

4-A. How does the Institute identify new intellectual opportunities?

Identification of new opportunities arises through several approaches. The Director works closely with the Senior Fellows, the administrators of the local NOAA line offices, and the University administration, primarily the Dean of SOEST. Some opportunities are presented to the Director by faculty operating as independent agents. Any major new theme must be vetted through the JIMAR Administrative Board. Some initiatives arise from unique circumstances. PEAC arose from expressed needs of the Governors of the Pacific Basin Development Council. PFRP arose from issues/needs raised by the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council through the Hawaii congressional delegation.

Since JIMAR has a limited base funding, we heavily rely on NOAA initiatives as well. Historically, climate and equatorial oceanography research have been supported by the Office of Global Programs (OGP) and its predecessors. JIMAR scientists have been very active on NOAA and National Science Foundation panels as well.