

Status of the IAI Summer Training School at the University of Miami

At its third meeting in Panama, the EC approved the idea of an "IAI Summer Training School" and requested the IAI Director to present at the next EC meeting an implementation strategy and funding plan for this program.

Next, a summary of actions undertaken and present status of the project is given:

- 1) In February 1998, the Director discussed this initiative with Robert Corell and Paul Filmer at NSF. It was agreed that the University of Miami would present the proposal to NSF for funding.
- 2) On April 2nd, 1998, Otis Brown and Armando Rabuffetti met and advanced on the definition on the principal characteristics of the program organization and implementation to be included in the proposal as they appear in item 4 of this document.
- 3) Specific recommendations were made by the SAC during its eighth meeting in Santiago de Chile in terms of thematic areas to be included.
- 4) a) The University of Miami (RSMAS) will act as an agent for IAI to be able to set up this program. The school will be organized on a three-year program plan. The University of Miami will present by June 30, 1998 the proposal to NSF to fund the first three-year program.
b) RSMAS and IAI will share the responsibility for the overall supervision of the Program, defining the topics of the courses, and most importantly ensuring that the courses respond to the overall IAI philosophy (interdisciplinary and multinational participation, as well as the exchange of ideas and development of personal relationships that will facilitate future collaborations and networking).
c) RSMAS and IAI will nominate a coordinator and a scientific-leader as the two-person team, which will act on the administration and management of the program. The coordinator (probably from the U. of Miami) will deal with the organization and logistical arrangements. The scientific leader (either from IAI or RSMAS) will be responsible in close coordination with the SAC for the definition of the themes; he will also be responsible for the organization of the potential lists of institutions and/or instructor as well as the composition of the student's profile group needed to accomplish program goals.
d) Once the topic for each year has been selected, an announcement of opportunity will be made by the IAI and the U. of Miami, to open possibility that teams of instructors and/or institutions present proposals on teaching the course.
This mechanism probably should be fully in place only after the second year.
e) Possible themes to be included in the three-year plan are:
 - Social science methods for natural scientists.
 - The transit from GCM broad scale to regional and local climate scenarios (down scaling processes).

- Strategies for sustainable coastal management development.
- An evaluation (through case studies) of the socioeconomic impacts of past El Niño event, and the effectiveness of applied mitigation or alleviation decisions.
- Application of remote-sensing data to ocean-land interactions.