

# 2002 ARCSS Community Leadership Teleconference | Summary

## ARCSS Community Leadership Teleconference Summary of Discussions

### Teleconference Goals:

- Begin discussion about what the ARCSS Committee wants to accomplish
- Begin to set the agenda for fall 2002 face-to-face ARCSS Committee meeting

### Outline Summary:

#### 1. Introductory comments:

1. Jonathan Overpeck, ARCSS Committee chair
2. Neil Swanberg, Acting ARCSS Program Manager

1. ARCSS planning and ARCSS Committee processes are accessible and open. The ARCSS community leadership will be invited to participate in ARCSS Committee meetings and other ARCSS Committee discussions.

1. update program plan approximately every five years
2. establish criteria for setting research priorities
3. in conjunction with the research community and the NSF, identify research priorities
4. review and evaluate the progress of the Program
5. reach out to the research community to find new ideas and help nurture the development of those ideas
6. keep track of "the big picture," particularly with regard to modeling and synthesis

3. No formal terms of reference for the committee exist, rather it has an evolving charge. Current responsibilities of the committee include (in summary fashion):

#### 2. ARCSS Committee Responsibilities:

1. The focus of this synthesis should be on the intellectual content and the science, not a programmatic reorganization.
2. The synthesis effort does not necessarily mean a major change or restructure of the ARCSS Program, but the synthesis, if done right, should guide the direction of the future ARCSS.
3. This is a unique opportunity because there are resources available to support an arctic system synthesis effort.
4. The ARCSS Committee will play a major role in defining "synthesis" and making a concrete plan to implement this effort. The AC will hopefully also play a central role in guiding the effort to completion.
5. Structuring of a synthesis effort will require a substantial amount of careful and creative thought. This effort will require more than a workshop/series of workshops. It also should not be limited to current ARCSS-funded researchers, or even Arctic researchers.

3. Arctic System Synthesis. ARCSS is at a critical juncture. The Program has new initiatives ramping up as well as initiatives that are mature, making this an important time to initiate synthesis of ARCSS research—in order to describe the whole arctic system in an integrated fashion. This would not be a review of ARCSS research, but rather a substantial intellectual effort to synthesize our knowledge of all the components of the arctic system and how they fit together.

1. Important to get the report published. It contains valuable information from the workshop, as well as poster and presentation abstracts.
2. The report should focus on recommendations from workshop, and not on the structure of the ARCSS Program.
3. The report will be a significant input to the synthesis effort.

#### 4. All-Hands Workshop report

1. Integration of human dimensions research into other ARCSS activities.

2. Relationship between SEARCH and ARCSS needs to be articulated.
  
5. Outstanding issues. Call from the chair for any outstanding issues within ARCSS that need to be addressed by the ARCSS Committee at the face-to-face meeting this fall. Teleconference participants raised:
  1. Reinstigate three year (extendable for another 3 in some cases) terms for AC members.
    1. important to build AC that will provide intellectual leadership for the ARCSS Program, and also play an active role in carrying out the arctic system synthesis
    2. nominees can come from within or outside of ARCSS community
  2. Chair calls for nominations from teleconference participants.
  3. Chair plans to create a small executive committee within the AC to allow for better responsiveness and flexibility.
  4. Face-to-face meeting of AC in Washington, DC in the fall.
  5. At least four or five committee slots are open.
6. Composition of the ARCSS Committee