AC-VC Leadership, Terms of Reference, and Other Business

Jay Al-Saadi (NASA), Ben Veihelmann (ESA), and Hiroshi Tanimoto (NIES), AC-VC co-chairs

Dave Crisp (CalTech/NASA-JPL), AC-VC GHG Lead
Shobha Kondragunta (NOAA), AC-VC Aerosol-AQ Lead
Diego Loyola (DLR), AC-VC O3 Lead

AC-VC-16 Virtual Meeting, 8 – 12 June 2020
Agenda Item 5.11
Background - Governance

- Last year, the CEOS SIT Chair led the revision (standardization) of “Working Team” governing documents
  - Working Teams include Virtual Constellations, Working Groups, Ad Hoc Teams
  - The revision was generally overdue, welcome, and our inputs were accepted

- For reference, all CEOS Governing Documents are available here: http://ceos.org/about-ceos/governing-documents/

  - Includes “Leadership Selection and Criteria” and “Terms of Reference”

- Virtual Constellations (e.g., AC-VC) have always been more community-driven (grass roots) than other groups – and remain so!
Virtual Constellation Leadership

- A subset of the leadership criteria from the VC Process Paper:
  - Each Constellation will have at least two and no more than three Co-Leads
  - The expectation is that any Constellation leadership changes will be staggered to ensure leadership continuity and expertise are optimized
  - There are no limits on how long an individual may serve as a Co-Lead
  - At a minimum, Co-Lead positions will be reviewed every two years by the Constellation membership
  - The decision of Constellation leadership resides with the Constellation

- These criteria helped shape our current leadership team structure – and vice-versa
  - Three Co-Leads (we wanted to go this direction)
  - We view the “Topical Leads” as deputy co-leads, though CEOS SIT denied the word “deputy” because it already has a formal definition in other working teams

- Our approach is that membership will have the open opportunity to “review” AC-VC leadership within the annual AC-VC meetings
The other relevant governing document is the AC-VC Terms of Reference; e.g. scroll to bottom of http://ceos.org/about-ceos/governing-documents/

The requirement imposed on us is that ToR documents be updated every 2 years according to a provided template.

The “current” AC-VC ToR was last updated in 2013 😞

We have agreed to update it this year.

Informational to you at this point – AC-VC leadership team will draft an updated ToR and may reach out to membership for contributions.
• An oversimplified (and possibly erroneous) description of ARD:
  Meet the rapidly increasing demand from non-scientific end users for accurate data/information by providing provenanced products in easily accessible formats (e.g., GIS)

• Variable attributes
  o Could be near-real-time, but not necessarily
  o Probably subset to user-defined domains
  o Ability to layer/combine with other datasets

• Pilot demos have included land imagery, flood inundation layers

• VC teams are now being asked to propose other pilot activities
  o Many standard AC satellite products, and our new focus topics, could apply
  o The new effort that would be required seems to be in careful re-gridding, formats, and delivery
Other Topics

• Would you be interested in a ~monthly 1-hour AC-VC virtual seminar series?
  o With the virtual AC-VC-16 meeting, we are testing whether the timeslot and the technology are conducive to such a thing
  o We had more requests to make presentations during AC-VC-16 than the compressed schedule allowed, so it seems that content is not an issue
  o We are very interested to hear your thoughts. Would you find it useful, or onerous, to have a recurring event in this timeslot?

• AC-VC-17 Planning
  o At this time, hoping that travel becomes feasible again by next spring, we plan to accept the very kind offer from BIRA to host AC-VC-17 in-person in Brussels in June 2021!
• Any AC-VC leadership suggestions or concerns?
  o If not, we assume we “pass” our annual review :-)
  o At any time, do not hesitate to contact AC-VC leadership team members with questions, suggestions, or to discuss concerns

• Thoughts on CEOS Analysis Ready Data pilot activities for AC?
  o E.g., DLR GIS Geoservice for GOME-2 and TROPOMI products
  o E.g., agree to provide NRT L3 data following the CEOS interoperability standards to allow easy ingestion into GIS or Data Cube systems
  o E.g., a “wildfires” use case, with multi-constituent information in one package
  o ...
  o ...

• If there is interest in an AC-VC virtual seminar series, we will follow up with a poll

• Any other discussion in the time remaining today