

# University expectations and contributions to ACCESS

Michael Reeder and Amanda Lynch  
Monash University  
Clayton VIC 3800

The ARC research Network for Earth System Science (ARC NESS) hosted a workshop for University researchers at the Bureau of Meteorology on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 2006. The aims of this workshop were:

- to inform the university community regarding ACCESS,
- to identify areas where the Universities might *contribute* to ACCESS
- to identify areas where the Universities might *lead* components of ACCESS
- to identify issues and concerns in the ACCESS-university collaboration

The following was agreed by the workshop participants without conflicting views:

1. The decision to import the Hadley Centre atmosphere, couple this to AusCOM, use CABLE, import LPJ and use the Matear carbon scheme for the ocean was fully endorsed.
2. The need for a continental scale reanalysis to underpin a significant array of research was strongly supported. There are genuine benefits of such an initiative including significant innovation on data assimilation, use of satellite data and improvements in other techniques. We strongly encourage further discussions with the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO.
3. The Universities called for representation on each implementation group within ACCESS. This was supported by existing ACCESS members from within the Bureau of Meteorology and has since been implemented.
4. The need to port the Unified model to APAC was strongly supported – a licence has since been obtained and porting has commenced. The group also highlighted the need to develop the infrastructure to ensure coding developments in the ACCESS model and in the APAC model remain tightly synchronous. Participation of Jay Larson of APAC on the ACCESS infrastructure team will enhance this goal.
5. Needs for serving simulation results to the broader community were emphasised, using state of the art data portal services, such as those being developed at TPAC.

While the Universities can *contribute* in all areas of ACCESS, there are two specific areas that the University sector has specific leadership expertise, namely terrestrial processes and model evaluation. Strong university participation has since been initiated in these two areas, which Lynch formally names as lead author of the ACCESS Model Evaluation Team scoping document.

The University investment in ACCESS-related research has exploded in the last few months at a scale that is unprecedented. New appointments in atmosphere, ocean and related sciences are being made at Monash, Melbourne, Macquarie, UNSW and the ANU. The University sector has moved very rapidly, very positively, and very strategically in support of ACCESS. The University sector will continue to argue for a Special Research Initiative, for Centres of Excellence and similar-scaled investment.