Director Julian "Jay" McCreary stepped down from the IPRC directorship on April 1, 2008. McCreary, who had served for fifteen years as Dean of the Oceanographic Center at Nova Southeastern University in Florida, became IPRC’s first director in February 1999. Under McCreary’s leadership, the IPRC grew into a climate research center of international acclaim, increasing from 15 scientists to nearly 50. McCreary’s professional awards include the Sverdrup Gold Medal of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) and election to Fellow of the AMS and of the American Geophysical Union. McCreary remains as professor in the IPRC and the Oceanography Department.

Lorenz Magaard, Associate Executive Director since IPRC’s inception in 1997, stepped down on April 1. Magaard has been at the University of Hawai‘i since 1975 as Professor of Oceanography. He has served as Oceanography Department Chair from 1984 to 1990 and again from 2005 to 2006, and as Associate Dean of the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology for the period 1992–2000. He continues as the Director of the International Center for Climate and Society and as Professor of Oceanography.

Kevin Hamilton is IPRC Interim Director. Hamilton, a former Research Meteorologist with the NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory at Princeton University from 1988 to 2000, joined the IPRC in 2000 as Leader of the Impacts of Global Environmental Change research and as Professor of Meteorology. Hamilton served as Meteorology Department Chair from 2004 to 2007. Hamilton’s professional awards include the Meisinger Award of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), the Jule Charney Lectureship of the American Geophysical Union, and election to Fellow of the AMS.