 years)
- Also need to focus on quasi-global scale
- Develop interfaces between science and engineering; climate and hazards

Strategic Planning:

- State agencies will participate in strategic planning
- Strategic planning will establish more direct route between research and agencies
- Need to determine what the state considers their 'grand challenges' and on what time frame

Next Steps:

Attendees to email Phil Duffy --

1. comments on the Climate Initiative
2. commitment to participate
3. memorable/catchy names or acronyms for the Initiative