

Ephemeral Flow

A NEWSLETTER ABOUT SAHRA

MARCH / APRIL 2004

Welcome to the March/April issue of *Ephemeral Flow*, a newsletter for sharing information within the SAHRA community. *Ephemeral Flow* is sent to SAHRA researchers, staff, and students at all participating institutions approximately every two months. Your contributions and suggestions are critical to this newsletter's success and are always welcome. Please send items to Mary Black at mblack@sahra.arizona.edu

FEATURE

SAHRA Headquarters Moving to New Building



We are looking forward to the expanded conference/meeting space that the new building will provide and to being united at last on a single floor! The move for SAHRA Headquarters to the new Marshall Building was postponed again until March 22-23—a firm and final date. Please be patient if you must contact us at that time; our computers and phones cannot be moved in advance. The

new postal address is SAHRA, University of Arizona, P.O. Box 210158B, Tucson, AZ 85721-0158 (Building #158-B, 5th Floor). The street address is 845 N. Park (corner of Park and 2nd Street). Phone numbers will remain the same.

RESEARCH

La Paz Alternate Futures

Harvard University and SAHRA have begun a joint project in La Paz, Mexico. The project is an alternative futures study similar to one conducted in the Upper San Pedro River Basin by Harvard, the Desert Research Center, and the UA. The project will examine alternative future development for the city of La Paz through the use of scenarios. La Paz lies in a semi-arid region on the Baja and its growth potential may be water limited. SAHRA's involvement in the project is to modify an existing groundwater flow model and integrate it into development planning models being produced by Harvard. La Paz is periodically struck by hurricanes, so several event-oriented surface water models are also contemplated. Tom Maddock and Carolyn Drago constitute the SAHRA team, and contemplate numerous visits to

sunny La Paz. The project is of short duration, beginning in January 2004 and to be completed in May 2004.

Transect Study

An important new area of research that SAHRA macro-theme leaders discussed and proposed, subject to review by external advisors and the SAHRA External Advisory Board, is the creation of a new outdoor laboratory. This would be in the form of a five-site transect that samples the ecohydrological and topological gradients present in the Upper Rio Grande basin. The study would be managed under the Basin-Scale Water Balance macro-theme and draw on substantial leveraged resources from the Los Alamos National Laboratory and the University of Colorado, UC-Merced, and NM Tech.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meetings, Workshops, Seminars, Short Courses

March 29: SAHRA External Advisory Board meeting in Tucson.

April 8-9: The Integrated Modeling Team is planning a 1-1/2 day workshop in Albuquerque for all SAHRA Integrated Modeling investigators. Those interested in attending should RSVP to Yuqiong Liu (yqliu@hwr.arizona.edu, 520-626-8799) or Steven Stewart (ssewart@hwr.arizona.edu, 520-626-3892) as soon as possible.

May 1: Abstracts are due for the 2nd International Symposium on Transboundary Water Management to be held November 16-19, 2004 in Tucson at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park. Details about the conference are at www.sahra.arizona.edu/twm/

Sept. 1-3: NSF site visit, Tucson.

Oct. 13-15: SAHRA's 4th Annual Meeting, to be held in Albuquerque, NM.

CONTACT US!

Please let us know when you have news to share or a reason to brag. Students, let us know for example when you have completed your oral exam, defended your thesis/dissertation, or accepted a position in the real world (or even academia). Faculty members, are you offering a new course in 2004, hosting a workshop, leading a panel, editing a new journal? Too bashful to talk about your own accomplishments? Anonymous or second-party tips on newsworthy announcements will also be gratefully accepted.

Send comments, information, suggestions to mblack@sahra.arizona.edu.

PEOPLE

Student and Faculty News/Milestones

Congratulations to **Suzanne Mills** at New Mexico Tech, whose MS thesis, "Quantifying Salinization of the Rio Grande Using Environmental Tracers," was approved in January.

Alex Furman at University of Arizona recently completed his Ph.D. in the Dept. of Hydrology and Water Resources. His dissertation is titled "Steps Towards the Implementation of ERT for Monitoring of Transient Hydrological Processes."

Constance Brown, postdoctoral research associate at the UA, has accepted the position of assistant professor in the Department of Geography at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Constance was the first postdoc to join SAHRA, and has made major contributions to SAHRA's scientific studies particularly through her research at the Mt. Bigelow site. Our best wishes and congratulations go with her to Indiana. Constance will be with SAHRA until September.

Attending the HEPEX (Hydrological Ensemble Prediction Experiment) work-

shop in Reading, UK, March 8 to 10, were **Hoshin Gupta** and **Soroosh Sorooshian**. Hoshin gave a presentation on hydrologic forecast model uncertainty issues and co-lead a discussion session on hydrologic modeling, and Soroosh chaired a session on organizational perspectives.

Publicity/Honors

Candice Marburger, a geosciences senior who is working with SAHRA on the Kartchner Caverns project, won 1st prize in the Education category at the Graduate and Professional Student Council Student Showcase at the UA in Fall 2003. Her poster focused on Monsoon Madness, the SAHRA summer camp she co-taught last July at Flandrau Science Center. As a reward for first place, Candice traveled to Phoenix on February 17 to present her poster on the Capitol Lawn and discuss her research with state legislators.

El Día Winners - At the 14th Annual El Día del Agua, the research showcase of the UA Department of Hydrology and Water Resources, several SAHRA-affiliated students were recognized for oral and poster

presentations. The Hargis awards for posters went to Jesse Roach (1st), and Shraon Desilets (2nd). HWR awards for best talk went to Alex Furman and best poster to Gretchen Oelsner. ¡Felicitaciones a los ganadores!



Jesse Roach



Gretchen Oelsner

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

New SAHRA Server

A new server has been purchased for the Marshall Building to accommodate new database needs such as the research data archive and a mirror site for the border database ("Aguanet") being developed at Sandia National Labs. The software portion of the research data archive is in development by Ramon Vazquez, who will be seeking input from researchers about its format in the near future.

The Aguanet website is a collaborative project engaging U.S. and Mexican partners in developing a system dynamics water resource management model of the Lower Rio Grande/Rio Bravo basin between Fort Quitman and the Gulf of Mexico. Collaborating institutions include

Sandia, IMTA, UA, and the Earth Data Analysis Center at UNM.

OMS updates

Later this month we will be emailing all SAHRA participants asking them to update their OMS (online management system) information. It is very important for you to update information on your publications, presentations, and projects related to SAHRA so that this information can be incorporated into the annual report to NSF that is currently being prepared.

A new feature of the improved OMS system is an advanced search capability in SAHRA's online directory (www.sahra.arizona.edu/about/directory/adv_search.html) that allows searching

for contacts by research specialty. If you are not listed under the categories you feel you should be, be sure to update this information as well when you update your OMS record.

New review and reporting process

SAHRA's new project planning/budgeting/review process appears to be successful and progressing on time. A report on last year's activities and accomplishments, plans for the next three years, and budget recommendations has been sent to the External Advisory Board and other external referees, who will review and submit comments. The Advisory Board will meet in Tucson to discuss the report on March 29.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Courses

A new graduate course on mesoscale atmospheric modeling might be offered at UA in Fall 2004 if there is sufficient student interest. The course would be taught by world authority Roger Pielke the last 8-9 weeks of the semester at an accelerated pace of 4-5 hours per week. If you are interested in enrolling, contact Steven Mullen (head of Atmospheric Sciences) at mullen@atmo.arizona.edu and Xubin Zeng (Atmo. grad. advisor) at xubin@atmo.arizona.edu by March 19.

New KT Tools You Can Use

PAG Outreach Connection

(www.sahra.arizona.edu/pag/) is a recently launched joint effort of SAHRA and the Pima Association of Governments, offering water educators in the Tucson region a means of sharing information about their outreach and education efforts. The site includes a directory of water-related organizations and water experts; a resource list of stored presentations, brochures,

flyers, pamphlets, training, and workshops developed by the organizations; and an electronic calendar.

And even more babies!!!

Congratulations to SAHRA's computer database specialist **Ramon Vazquez** and his wife, Wendy Hernandez, who became parents of Nomar Ivan Vazquez on January 29. Nomar arrived ahead of schedule at 5 lbs., 1 oz, 17 inches. Mom, dad, and baby are doing great.



Ramon, Wendy and Nomar

Also celebrating a recent birth-day were **Elizabeth Hancock**, postdoctoral research associate for education, and her husband, Carl. Their baby boy, Ethan, was born March 2, weighing 7 lbs. 13 oz, and measuring 20 inches.



Ethan Hancock