

ICDM Cape Town Business Meeting Minutes  
(Meeting held: 29 August 2017)  
Notes by Nili Harnik

**Attendance:**

Jianping Li, Hisashi Nakamura, Tim Woollings, Thomas Spengler, Peter Baines, Michael Reeder, Craig Bishop, Richard Grotjahn, Nili Harnik, Sumant Nigam (arrived late directly from flight)

**Symposia reports:**

General:

ICDM has the largest number of symposia compared to other commissions: 8 + 1 joint compared to 3-4 meetings for other commissions.

Specifics:

M08 Advances in atmospheric dynamics (Thomas): 26-28 abstracts, 4 sessions, a whole day. Last time this and M09 were combined and it was longer. 18 talks 6 posters.

M09 Mountain meteorology- no one to report

M10 Tropical session (Michael): 11 talks, a few posters. A bit small for a session on its own. It could have been combined, but was split up following last meeting where the tropical sessions were combined and it was huge.

M11- Seasonal cycle on African continent (who presented?). The session was encouraged by George Philander but the response was not great. Only 4 talks from non-Africans. 10 oral 10 posters. Not clear if the problem is the advertisement or having too many meetings. George didn't want to participate but he motivated.

Craig asked for an example for topics relevant to the seasonal African session. Sumant responded that some climate trends have a seasonality.

M17 High-impact weather and climate extremes symposium: 22 talks in 5 blocks and 6 posters. Three talks were 'invited'. Submissions and attendance was down quite a bit (one third of prior meetings in Prague, Davos, and Melbourne) for this topical symposium.

M18 Advances and Frontier challenges in Global Monsoon Studies (Jianping): 30 abstracts, selected 15 oral. Many Asian participants cancelled since the travel was too far. In 2011 the three tropical sessions were combined and has more than 100 abstracts. In Prague we were asked to separate.

M20 Role of Ocean-Atmosphere Interactions in Climate Variability, Change and Predictability (Hisashi): 26 oral presentations, 5 blocks, but there were several cancellations. 24 oral and 17-18 posters. A similar session in Davos was one full day, which was a bit less than here. In Prague the number was almost the same and the session lasted a full day. In Prague we were assigned a huge auditorium. This time we asked for smaller room and it

was too small. The session combined local topics (e.g. the Arghulas current) so it raised more interest.

M22 Sub-seasonal to seasonal (Thomas): The session is quite small and didn't take off too well. Tim mentioned that the same happened in Prague where it didn't take off too well either. Hisashi noted that the current head of IAMAS is a polar guy so it was hard to convince them of the importance of the mid-latitude atmosphere-ocean

JA3 Frontier Challenges in Data Assimilation (Craig): This symposium was jointly sponsored by IAGA (lead), IAMAS, and IAPSO. 28 talks, no posters. Craig noted that there was a really big DA meeting in Brazil so they had fewer atmospheric talks.

### **Sessions to propose for Montreal:**

Advances in Atmospheric dynamics, Orography, Ocean-atmosphere, Data Assimilation

Craig noted that we need to have a tropical cyclone session because he predicts US people will come to Montreal and TC research will soar

Suggestion: Change the title of the tropical session to Tropical meteorology

Thomas suggested having a Polar session since ICP will not be a part of the Montreal meeting. Suggested having an air - sea-ice interaction session. Hisashi suggested extending his session to include the ice-air-sea session

Sumant suggested a session on Dynamics in climate change and gave the Hadley cell expansion as an example. He suggested having some focus sessions. Craig suggested Bjorn Stevens could be a good convenor of such a session.

Session chairs: Richard noted that we have to come up with names by fall.

Advances- Thomas, Nili

Orography- Mathias, Vanda

Ocean atmosphere ice interaction – Tim leading, Hisashi and Thomas will help

Tropical meteorology – Michael

Monsoon – Jianping, Sumant

High impact – Julia Keller and Richard

Data Assimilation – Craig

Dynamics change in future climate – Sumant, Bjorn Stevens

Sumant asked how ICDM can bring a prominent speaker to the union lectures? ICDM distinguished lecture? Richard suggested Jianping knows how these are decided due to his position in IUGG administration. Thomas suggested Richard go to IAMAS president and ask, and said he can pitch Hans Volkert about it. Craig noted that in Prague there were union DA talks in a huge room and few people spoke. Sumant suggested that climate can attract as much since its of general interest. Peter suggested maybe Brian Hoskins, or Graeme Stephens could be good speakers (someone noted that Graeme was invited in the past but didn't come for some reason)

## **Membership:**

Current members:

The following have agreed to extend their membership: Christian Keil , Istvan Szunyogh, Thomas Spengler, Sumant Nigam, Tim Woollings

Nili needs to ask Patrick Harr if he wishes to have his membership continue for a second term.

Thanks to Hisashi for his term which is ending. He is continuing as Japan delegate, at least for next 3 years. There was a unanimous vote for his continuing as emeritus member. Hisashi indicated that he is happy to step down and be replaced, but would like to continue as emeritus and to keep collaborating on organising a joint session

Suggestions for new members: Adrian Mathews, George Craig, Ted Shepherd.

Nili noted that though there are quite a few women on the commission, women travel less so their numbers at the meeting are smaller.

Suggested criteria for choosing: gender, country, seniority, does the person come to meetings?, coverage of ICDM-related topics of interest

Richard suggested Julia Keller and Gabriele Messori as potential future candidates. He noted they are excellent and came to the meeting but they don't have permanent jobs yet so a bit too early to ask them. Perhaps by Montreal 2019 we can ask them.

We decided to solicit more names by email.

## **Election of a Vice president:**

Several months prior to the business meeting, ICDM Secretary Harnik announced that she would not be continuing after her Secretary duties are finished (in 2019). It is common, that the Secretary becomes the next President due to the experience gained as to how ICDM-led symposia are organized and mentored, how ICDM officers interact with IAMAS executives, and other ICDM business. The ICDM executive committee (Grotjahn, Harnik, and Swinbank) decided that it would be wise to elect a Vice President in the expectation that the Vice President would be elected President at the 2019 business meeting of ICDM. (The bylaws allow for a Vice President, though no record has been found of a previous Vice President of ICDM.)

The 2 candidates presented themselves:

Sumant – He discussed how to make the meeting a little more vibrant so that people want to attend. As organiser of the Climate variability and change meetings, he has experience with AMS Climate variability and change sessions. Named sessions are a good way to draw many people, for example the *“Rasmusson-Wyrтки session on ENSO, Tropical Ocean-Atmosphere Interactions, and Global Climatic Impacts: 20 Years after TOGA”* at the Climate

variability and change meeting which he is one of the organisers of. The session drew a lot of interest and had many contributions. He also suggested starting more debate topics, and elevating some lectures to other levels.

Thomas – He has been a member for 4 years. He likes how the committee shapes these meetings and likes having an off-year workshop. He organized a workshop on polar meteorology in 2015. This is a good way to raise visibility of IAMAS. Last time when asked to be Secretary he said “no” since he was chair of the Arctic science commission. This time said “yes” since the workload will be light over the next 2 years.

Vote result- Thomas was elected.

**Other business:**

Tim reported on the Blocking meeting which was co-sponsored by ICDM and IAMAS. Olivia Martius also helped. SPARC also helped finance (2000EU). The meeting had a good combination of talks, and interested people working on stratosphere and troposphere. It was held in Reading, England and was very popular- with 140 people attending over 3 days.