

WebEx Notes

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Atmosphere Related Research in Canadian Universities Working Group (ARRCU) Open Meeting

October 11, 2018

Agenda

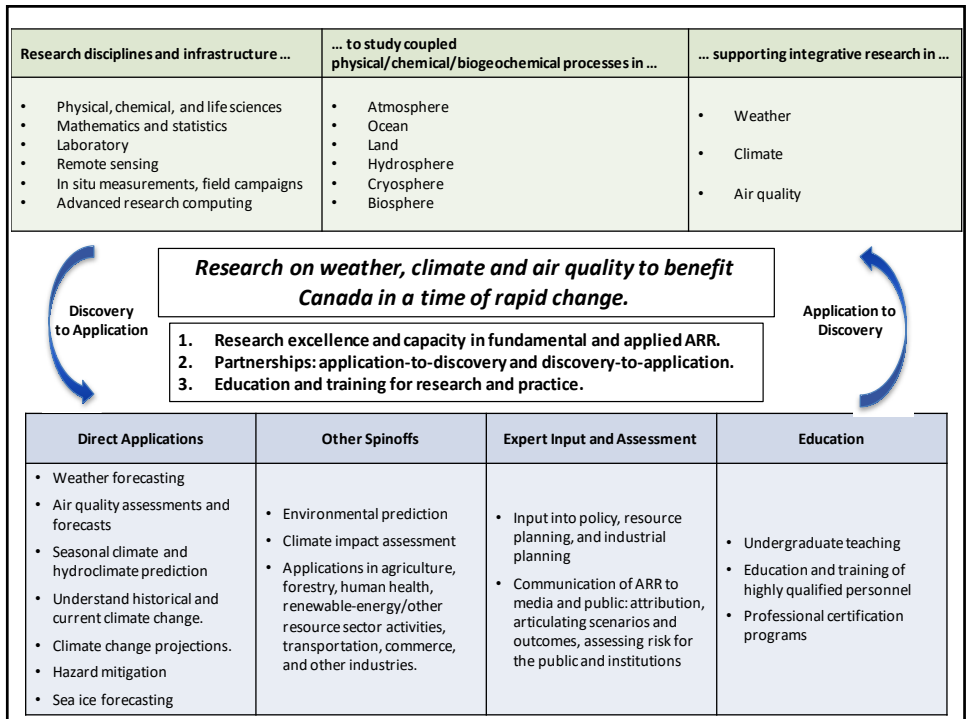
1. Brief intro and update/follow up from previous meetings
2. New federal PDF program
3. ARRCU White Papers update
4. Atmosphere-related science-policy initiative (MB)
5. Schedule of meetings for the year
6. Further discussion
7. AOB

NB: We like to record attendance. When you receive the minutes, please ensure that your name is listed.

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What is ARRCU?

- Group of Canadian University faculty in Atmosphere-Related Research (ARR).
 - Covers research on weather, climate, and air quality.
 - Considers the atmosphere and systems connected to it: oceans, hydrosphere, cryosphere, biosphere, biogeochemical environment, and space.
 - Includes and extends beyond disciplines typically covered by CMOS.
- ARRCU aims to configure university ARR to most benefit Canadians in a time of rapid socio-economic and environmental change.
- We aim to develop a strategic plan for University based ARR to develop an improved research support environment.
- ARRCU-SIG of CMOS was established in June 2018



ARRCU SIG Executive + Advisory Board

- **Paul Kushner** (chair)
- Hind Al-Abadleh
- **Pierre Gauthier**
(Secretary/Treasurer)
- John Gyakum
- Randall Martin
- **Adam Monahan** (Vice-chair)
- Paul Myers
- Rebecca Saari
- Kimberly Strong
- Roland Stull
- Peter Taylor

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Follow up on previous meetings

- Please see the minutes of the June 2018 Town Hall at CMOS and the September 2018 Executive meeting.

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Follow up: Pre-budget consultations

- At our June 2018 Town Hall, we had an action to formulate recommendations based on the White Paper to be presented in a pre-budget consultations.
- The deadline for this was August 2018, and we were able to do this in partnership with Evidence for Democracy.

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E4D Recommendations to FINA

1. **Strengthen federal government science through increased capacity, more mechanisms for science advice and resources to support implementation of science integrity policies**
2. **Investment of \$10-15 million over 5 years in partnership-based climate and atmospheric research, especially in the Arctic**
3. **Increase and harmonize post-secondary scholarships and support for students and post-doctoral fellowships by increasing base support to \$140 million over four years**
4. **Ensure support for the full costs of academic research by increasing the Research Support Fund**

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Recommendation: Investment of \$10-15 million over 5 years in partnership-based climate and atmospheric research, especially in the Arctic²

Canadians and Canadian businesses depend on high quality scientific information about weather, climate, and air quality to plan everyday activities, make informed financial and business decisions, and develop effective infrastructure designs for their communities. Beyond this, Canadians turn to scientific experts in these areas to understand extreme events, variations and changes in climate, and related impacts. There is a strong business case, and a strong case in terms of the public interest and value to society, for ongoing investments to support these services and expertise.

However, a number of high-profile climate, atmospheric, and Arctic research programs have closed or faced funding challenges over the past year. While our climate is rapidly changing, and Canada, with its geography, human talent, knowledge base, and infrastructure is uniquely positioned to address this challenge, it is not fully utilizing its capacities in this area. Canada could, and should, be leading the way in climate and atmospheric research, particularly in the Arctic, but unfortunately funding and support for this research has been cut. Research capacity that has taken years to build has been diminished, along with the ability to respond to emerging challenges.

Given the Government's commitment to addressing climate change, atmospheric and climate science should be at the forefront of funding priorities. This research not only ensures that our measurements, models, and predictions for our changing climate are up-to-date, it ensures that we retain our uniquely trained students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty and maintain

¹ <https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/052.nsf/eng/00010.html>

² Research and numbers received from the CMOS ARRCU-SIG (Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society's Special Interest Group on Atmosphere Related Research in Canadian Universities).

How will we respond if more input is required?

- We have documentation we can draw from in our previous white papers and our planned white papers.
- This is a good time to discuss other ideas – any thoughts?

Follow up:ARRCU operations

- Volunteers needed!
 - ARRCU-SIG is really what we make of it.
- Our current website (arrcu.ca) and communications materials need considerable work. Please consider volunteering to help with this.
- We could also make effective use of financial contributions for organizing and hosting meetings and improving our communications.
 - This year, U. of Toronto Dept. of Physics is providing modest funding for ARRCU-SIG.
- Donations can be accepted through CMOS and we will be responsible for developing a budget for ARRCU-SIG for 2019-2020.

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Follow up: ARRCU governance

- We have established an executive and advisory board, and are polling the advisory board on whether they wish to serve 1 year, 2 year, or 3 year terms.
- Our current advisory board consists of Canadian University faculty, although this could be broadened.
- Please let us know if you wish to serve on the AB.
 - Please contact Paul or Pierre if you would like to nominate yourself or someone else.

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Follow up: IUGG


- IUGG General Assembly, Montreal, July 2019 (CGU/CMOS/JpDL, hosts).
- ARRCU-SIG is scheduled to hold a town hall/AGM, open to the broad attendees at IUGG.
 - We will be seeking agenda items for that meeting.
 - Please contact Paul or Pierre if you would like to contribute.

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Follow up: ARRCU-`Health`

- At the ARRCU Executive meeting, we had an action to follow up with Canadian Urban Environmental Health Research consortium (CANUE) and Health Canada to explore partnership development
- Rebecca Saari followed up on this with Jeffrey Brook (Toronto), Eleanor Setton (CANUE), and Markey Johnson (HC) – welcome to them!


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NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA - INVENTIVE BY NATURE

Postdoctoral Research Program

Presentation to Atmosphere-Related Research In Canadian Universities Network
Environment & Climate Change Canada
Natural Resources Canada
October 2018




 Natural Resources Canada Ressources naturelles Canada




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Program Overview

- With the non-renewal of the NSERC *Visiting Fellowships in Canadian Government Laboratories Program*, the Government of Canada was committed to implement alternatives to allow postdoctoral research in the federal government notably in atmospheric sciences.
- In 2015 the PRP was launched : A horizontal program to recruit fresh, new scientific talent and provide them with the opportunity to work with research leaders in government.
- Promoted via university job boards, in class presentations, panel events, on-campus outreach campaigns etc.

 Natural Resources Canada Ressources naturelles Canada



Program Overview cont`d

- Current Federal Partners:
 - Natural Resources Canada (NRCan);
 - Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC);
 - Canadian Grain Commission (CGC);
 - Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC);
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
- Onboarding:
 - Health Canada (HC)
 - Public Health Agency of Canada
- Ongoing opportunities for new partners

Program Details

- Centralized program management by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)
- Postdocs are hired as temporary employees (up to 3 years) with the same compensation and benefits packages as other federal government employees.
- PRP is notably open to international talent and supported by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) via Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) exemption.

Program Eligibility & Application process:

- To be eligible for the PRP, candidates must have obtained their doctoral degree within the last 3 years in a field of study relevant to the positions

- Candidates:
 - Apply online via [GC Jobs](#).
 - Select preferred federal departments based on their area of specialization and interest.
 - Are included in the inventory of the selected department and made available to hiring managers.

Contacts

Natural Resources Canada:

crissy-lynn.hallock@canada.ca

Environment & Climate Change Canada:

joanna.cooper@canada.ca

3. ARRCU White Papers

- ARRCU-E (Paul K for Paul M)
- ARRCU-I (Peter T)

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4. Atmosphere-related science policy fellowships

- Jennifer Lukovich

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5. Schedule of meetings for the year

- December 6 - ARRCU-SIG Executive-Advisory
- February 7 - ARRCU-SIG open:
 - Soliciting topics
- April 11 - ARRCU-SIG Executive-Advisory
- July 2019: IUGG-CMOS 2019 - ARRCU-SIG town hall
 - Soliciting topics

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6. Further discussion/AOB/Actions

- Should ARRCU and/or the CMOS Scientific Committee issue a statement related to the recent IPCC Special Report on 1.5 degrees of global warming?
 - Urgency in light of 2018 hurricane season.
 - Note Canadian authorship of IPCC Special Report
- Also, note the upcoming SR on Oceans and Cryosphere.
 - Should we prepare a statement for this too?

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