CIOSS Vision and Mission Statements

Vision Statement: CIOSS is a cooperative (federal-academic) center of excellence for research and education, which involves satellite remote sensing of the ocean and its air-sea interface, along with models of the ocean and overlying atmosphere. CIOSS provides a mechanism to bring together the resources of a research-oriented university (OSU), NESDIS and other NOAA line offices, with additional partners at other universities, government and private agencies. With these partners, CIOSS conducts research of mutual interest to CIOSS/CEOAS and NOAA. This research helps NOAA to accomplish its Mission Goals and helps NESDIS to fulfill its role in providing the remote sensing component of the "national backbone" for the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS), which includes operational and research components within NOAA, ONR, NSF and NASA. CIOSS contributes to the development of ocean observing and modeling systems, along with public understanding of those systems, through:

- Research that helps to develop and improve our understanding of, and operational products related to, the upper ocean and air-sea interface. It does this by using data from present and past satellites and by helping to plan future satellite sensors;
- Research that helps to incorporate and assimilate those products and understanding into ocean and atmosphere circulation models; and
- Education and training in the same topics, reaching a wide range of "audiences" in formal education (K-16 education, graduate school, ongoing professional training) and informal education (public outreach).

CIOSS Mission, Goals and Objectives: The CIOSS mission is to enhance and improve the use of satellite remote sensing for oceanographic research, operational applications and education/outreach. To do this, CIOSS has the following broad goals and objectives:

- Foster and provide a focus for research related to NOAA's mission responsibilities and strategic objectives in the coastal and open ocean, emphasizing those aspects of oceanography and air-sea interaction that utilize satellite data, along with models of oceanic and atmospheric circulation;
- Collaborate with NOAA research scientists in using satellite ocean remote sensing through: evaluation, validation, and improvement of data products from existing and planned instruments; development of new multi-sensor products, models, and assimilation techniques; and investigation and creation of new approaches for satellite data production, distribution, and management;
- Improve the effectiveness of graduate-level education and expand the scientific training and research experiences available to graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and scientists from NOAA and other governmental laboratories and facilities; and
- Educate and train research scientists, students, policy makers and the public to use, and appreciate the use of, satellite data in research that improves our understanding of the ocean and overlying atmosphere.