

# Overview of WCRP-VAMOS

Raymond W. Arritt

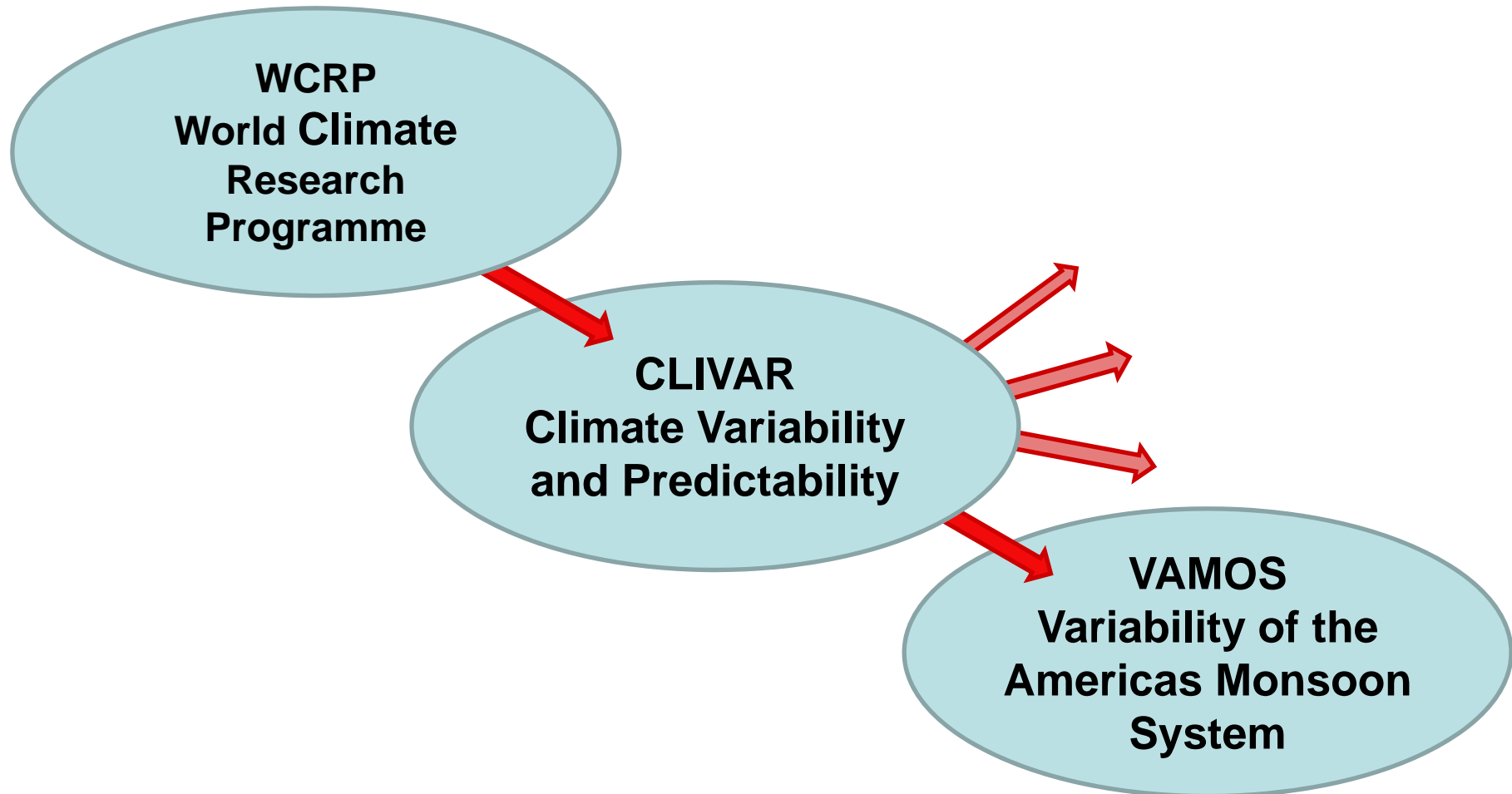
Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa USA

With input from E.H. Berbery and D. Gochis,  
VAMOS Co-Chairs

# What is VAMOS?

- VAMOS = Variability of the Americas Monsoon System.
  - Main focus of VAMOS is monsoons, but it also includes more.
- A project or "panel" of the Climate Variability and Predictability program of the World Climate Research Programme.

# Organization



# VAMOS Mission (condensed)

- **Develop scientific plans and international projects** to investigate the variability and predictability of the American monsoon system in the context of global climate variability and predictability.
- Promote **studies of climate change impacts** on the American monsoon system as well as studies of adaptation including the social sciences perspective.
- Promote **interdisciplinary interactions** among researchers from various nations to study VAMOS problems.
- Coordinate with, advise and **support other CLIVAR and WCRP groups.**
- Coordinate with **national, regional and international projects and organizations** interested in this topic.

# VAMOS activities

- Organized collaborative experiments.
- Coordinated with other WCRP/CLIVAR groups.
- Conducted forecast forums.
- Communicated by publishing newsletters and web sites on VAMOS activities and experiments.
- Conducted meetings and workshops to promote scientific collaboration and outreach.
  - This workshop!

# Some VAMOS experiments

- VOCALS = VAMOS Ocean-Cloud-Atmosphere-Land Study
- SALLJEX = South American Low-Level Jet Experiment
- LPB = La Plata Basin
- NAME – North American Monsoon Experiment
- MESA - Monsoon Experiment for South America
- IASCLIP = Intra-Americas Study of Climate Processes

# Newsletters



# VAMOS !

Newsletter of the Variability of the American Monsoon Systems Panel

No. 7, 2011

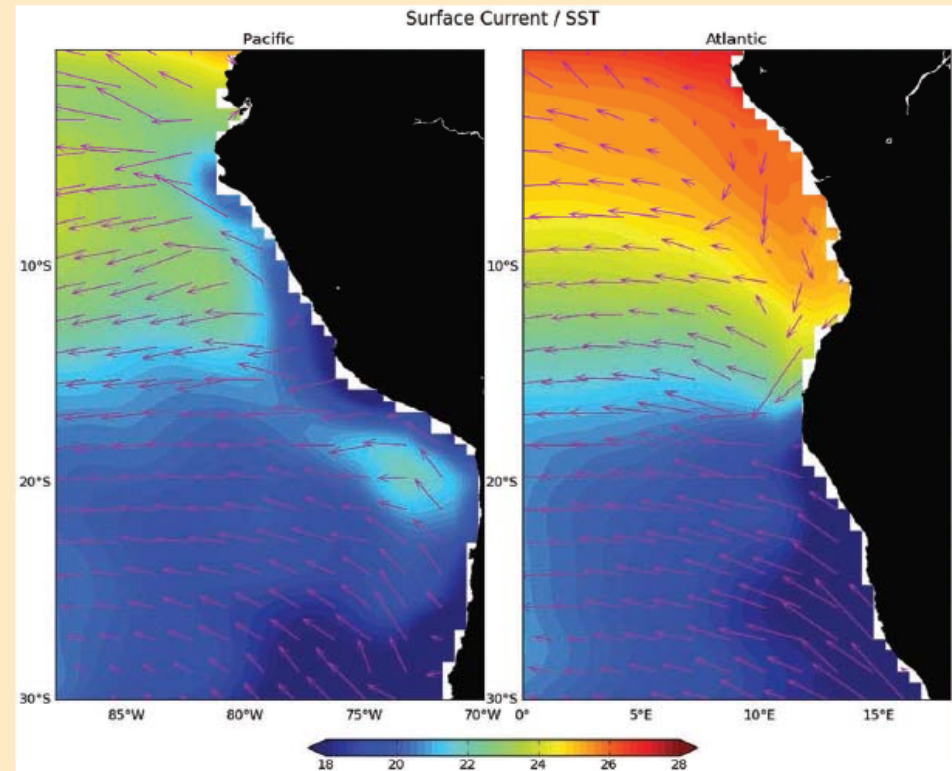


Fig.2: Annual-mean sea surface temperature and surface currents, from the Simple Ocean Data Assimilation (SODA) Reanalysis. Note the strong SST gradient in the Atlantic known as the Angola-Benguela front. To its north, at approximately 10E/10S, lies the Angola dome. In contrast, the southeast Pacific has no comparable SST gradients or thermocline domes. Plot courtesy of Dr. Mingkui Li. //Temperatura media anual de la superficie del mar y corrientes en superficie del Reanálisis de la Asimilación Simple de Datos Oceánicos (SODA). Nótese el fuerte gradiente de SST en el Atlántico, conocido como el frente Angola-Benguela. Al norte de éste, a 10E/10S aproximadamente, se encuentra el Domo de Angola. En contraste, el Pacífico Sudoriental no tiene gradientes de SST comparables ni domos en la termoclinas. Figuras cortesía de Dr. Mingkui Li. (see article by Paqueta Zuidema (VAMOS), Ping Chang (AIP), C. Roberto Mechoso (VOCALS chair), Laurent Terray (AIP co-chair) on page 4) (ver artículo de Paqueta Zuidema (VAMOS), Ping Chang (AIP), C. Roberto Mechoso (VOCALS chair), Laurent Terray (AIP co-chair) en la página 4)



The VAMOS Panel is part of the Climate Variability and Predictability Programme (CLIVAR), an activity under the auspices of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)

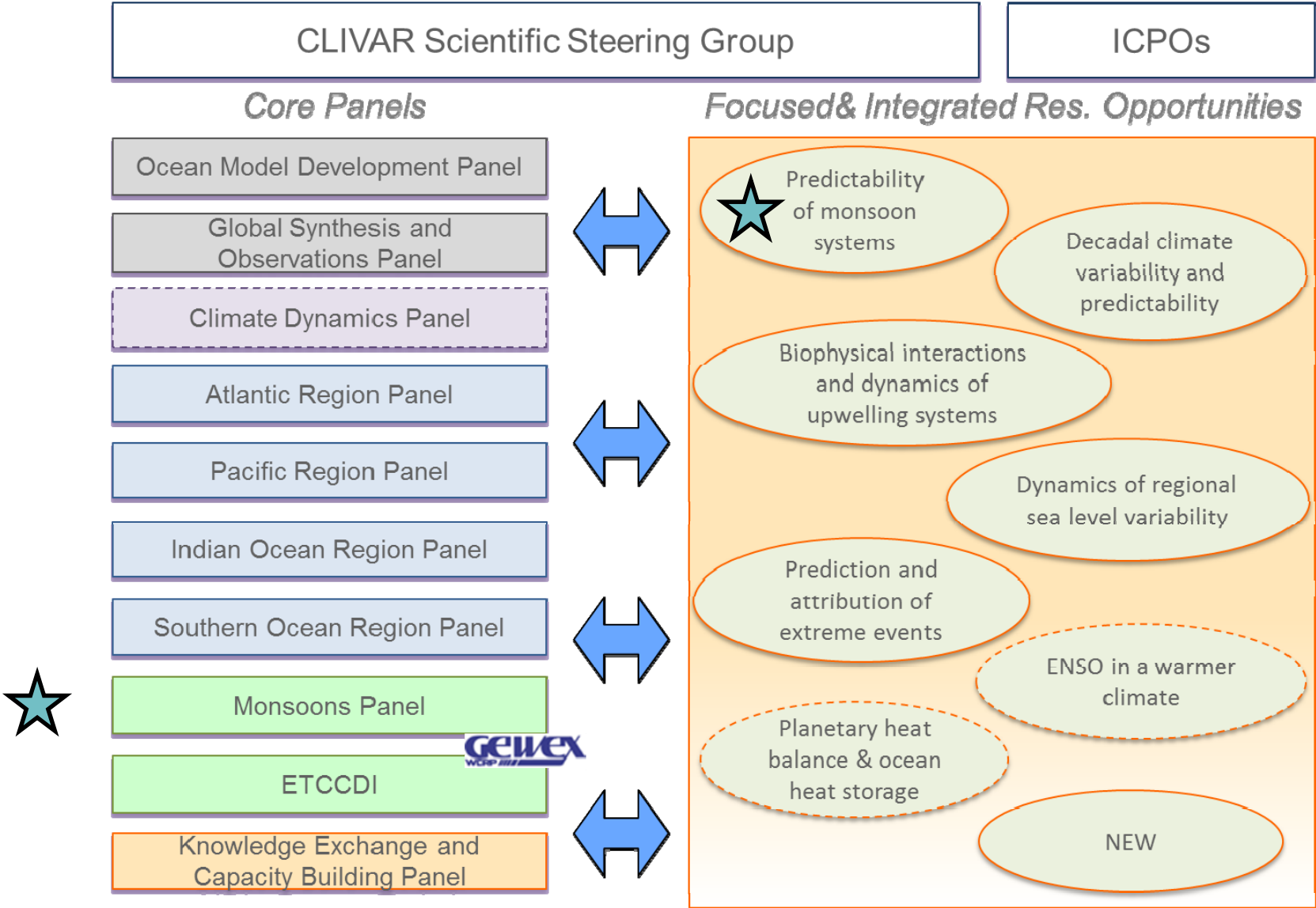


# The future of VAMOS

- WCRP has changed its structure.
- As a result the VAMOS panel is ending later this year.
  - This does not mean WCRP coordinated research on the Americas monsoons will end!
- The new WCRP structure will include research topics that formerly were part of VAMOS, but with greater integration across regions and across the climate system.



# New CLIVAR structure



# Proposed monsoons panel

WCRP CLIVAR/GEWEX <b>Monsoons Panel</b>			
Austral Asian Monsoon	American Monsoons	African Monsoons	Predictability ?
<i>AAMP, MAIRS, MAHASRI</i>	<i>VAMOS, LPB</i>	<i>VACS/ACP, AMMA</i>	<i>WGSIP, MJOTF, WGCM, CORDEX</i>

# Proposed monsoons panel

The goal is to **unify monsoons research** between CLIVAR and GEWEX and across regions to better serve the overall WCRP community.

Timeline:

- End of 2013: Advance the concept of the Pan-WCRP Monsoon Advisory Panel (PMAP) to become the WCRP CLIVAR/GEWEX Monsoons Panel.
- July 2014 hold the first meeting of the Monsoons Panel jointly with its subgroups at the Pan-GEWEX and Pan-CLIVAR meeting in The Hague (Netherlands).

# Summary

- VAMOS has left a strong legacy of research accomplishments and international cooperation.
- VAMOS "as we know it" is coming to an end.
- Although VAMOS is ending, its research topics and interested scientists will have an important place in the new CLIVAR structure.