



**NOAA SOS Users Collaborative Network  
Workshop 2014  
June 10-12 in St. Paul, MN**



## **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
  - Learn about the newest additions to the SOS dataset catalog and other supporting materials
  - Investigate technologies for increasing interactivity with spheres
  - Improve capacity to maintain SOS equipment
- 2. Evolve best practices for content creation and interpretation**
  - Develop capacity to tell global change stories through content and live interpretation
  - Develop capacity to integrate best practices in docent/interpreter presentations
  - Improve technical skills of institutions for creating content
  - Improve understanding, visualization, and interpretive use of real-time data feeds
  - Review the newest and in-development content and live presentations
- 3. Expand the breadth of approaches for engaging the public with science through spherical display systems**
  - Improve the capacity to relay scientific concepts, especially related to global change
  - Share ways to integrate art and science in sphere content and programs
  - Explore approaches to communicate stewardship messages through an understanding of the scale of humanity's impact on Earth
  - 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**
  - Share spherical display system evaluation results on Earth system science and global change
  - Determine how the Network can utilize these results and what future studies are needed
  - Share best practices for evaluating spherical display system exhibits and programs
  - Identify outstanding questions regarding the learning impacts of 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 Science Museum of Minnesota and its SOS exhibit
  - Interact with staff from NOAA, NASA, and the Science Museum of Minnesota
  - Plan future workshops and meetings