



NOAA SOS Users Collaborative Network

Workshop 2009
November 17-19, Boulder, CO



Goals/Objectives of the Workshop

1. Improve effectiveness of **each institution's use** of Science On a Sphere
 - Investigate applications of current and future technologies for increasing interactivity with the sphere
 - Investigate best practices in docent/interpreter presentations
 - Identify points where connections can be made between SOS and other data visualization and display platforms
 - Improve understanding of real-time data feeds that are available
 - Develop guidelines on how to facilitate use of real-time data
 - Develop capacity to participate and lead spherecasts
 - Explore successful models for facilitating use of SOS with formal education programs
 - Improve capacity to maintain and align projectors
2. Evolve best practices in creation of **content**
 - Review newest content
 - Understand and refine iterative content development process
 - Revise guidelines for SOS content
 - Explore models for involving scientists in creation of content
 - Improve technical skills of institutions for creating content
3. **Understand the impact** spherical display systems have on learning earth system science in informal science education settings
 - Discuss initial results of assessment and evaluation study at the program level
 - Determine how network can utilize these results and what future studies may be needed
 - Share best practices for evaluation of exhibits featuring spherical display systems at the institutional level
4. Continue to inform the **future direction** for the spherical display system program
 - Inform NOAA on future investments related to spherical display systems and data visualizations
 - Identify and discuss major issues and best practices for utilizing spherical display systems in informal science education settings
 - Prioritize technical improvements for Science On a Sphere[®] system and improvements /additions to dataset library

- Identify key issues and needs faced by the network as it grows and evolves
5. Continue to grow a **cohesive and collaborative network** that is actively sharing information and content
- Meet SOS colleagues, assure that network members are aware of each other's efforts and working together when possible
 - Share lessons learned especially for new members to Network
 - Learn about future funding opportunities to support future work
 - Investigate SOS exhibits and interact with staff at two existing installations in Boulder, CO
 - Plan for future spherecasting events
 - Begin discussions of ideas and partnerships that may be proposed to NOAA's upcoming funding opportunities
 - Create a plan and mechanism for holding future workshops and meetings