

Wrap up of Phase 1 Phase 1 of the PAGES North America 2k project (NAm2k) is now complete. During this phase, the group extended the Wahl and Smerdon (2012), tree-ring temperature reconstruction in temporal and spatial scope by increasing the spatial coverage to include the eastern portion of mid-latitude North America, and extending the reconstruction back to 1200 AD. This extended record was used to calibrate a 30-year resolution, pollen-based temperature reconstruction extending to 480 AD (Viau et al., 2012). These results were published in *Environmental Research Letters* (Trouet et al., 2013) and constituted NAm2k's contribution to the PAGES 2k Consortium (2013) global synthesis published in *Nature Geoscience* and widely cited by the IPCC-AR5. In addition to the reconstructions, the compiled datasets have been standardly formatted and are available at NOAA's World Data Center for Paleoclimatology as a resource for the community.

In late 2012, Henry Diaz stepped down as leader of the NAm2k working group, and Nicholas McKay and Darrell Kaufman became leaders for Phase 2 of the project. We thank Henry for his leadership of the successful Phase 1 of the project.

Phase 2: Science goals and database targets Phase 2 of NAm2k has three primary science goals:

1. Incorporating a broader array of paleoclimatic information to i) extend the North America temperature reconstruction to the full continent, and to cover the full past 2000 years, and ii) to determine the features of North American paleoclimate that are most prevalent among the archive types and among reconstruction methodology, while better understanding how each proxy introduces archive-specific uncertainties and biases.
2. Develop spatially-explicit climate field reconstructions for North America, for temperature, hydroclimate parameters (e.g. precipitation, drought indices, moisture balance), and potentially pressure fields.
3. Integrate these results with suites of climate model experiments for the past 2k to better understand the climate dynamics underlying observed changes in past climate.

The first step towards achieving these goals is to pull together a well-formatted database of 2k-relevant proxy records for the continent (and nearshore ocean). This effort is now underway, and we welcome the submission of proxy records to the database. NAm2k will follow the PAGES2k Network-wide guidelines for proxy inclusion, and the technical details for how to contribute data and metadata will be announced soon.

Powell Center meeting The USGS Powell Center recently funded a proposal by McKay to host working group meetings and a part-time research fellow to advance NAm2k's goals. The Powell Center supports small (typically <15) groups focused on synthesizing existing data by hosting meetings, and funding travel and a research fellow. The Powell group is co-lead by McKay, Kaufman, Deb Willard (USGS-Reston), and Greg Pederson (USGS-Bozeman). The first working group meeting in Fort Collins, CO, will be held the week of June 23, 2014, and is focused on initial integration of diverse paleoclimatic evidence for North America. Additional funding is being provided by PAGES to expand participation; however, the Powell Center venue is small, so attendance will be limited. An announcement encouraging applications to attend the working group meeting is coming soon.

We are excited about Phase 2 of the NAm2k project and about our group's role in the global PAGES2k Network. We look forward to working with all of you to advance NAm2k's goals. If you're interested in playing a more active role in NAm2k, please write Nick or Darrell with details of how you would like to contribute. Also, please feel free to forward this to anyone you think might be interested and encourage them to join the listserv if they'd like regular updates.

Sincerely, Nick McKay and Darrell Kaufman