GLASS Progress

In each of the GLASS projects significant progress is being reported. A project for Intercomparison of Land Data Assimilation Schemes (PILDAS) is on its way, a website disclosing the Protocol for Assessment for Land Schemes (PALS) is nearly online, a follow-up of the AMMA Land MIP is ongoing, an experimental design for LoCo is being implemented, and the second GLACE project has generated a number of submitted and published papers already. Many of the activities currently ongoing were initiated some two years age when the new structure of GLASS (organization around Land-Atmosphere Coupling - Benchmarking - Model Data Fusion) was implemented, and the desires formulated then are now going to be realized. A BAMS paper on the past heritage and plans for the near future is in preparation.

GLASS and GEWEX

Given the current state of GLASS, a major new reorganization is not desirable. However, it is recognized that a few links with other WCRP/GEWEX bodies need to be reconsidered. The GMPP layer has not resulted in a close collaboration between the three panels, at least, in terms of mutually defined and executed projects. More involvement of GABLS and GCSS in such things as the LoCo project is desirable, and in the analysis phase, expertise from these groups needs to be brought in. However, this can be done without the existence of a formal GMPP layer, and GLASS thus supports the elimination of this level. The link with WGNE also needs to be reconsidered. There is a lot of potential mutual interest, but again, a lot of this gets organized outside the direct networks of WGNE. For instance, a number of NWP centres are actively participating in PILDAS. However, links with the annual WGNE meetings will be continued, and the platform is still useful for broader communication of projects and feedback on experimental design. Within GEWEX, better links with both GRP and CEOP are desirable. With GRP, a strong mutual interest exists in the area of LandFLux and the role it can play in benchmarking land models and data. This is established by overlapping panel memberships. With CEOP, links have been proposed in the area of a follow-up of GLACE2 (where a range of hydrological models will be evaluated) and LoCo (by setting up model land-atmosphere coupling experiment over West-Africa). These projects are currently in their formulation stage, and it is anticipated that at the WCRP conference more progress on these can be reported.