

Weekly Report – June 18, 2026
Cooperative Institute for Satellite Earth System Studies (CISESS)
NOAA/NESDIS/STAR

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HIGHLIGHTS FOR NESDIS LEADERSHIP

People

Lienesch Recognized by the Mississippi State Northern Gulf Institute

CISESS Scientist Anna Lienesch and colleagues were recognized by the Mississippi State Northern Gulf Institute for exceptional work developing and deploying the new Sampling Operations User Portal onboard NOAA's *Okeanos Explorer* ship. Specifically, the letter says that this effort *"enabled the team to validate critical functionality under operational conditions, including data ingestion, data management workflows, and the generation of high-quality sample labels. Their testing efforts provided valuable feedback that helped confirm the application's readiness for use in the field."*



Figure: The *Okeanos Explorer*.

(Anna Lienesch, CISESS, anna.s.lienesch@noaa.gov; Funding: NCEI)

TRAVEL AND MEETING REPORTS

Jersild Participates in the Optimal Ocean Carbon Observing Design Workshop

The International Ocean Carbon Coordination Project's Optimal Ocean Carbon Observing Design Workshop was held at the Flanders Marine Institute in Ostend, Belgium on 10–11 June 2026. In attendance was CISESS Scientist Annika Jersild who was the rapporteur for the two breakout sessions and presented the group discussion summary. The workshop focused on "surface ocean $p\text{CO}_2$ design, leveraging the momentum of experiments currently being conducted by the [Surface Ocean \$p\text{CO}_2\$ Mapping intercomparison project](#) and delivering an optimal surface ocean $p\text{CO}_2$ network design requested by [WMO Global Greenhouse Gas Watch](#). It will also start the scoping process for next steps in interior ocean carbon observing design."

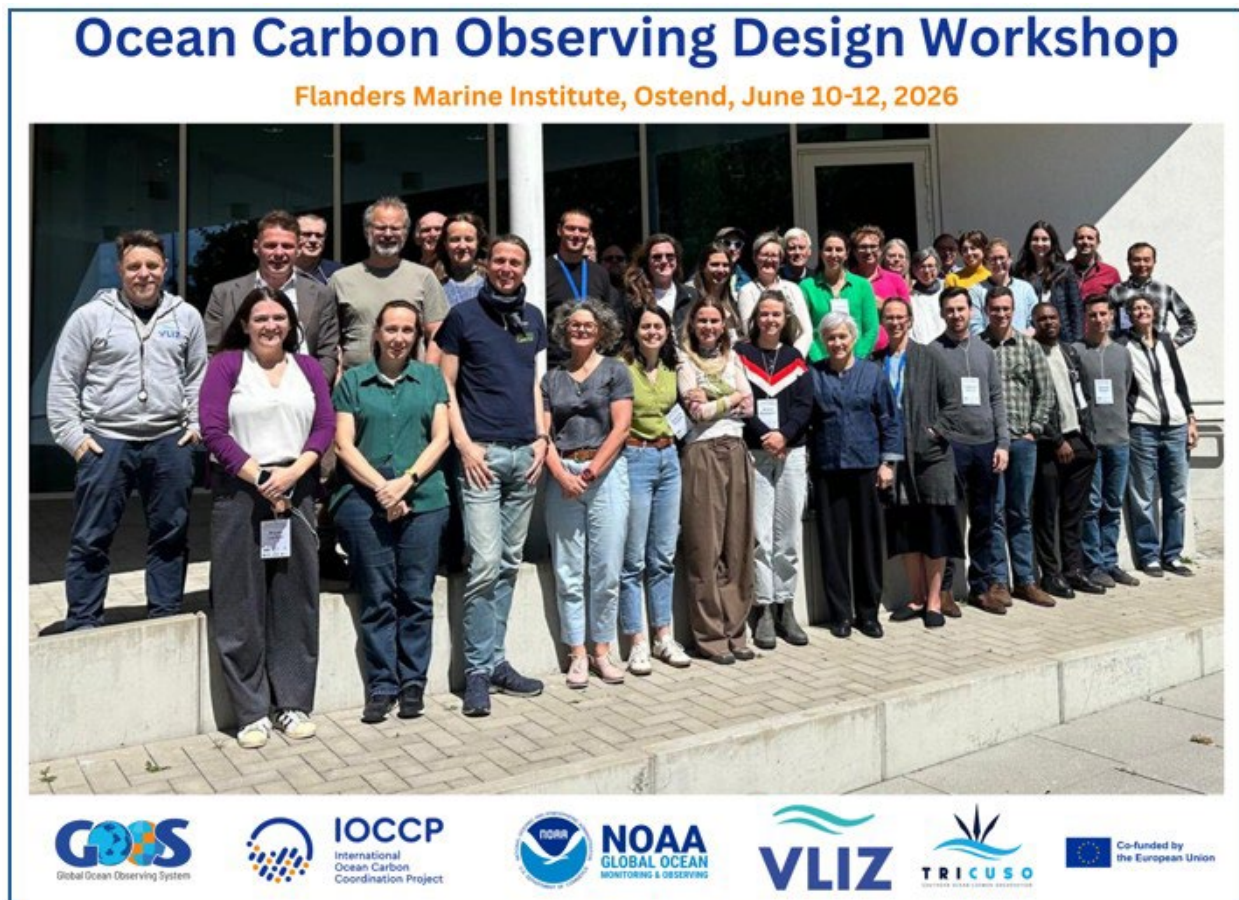


Figure: Group photo of workshop attendees. Jersild is third from the right of the pole in the second row. Photo credit: Vlaams Instituut voor de Zee

(Annika Jersild, CISESS, ajersild@umd.edu; Funding: GOMO)

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

2026 CISESS Summer Intern Program Officially Underway!

On 15 June, an orientation session spearheaded by Faculty Specialist/CISESS Coordinator Kate Cooney was held at the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, welcoming the latest crop of CISESS summer interns. This was followed by a “meet-and-greet” with refreshments, where the summer interns got the chance to mingle amongst themselves and with their mentors and other interested faculty members. The interns were encouraged to pick the brains of CISESS Scientists Emily Faber and Guangyang Fang, the first members of the inaugural “Ask Me Anything” (AMA) panel, a new outreach activity scheduled for various times over the summer. As the name suggests, AMA is an opportunity for interns to ask CISESS Scientists about anything, from science to more personal questions about how they got into science and why and stories in between. The fruits of the interns’ summer labor will be showcased at the end of

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the summer during a presentation workshop where they will give five-minute talks summarizing their research.



Figure: (left) Faber and Fang, fielding questions during the AMA session. (right) Group photo of the summer interns and their mentors.

(Kate Cooney, CISESS, kscooney@umd.edu, Funding: Task I; Emily Faber, CISESS, efaber1@umd.edu, Funding: GOES-R AWG & JSTAR; Guangyang Fang, CISESS, gfang@umd.edu; Funding: GEO-XO, GOES-R AWG, GOES-R PGRR & IJJA)

SOCIAL MEDIA AND BLOG POSTS

And the Rain Goes On ...

Rainy weather has not let up yet over the central U.S., with only two days since mid-May given a marginal or low-risk excessive rainfall outlook by the National Weather Service, [recounts CISESS Scientist Christopher Smith](#), the GOES-R Satellite Liaison to the National Weather Service's Weather Prediction Center and Ocean Prediction Center. The latest round of threatening weather swept across Missouri to Alabama on 7–8 June 2026, raising flash-flooding alarms along the way. A strong mesoscale convective system had developed, generating intense bouts of lightning and rain. According to a National Hurricane Center's seven-day outlook, there was a 40–60% chance of the development of a cyclone along the shorelines of Texas and New Orleans. Indeed, a cyclone did develop, turning into Tropical Storm Arthur, the first named storm of the hurricane season. Its remnants on 18 June dumped heavy rounds of rain on Louisiana and neighboring states.

(Also published on the [Satellite Liaison Blog](#), along with other blog posts of interest by other contributors.)

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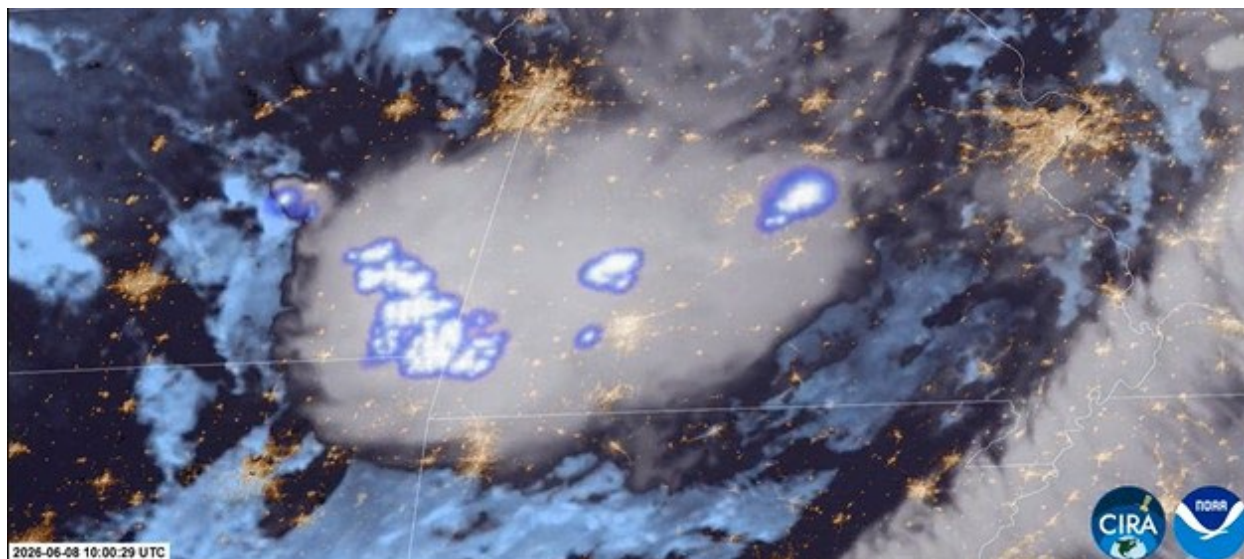


Figure: GOES-East Mesosector 1-minute Geocolor imagery overlaid with the Geostationary Lightning Mapper Group Energy Density at 1000 UTC 08 June 2026. Southeast Kansas and Southwest MO are shown, with the bright lights of Kansas City and St. Louis along the top.

(Christopher Smith, CISS, csmith70@umd.edu; Funding: GOES-R PGRR)

(Maureen Cribb, CISS, mcribb@umd.edu, Funding: CISS Task I)