Scientists are invited to submit abstracts related to the themes of the parallel science conferences. A more detailed announcement about abstract submissions will be issued in September 2008. Please check the GEWEX (www.gewex.org) and iLEAPS (www.ileaps.org) websites for updates.

This conference will provide an exciting platform in which to present and discuss the latest scientific developments in the area of water, energy, and biogeochemical cycles. Both GEWEX, as part of the World Climate Research Programme, and iLEAPS, as part of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme, will provide at this conference a unique opportunity for cross-fertilization between the science represented by their respective communities, leading to more fruitful cooperation in order to address present day and future climate and global change challenges.

Call for Papers

Scientists are invited to submit abstracts related to the themes of the parallel science conferences. A more detailed announcement about abstract submissions will be issued in September 2008. Please check the GEWEX and iLEAPS websites for updated information, or contact the International GEWEX Project Office (gewex@gewex.org) or the iLEAPS International Project Office (ipo@ileaps.org) with questions.

Important Dates

- Sept 2008: Call for Papers
- 31 March 2009: Abstract Submission deadline
- 24-28 Aug 2009: Conference Dates

Conference Venue

The Parallel Science Conferences will be held at the Hotel Sofitel in Melbourne, Australia, which was recently awarded the Australian Traveller Magazine’s “Best City Hotel” award and is located in the heart of the dining, shopping and theater district of Melbourne.

Melbourne sits on the shores of Port Phillip Bay on the northern banks of the Yarra River. Capturing Australia’s friendly nature with an added sense of style, Melbourne is a dynamic and exciting city where modern architecture and innovative design are juxtaposed with heritage buildings that reflect the rich colonial history of Australia. Melbourne is the nation’s fashion capital, the cultural events heartland, and a city that is passionate about sport, especially Australian Rules Football and cricket, both played at the world-famous Melbourne Cricket Ground. Melbourne is also renowned for its range and quality of live music.

Just outside the city centre lies Southbank, the arts and entertainment precinct of Melbourne, where it is easy to spend hours leisurely browsing through Arts Centre venues, strolling riverside through the promenades, shopping, dining and enjoying the attractions here. Dominating the horizon of Melbourne, the Dandenong Mountain Ranges offer forest hikes, beautiful parrots and magnificent views of the City and Port Phillip Bay.

Day trips from the city of Melbourne include the Healesville Sanctuary, a unique bushland environment showcasing over 200 species of Australian wildlife, and the rolling hills of Yarra Valley, home to more than 30 wineries that offer tastings, tours, fine meals and magnificent views. Phillip Island, a natural habitat with seals and koalas, is one of the best places to view the “Fairy” Penguins. Also outside the city is one of the world’s most scenic coastline drives, the Great Ocean Road.

Please visit http://www.visitmelbourne.com for more information.
The study of the Earth system is based on both Earth’s radiative balance, much less is known about climate impacts of anthropogenic aerosols on the atmosphere, and especially coupling/feedback mechanisms.

**Aerosol, Cloud, Precipitation and Climate Interactions**

Despite the large body of research on the potential climate impacts of anthropogenic aerosols on the Earth’s radiative balance, much less is known about their effects on precipitation and their consequences for the climate system and the water cycle. A new research initiative by iLEAPS, GEWEX, and the International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC) Project called the Aerosols, Clouds, Precipitation and Climate (ACPC) initiative studies the complex interactions between meteorological parameters, aerosols, cloud microphysics, precipitation, and dynamics. This session will focus on ACPC-related research.

**Future Integrated Observations and Modelling Systems**

The study of the Earth system is based on both in-situ and remotely-sensed observations. Theory development and validation and concurrent model development ensure the expansion of our knowledge of critical processes related to water, energy, and biogeochemistry. To improve predictions of the function and changes of the Earth system, the validation of existing methods and the development of new observations and tools is essential. This session will focus on the transition from current methodologies and observations to the integrated use of new observations and tools, as well as the new and exciting science that such changes will bring.

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**Joint Sessions Themes of the Parallel Science Conferences**

**Land in the Climate System**

The land surface has an effect on climate, which in turn affects the structure of the land surface. Land use and land cover have an effect on surface energy and water balance, radiation, cloudiness, temperature, and biochemical cycles, particularly noticeable at but not limited to the local and regional scale. This session invites papers that address the involvement of land in the climate system, the coupling between the land and the atmosphere, and especially coupling/feedback mechanisms.

**Aerosol, Cloud, Precipitation and Climate Interactions**

Despite the large body of research on the potential climate impacts of anthropogenic aerosols on the Earth’s radiative balance, much less is known about their effects on precipitation and their consequences for the climate system and the water cycle. A new research initiative by iLEAPS, GEWEX, and the International Global Atmospheric Chemistry (IGAC) Project called the Aerosols, Clouds, Precipitation and Climate (ACPC) initiative studies the complex interactions between meteorological parameters, aerosols, cloud microphysics, precipitation, and dynamics. This session will focus on ACPC-related research.

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**Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment**

The Sixth International Science Conference will focus on the results from field experiments and new developments in observations, modelling and theory that are being undertaken in the framework of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX). Related activities within the GEWEX framework are expected to be reported on, with a particular emphasis on the linking of disciplines such as coupled atmospheric and land surface models and cross-discipline studies. The advances in scientific knowledge to be presented at the conference will provide new information towards assessing the impact of climate on water resource management. Overall the conference will present both current and future challenges within the context of GEWEX and WCRP.

For more information, please visit www.gewex.org or e-mail gewex@gewex.org.

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**Second iLEAPS Science Conference**

The Second iLEAPS Science Conference will follow the path set by the First Conference, which took place in 2006 in Boulder, Colorado, and the 2003 planning conference in Helsinki, Finland. The 2009 conference will focus on interactions and feedbacks in the land-atmosphere system in order to improve our understanding of the processes and parameterization of modelling. Topics will cover, for example, the various interactions between theory, modelling, and field measurements; multiple stress interactions and the role of fire in biosphere-atmosphere exchanges; the strategies needed to apply observations at the leaf- to the Earth system model scale; the exchange of reactive trace gases between soils, vegetation, and the atmosphere; and the land surface as a source of aerosols.

For more information, please visit www.ileaps.org or e-mail ipo@ileaps.org.