



CUAHSI

universities allied for water research

eNews Brief

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Upcoming Events

July 6-10, 2008

CMWR XVII International Conference,
San Francisco
• [Community Modeling Session](#)

July 14-16, 2008

CUAHSI Biennial Colloquium on
Hydrologic Science and Engineering

July 16-18, 2008

[HMF Hands-on Distributed
Sensing Workshop](#)

July 28-31, 2008

[First Int'l Conference on
Hydroopedology](#), Penn State

August 6-14, 2008

[33rd International Geological
Congress](#); Oslo, Norway

September 8-11, 2008

[3rd Interagency Conference on
Research in the Watersheds](#); Estes
Park, CO

August 11-14, 2009

[33rd IAHR Congress](#); Vancouver, BC
[Abstracts Due](#) Dec 1, '08

For Your Information

The WATERS Network Test Bed projects PIs and associates will be meeting on **October 21-23, 2007** in the Baltimore area. The purpose of the mid-project fall meeting will be where we all can share experiences, learn from one another, and identify important issues in establishing interactive use of the Hydrologic Information System. CUAHSI and the WATERS Network Project Office will supply logistical details as they become available.

CUAHSI Notes

Observatory Development Efforts

The hydrologic science community has repeatedly emphasized the importance of coherent observations of multiple phases of the hydrologic cycle and associated biogeochemical cycles as well as the various biological, chemical and physical properties that control these cycles. CUAHSI has responded by coordinating with other scientific communities continuing to advance the case for environmental observatories.

The National Science Foundation ([NSF](#)) will soon announce the first Critical Zone Observatories (CZOs). Twenty-three proposals were submitted to this NSF solicitation which used an interdisciplinary earth-surface process approach to observatory design, combining hydrology, geochemistry, geobiology, geomorphology, and stratigraphy. These will be five-year, \$4.25M awards. Details of data publication, community access, and other governance issues remain to be determined. Once the initial CZOs are chosen, CUAHSI will post further information about them on our Web site (see: www.cuahsi.org).

Concurrently, CUAHSI has been collaborating with the environmental engineering community on the **WATER** and **Environmental Research Systems (WATERS)** Network, a large-scale infrastructure project that is being developed for consideration by the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction program. This planning effort has completed a high-level Conceptual Design report and Integrated Science and Education Plan report that are scheduled to be released in Fall 2007 for community comment. We are entering the final phase of the planning process to increase the specificity

New Program Manager Hired -

Dr. David Kirschtel joined CUAHSI effective July 16. Prior to coming to us, David was a Staff Scientist in the NEON Project Office. He brings to the program a broad background in environmental sciences coupled with experience in science education. Please join us in welcoming David to CUAHSI.

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of these documents and to develop cost estimates. We hope to be ready for a conceptual design review by late 2008 or early 2009. More information is available at www.watersnet.org.

These two efforts are complementary, but distinct from each other. CZOs are analogous to Long Term Ecological Research ([LTER](#)) sites. Such sites are led by Principal Investigators to address specific science questions, but also are part of a network with requirements to publish site data and to accommodate external researchers. WATERS Network, on the other hand, is more akin to the National Ecological Observing Network ([NEON](#)), which is a top-down design that provides data and research facilities for the environmental science and hydrologic communities.

Progress on both fronts will help to bring to fruition the aspirations of the CUAHSI community in acquiring more, and better, field observations that are needed to advance hydrologic science.

Networked Environmental Sensor Array Facility (NESAF)

The NCAR EOL In-situ Sensing Facility is seeking your input on the development goals of a potential new community resource the Networked Environmental Sensor Array Facility (NESAF) through a 5 question survey. NESAF would use emerging and existing technology, and include development and miniaturization of sensors to create an easily deployable (essentially wireless, lightweight, low-power, off-the-grid, easily interfaced) tower-based sensor network. The goal of this facility is to enable practical, affordable deployment of 100 or more such towers with a total of several thousand sensors, and to make it possible to deploy from several months up to a few years.

Links to PDF Documents

About NESAF: www.eol.ucar.edu/isf/facilities/isa/NESAF-description-community-13June2007.pdf.

Conceptual Figures: www.eol.ucar.edu/isf/facilities/isa/NESAF-Figures-community-13June2007.pdf.

Survey: www.eol.ucar.edu/isf/facilities/isa/NESAF-community_survey-FINAL-13June07.pdf.

Thank you for your time and effort in completing this short survey. Responses as soon as possible would be most helpful. Please contact us with any questions.

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