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Special Talk at CIRES by Dr. Jorge Chau from the Instituto Geofísico del Perú's Jicamarca Radio Observatory near Lima

Geophysics in Peru : Opportunities for International Collaboration and Current Projects

by Dr. Jorge Chau, Instituto Geofísico del Perú's Jicamarca Radio Observatory, Lima

This year the Geophysical Institute of Peru (IGP) celebrates its 64th official anniversary. IGP origins, however, date back to 1922 when the Huancayo Magnetic Observatory started operations. Since then, the history of IGP and Peruvian geophysics in general has been developed in close collaboration with a variety of international partners, including, Carnegie Institute, US National Bureau of Standards, NASA, NOAA, IRD-France, Cornell University, UCLA, University of Kyoto., in various areas of geophysics. Currently, IGP scientific activities are organized into three primary areas: (1) Earth Sciences, (2) Atmosphere and Ocean Sciences, and (3) Geospace, Astronomy and Astrophysics. Today's talk is divided into two parts: (1) a broad overview of IGP activities, (2) a research topic related to coupling of the lower atmosphere and the ionosphere. During part (1) we summarize our main research topics, including: (a) El Niño studies, (b) climate change and variability in different regions of Peru , (c) seismic cycles, (d) the Pisco Earthquake, (e) studies of volcanos in southern Peru , and (f) other geophysical hazards. We plan to identify topics/areas for potential international collaboration, either to complement our current projects or to explore new areas of geophysics of scientific importance and of Peruvian relevance.

The second part of the talk is related to challenging studies that have been conducted in recent years related to observed electric-field variations in the equatorial and low latitude ionosphere during sudden stratospheric warming (SSW) events. We have shown clear evidence that daytime ionospheric electric fields observed over Peru , are closely

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Wednesday, 09

February, 2011

- [Hydrology & Water Resources Seminar](#) -
[Prof. Kristine Larson](#) -
11:00 AM

Friday, 11 February, 2011

- [Special Talk at CIRES](#)
by [Dr. Jorge Chau](#)
from the [Instituto Geofísico del Perú's](#)

correlated with these SSW events. This effect is most evident during the 2008 and 2009 arctic winters, when solar activity was minimum. The equatorial electric fields play important roles in the plasma distribution and dynamics of the lower-latitude (and sometimes mid-latitude) ionosphere. Since SSW events are predictable a few days in advance, our results could be used to forecast the occurrence and evolution of these electrodynamic perturbations.

Friday, 11
February,
2011

Starts at
04:00 PM

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[Jicamarca Radio
Observatory near
Lima](#) - 04:00 PM

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February, 2011**

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Aerospace
Engineering Present:
Chiao-Yao She \(Joe\)](#) -
02:30 PM
- [Analytical Chemistry
Seminar: John
Carpenter](#) - 04:00 PM

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