



**NOAA SOS Users Collaborative Network
Workshop 2012
November 6-8, Long Beach, CA**



Goals and Objectives

- 1. Improve effectiveness of each institution's use of Science On a Sphere® and other spherical platforms**
 - Learn how to use new features of SOS software and how to upgrade to it
 - Learn about newest additions to SOS dataset catalog and revised SOS web site
 - Investigate applications of technologies for increasing interactivity with spheres and digital interfaces
 - Improve capacity to maintain SOS equipment

- 2. Evolve best practices for content creation and interpretation**
 - Develop capacity to tell stories through content and live interpretation
 - Investigate best practices in docent/interpreter presentations
 - Understand and refine the iterative content development process
 - Improve technical skills of institutions for creating content
 - Improve understanding and interpretive use of real-time data feeds
 - Review the newest and in-development content

- 3. Expand the breadth of approaches to engage the public with science through spherical display systems**
 - Improve the capacity to relay scientific concepts through storytelling
 - Share ways to integrate art and science
 - Explore approaches that use scientific information to communicate stewardship messages
 - Disseminate new technical capabilities that allow for youth and public authoring of sphere content

- 4. Understand the impact spherical display systems have on learning earth system science in informal science education settings**
 - Identify outstanding questions regarding the learning impacts of spherical display systems
 - Share spherical display system evaluation results on earth system science
 - Determine how the Network can utilize these results and what future studies may be needed
 - Share best practices for evaluation of exhibits featuring spherical display systems

- 5. Continue to inform the future direction of the SOS Network**
 - Inform NOAA on future support related to spherical display systems and data visualizations
 - Identify and address major issues and best practices for utilizing spherical display systems in informal science education settings
 - Prioritize improvements for the SOS system and the dataset catalog
 - Identify and address key issues and needs faced by the Network as it grows and evolves

- 6. Continue to grow a cohesive and collaborative network that is actively sharing information, expertise, and content**
 - Assure that Network members are aware of each other's efforts and are collaborating when possible
 - Share lessons learned, especially for new members to the Network
 - Explore the Aquarium of the Pacific SOS exhibit
 - Interact with staff from NOAA, NASA, and the Aquarium of the Pacific
 - Create a plan and mechanism for holding future workshops and meetings