Day 2: Arctic Observing Summit (AOS)

• Need for international coordination of Arctic long-term observing activities recognized broadly:
  - Disciplinary bottom-up efforts: IASOA, CliC Arctic Sea Ice Working Group, INTER-ACT, ITEX, Arctic Coastal Dynamics, etc.
  - Regional efforts: Pacific Arctic Group (PAG), etc.
  - Arctic Council & IASC-level coordination: SAON, etc.

• Consensus from State of the US Arctic Observing Network (AON) meeting with international participation in late 2009:
  - There is need for a (recurring) international forum that allows for coordination of observing activities between disciplinary groups, sectoral or regional “themes”, at the level of funding agencies and in coordination with indigenous communities and other stakeholders
AOS Task accepted by SAON

• In early 2011 a task proposal was submitted to SAON:

*Plan for and implement a ISAC-SAON Arctic Observing Summit (AOS)*

• Partners: SEARCH-OCP/SSC (Craig Lee, Taneil Uttal, Hajo Eicken); ArcticNet (Martin Fortier), Canadian Network for Detection of Atmospheric Change (James Drummond), Scan-Net (Terry Callaghan), ACCESS (Jean-Claude Gascard), ISAC (Maribeth Murray)

• Status: Discussion & review by key partners, Craig Lee agreed to serve as Co-Chair of Organizing Committee, search for other Co-Chair underway, preparation for national preparatory meeting (AON PI Meeting) in US, timing of AOS likely second half of 2012
AOS Goals

• Provide a platform for exchange on design and implementation of long-term, cross-domain, international Arctic Observing system for:
  – Science community (national and international meetings)
  – Funding agencies
  – Stakeholders

• Create a (recurring) venue that will allow for and facilitate coordination, joint planning and review of (long-term) Arctic observing activities, with the goal of increasing coherence, intercomparability, and scientific and stakeholder relevance of observing programs while minimizing duplication and major gaps

• Improve interagency and international communication and coordination of (long-term) observations aimed at improving understanding and responding to Arctic change

• Develop a forum or mechanism that facilitates joint planning for coordinated, networked observations, enhances information and knowledge transfer between different disciplines, agencies and stakeholder groups to optimize observing activities and reap maximum benefits
AOS Agenda & Planning

• Identify topic-driven working groups

• Working groups (based on preparation at national and disciplinary level prior to Summit) review current state, make recommendations and reach specific agreements to consolidate state of observing system; issues considered include:
  – Fit of system to scientific questions incl. system design
  – Gaps
  – Availability of synchronized funding & international coordination
  – Technological innovations
  – Data management, access and exchange
  – Long-term sustainability
AOS Outcomes

• Network plan with priorities and agreed-upon actions for near, mid-, long-term

• Roadmap for sustained observations in the context of an internationally coordinated network that addresses important science and operational needs

• Synthesis of findings from observing network to guide design & further optimization of the system, inform large-scale synthesis and assessment efforts

• Synergies with respect to technological advances and data management

• Improved links to stakeholders and decision-makers
AOS Outcomes: Specific actions

- Scientific vision for a sustained observing system and recommendations to SAON & Arctic Council
- Bottom-up coordination and linkage through (international) disciplinary working groups (e.g., IASC Arctic Coastal Dynamics Group, CliC Arctic Sea Ice Working Group etc.)
- Mid-level coordination and linkage with operational agencies at the national level (e.g., through SAON National Working Groups, direct stakeholder engagement etc.)
- Top-level coordination and linkage through engagement of Arctic Council Working Groups
Day 2: Break-out Groups

In context of AOS planning, please address the following questions:

1. *Which measures can we take to enhance networks and partnerships? How can we best synchronize funding?*

2. *Discussion of ways to collaborate to enhance use of technology and promote technological developments and to recover data and promote data sharing.*

3. *What activities can be implemented now or in the near future under a collaborative agreement? What issues are low hanging fruit?*
Day 2: Break-out Groups

For the three questions posed, please consider and identify:

1. **Thematic or disciplinary working groups to establish goals and recommendations prior to meeting at the national level and by international programs;**

2. **Pre-meetings by national networks/programs prior to AOS to develop consensus and consolidate activities at national level;**

3. **Work with international programs and international organizations in ensuring a productive and successful summit.**
Example

• Science goal: Improve predictions of sea ice variability on seasonal time scale

• Enhance network:
  – Within IABP expand scope of sensors/measurements (elevate network status) to address information needs of key stakeholders (shipping, emergency response, coastal communities)
  – CliC Arctic Sea Ice Working group: create common protocols, develop framework for coordinated reporting and planning (www.iceplan.org)
  – Pacific Arctic Group: coordinate logistics and cruise planning
  – Regional observatories (Arctic-ROOS, AOOS etc.): support coordination and data sharing at regional level

• Enhance use of technology: International conference on technological advances in environmental detection, industry/academia partnerships?

• Enhance design: Build on AOMIP, SIO and other activities to guide observations on a seasonal basis and review annually with stakeholders

• Activities: Implement web-based forum to advance planning, joint meetings at WCRP Science Conference, work through national agency working groups, partner with international operational bodies and Arctic Council Working groups