**Integrated History and Future of People on Earth (IHOPE)**

The AIMES-sponsored IHOPE Dahlem Conference produced a book (Costanza et. al, 2007). An IHOPE Research Plan that was initiated in January, 2006 has been reviewed and approved by the Past Global Changes (PAGES; [http://www.pages.unibe.ch/](http://www.pages.unibe.ch/)) international project the International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP; [http://www.ihdp.org](http://www.ihdp.org)) for co-sponsorship. The IHOPE Research Plan (RP) text has been through copy-editing. Editing of the IHOPE RP is joint between Jeri Helen in Vermont, USA and in collaboration with the IGBP office and waiting final approval of figures for publication.

In January, 2007, AIMES traveled to Arizona State University to work with Professor Sander van der Leeuw and colleagues to begin discussions and development of an IHOPE Integrated Research System (IRIS) with the Archaeomedes dataset from the southern Rhone region of France.

In March, 2007, the AIMES IHOPE activity led an international conference on Human-Environmental pathways in Asia: IHOPE implementation priorities in the Akita Prefecture, Japan. This meeting helped to define a strategy for regional analyses in Asia that is currently under development. In addition, AIMES attended the Society of American Archaeology meeting in Austin, TX to discuss future research and workshop proposals with IHOPE scholars and scientists.

A proposal for a working group highlighting research information and data systems to the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS) was approved. The NCEAS proposal requested three week-long meetings: (1) late 2008, (2) mid-2009 and (3) a wrap up 2010. The NCEAS proposal also identified matching support from QUEST: who agreed to fund all international participants. Objectives of the NCEAS working groups are:

1. Assemble integrated records of environmental-human history
2. Develop new methods to analyze and utilize this integrated data; everything from historical narratives to ice cores: how to integrate and use in a meaningful way?
3. Develop and test models and hypotheses of this integrated data. What is the role of contingent events? How to form an envelope of possible behaviors?

Tentative date for the first working group were identified for late fall, 2008.

In January, 2008, AIMES contributed to a working group at the School for Advanced Research, New Mexico, US. At this meeting, updates on the developing IHOPE Research Information System (IRIS) and a complimentary ‘the Digital Archaeological Record’ (tDAR) were presented and discussed. tDAR will implement information from five groups working on the US southwest from ASU: Mimbres, Hohokam, NW Mexican (Ben), Zuni, Salinas. All of these societies lived in these distinctly different places at the same time in very different ways. How did five different societies live, in the same time period, in different ecologies, and how did each adapt/change?
It was also suggested that perhaps a Maya information system could begin to be cultivated.

In April, 2008, AIMES and the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) held a business meeting where several updates were provided. Participants included: Kathy Hibbard, Robert Cosatanzo, Carole Crumley and Sander van der Leeuw from AIMES and Uno Svedin, Sverker Sorlin from the SRC, Paul Sinclair from Uppsala University (SE), Libby Robin from the Australian National University, Michele Hegmon from Arizona State University and Kevin Noone from the IGBP.

It was suggested that possible data sets that could contribute to an NCEAS series of working groups might be:

1. Zimbabwe, central Africa from Paul Sinclair (SE)
2. Archaeomdedes data on the southern Rhone from Sander van der Leeuw (US)
3. US Southwest Data from the Arizona State University Group (Michelle Hegmon; US)

Updates from Sander included ideas on how to develop a network of researchers for an IHOPE-Americas, including the Mayan communities. At the recent Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Vern Scarborough (from IHOPE) brought together Mayanists to discuss possible interactions with IHOPE. The Maya information contain a LOT of literary, calendar data. Less is known in detail about cultural change over time; they recognize the need for a synthesis but also feel that this would lead to some conflict. Uniting the written with archaeological record is problematic, as is finding a way to integrate chronologies of uplands and lowlands. All of the Mayan calendar data are online and in a database. The SAR is willing to host a meeting for the Mayanists. It was decided to include at least one or two for the NCEAS Working Groups.

Additional discussions were led by Sverker Sorlin on an IHOPE Nodal Office: An IHOPE SRC node could provide a general forum for integrative approaches and bridging time scales. Integrative workshops with current SRC activities, as well as theoretical and empirical contributions from SRC research themes would be encouraged. Core funding for the SRC increases in 2009; it was suggested that IHOPE develop a 3 year plan from 2009-2011, with personnel including a senior researcher: 20-25%- junior researcher (postdoc or mid-career) 70-100%.

There is a stronger interest in Stockholm for the recent past through to contemporary emphases for an IHOPE research agenda. As core funding increases, they will develop a strategy for hiring: they are poised to hire a senior social scientist who would also be an IHOPE contributor.