

ACCESS-NRI Scientific Advisory Committee

Thursday 22 June 2023 / 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

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# Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

## Attendance

**Chair:** Andy Hogg

**Rapporteur:** Apoorva Raghubanshi

**Attended:** Martin Dix, Natalia Bateman, Rachel Law, Tilo Ziehn, Oscar Alves, Charmaine Franklin, Claire Vincent, Paul Spence, Laurie Menviel, Ben Galton-Fenzi, Ben Evans, Adele Morrison, Christian Jakob, Kelsey Druken, Aidan Heerdegen

## Review of previous minutes and action items

The previous minutes of the meeting has been approved and uploaded on the ACCESS-NRI website. The minutes of the past SAC meeting can be public found [here](https://www.access-nri.org.au/minutes-of-sac-meetings/).

## Confirmation of agenda

The agenda was confirmed with no additional items.

# ACCESS-NRI Updates

## CMIP7 Update

Rachel Law gave an update on CMIP7. There are ongoing efforts to establish a value proposition for CMIP7, aiming to form a CSIRO-led consortium for the CMIP7 submission. The next 12-18 months will be dedicated to model development, aligning with ongoing model evaluations. The consortium requires project leadership; Rachel Law will reorganize work priorities to provide this leadership initially.

Progress on the model development pathways over the next few months will clarify the possible model options and enable the provision of more coherent options and costings to DCCEEW by September. Discussions within relevant groups undertaking CABLE, OM3, AM3 and Model Evaluation work will commence in the near future.

## ACCESS-NRI Community Workshop 2023

Kelsey Druken gave update on ACCESS-NRI Community Workshop 2023, scheduled for the 4th to 8th of September. The main program is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, with a training day on Monday to kick off the week. Thursday and Friday will be dedicated to the Working Groups, allowing them to conduct their own meetings with logistics support from ACCESS-NRI.

The registration form is nearing completion and will be made available ASAP. The next focus will be on determining the program content, which will be discussed in detail during the next meeting.

## User support strategy

The update on User Support Strategy was given by Aidan Heerdegen. The main avenue for user support will be the ACCESS Hive Forum, where a tagging mechanism will allow users to indicate their need for assistance. A triaging system will be in place to identify these posts and direct them to the appropriate helpers. ACCESS-NRI staff will form the core triage and support team, but it was emphasized the value of involving others from the community, including in-kind staff from Bureau and CSIRO.

In-scope support includes directly assisting with released products, evaluation, mechanisms, tools, recipes, and documentation. Out of scope are local IT problems, domain expertise, basic IT and language support, for which the community's assistance is encouraged. It was noted that the circulated document provided an overview of the strategy, but there is additional detail available for those interested in the implementation aspects.

Discussion:

* It was recommended to avoid discussing the distinction between a forum and a help desk. It was emphasized the importance of highlighting what the forum is, rather than what it is not.
* It was acknowledged that the Bureau's support function primarily pertains to infrastructure and modeling systems.
* One purpose of this discussion item was to seek approval from CSIRO and the Bureau regarding their involvement in the support system for in-kind staff.

Action: Aidan Heerdegen to circulate the document with more details to Paul Spence.

## Merit allocation process

Kelsey Druken gave update on merit allocation process. The main focus of the process design was to keep it lightweight, transparent and flexible, allowing Working Groups to allocate resources according to their needs. Allocations will be made on a six-monthly basis, noting that we are awaiting funding outcomes from NCRIS before finalising allocations for Q3. Templates will be created to facilitate the process.

Discussion:

* It was recommended to add compute flexibility to the guidelines to help with efficient usage, particularly when nearing the end of usage periods.

Action: Kelsey Druken to add an item to the guidelines to allow for this flexibility with unused compute.

# Update from Working Groups

## Forecasting & Prediction

Martin Dix gave an update on Forecasting & Prediction Working Group, which held their introductory meeting three weeks ago and was well attended. The Working Group has scheduled a second meeting with a specific focus on machine learning.

## Atmospheric Modelling

Charmaine Franklin gave an update on the Atmospheric Working Group, who have held their second Working Group meeting that included two presentations from the Bureau and AAD. The primary focus of the discussion centered around identifying the training and documentation requirements for the Working Group. The training needs were found to be primarily oriented towards general aspects of running the atmospheric model, rather than specific configurations. Topics of interest included locating initial conditions and ancillary files, generating additional diagnostics, and addressing common model failures. Monthly meetings will continue to ensure regular communication and progress.

The request to include the AUS2200 configuration as a supported configuration within the Atmosphere Working Group was discussed. This request was taken to the ACCESS-NRI Board meeting, however, due to time constraints, certain unresolved questions surrounding the implementation of this configuration prevented a vote from taking place during the meeting. Additional information has been provided to the Board to allow for a vote on this issue.

## Coupled and Earth System Modelling

Tilo Ziehn gave an update from the Earth System Modelling Working Group. The Working Group has reached a decision to hold fortnightly meetings. These meetings will include science presentations as a standard practice.

## Ocean-Sea Ice Modelling

Adele Morrison gave an update on Ocean-Sea Ice Modelling Working Group. Recently, there have been several meetings focused on the development of ACCESS-OM3. Andrew Kiss and Micael Oliveira are actively involved in this project. Additionally, preparations are underway for the upcoming COSIMA workshop, which is scheduled to take place on Thursday and Friday during the ACCESS-NRI Workshop week. In parallel with the training day, there are plans to organize an event on Monday specifically dedicated to discussions around OM3.

# Any Other Business

Action: It was recommended to establish an ACCESS-NRI calendar on ACCESS Hive with the details of all the Working Group meeting.

Action: It was also recommended to add a summary of all upcoming Working Group meetings to the next Newsletter.

# Next Meeting

The next SAC meeting will be held on 3rd August 2023 via Microsoft Teams.

# Action List

* Add summary of all upcoming Working Group meetings to next Newsletter.
* It was recommended to establish an ACCESS-NRI calendar on ACCESS Hive with the details of all Working Group meetings.
* Kelsey Druken to add an item to the Merit Allocation Guidelines to allow for flexibility with unused compute.
* Aidan Heerdegen to circulate the document with more details to Paul Spence.
* Post approved minutes of the meeting on ACCESS-NRI website.