

Biography Box 2.4

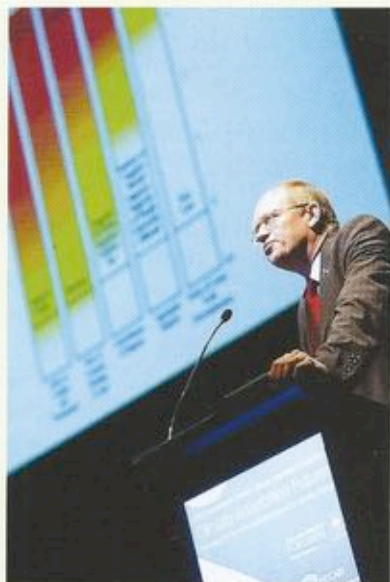
Meet the modeller: Jean-Pascal van Ypersele

Leadership: Van Ypersele is one of the three Vice-Chairs of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In this role, and in previous international activities, van Ypersele is an effective spokesman for the confidence delivered by modelling and observational analysis.

Popular recognition: Van Ypersele's leadership in the Francophone responses to climate change is one aspect of his global prominence. He was created an Honorary Member of the 'Club of Rome' EU Chapter in 2010 and, in 2011, received the highest distinction awarded by the Government of the Walloon Region: *Commandeur du Mérite wallon*. He also received several awards in science communication, and frequently advises policymakers and stakeholders.

Climate modelling connectivity: During and after his doctoral research at the USA National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), van Ypersele worked with Stephen Schneider, André Berger, Bert Semtner and Michel Verstraete.

Life and times: Jean-Pascal van Ypersele has a PhD in physics from the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium, where, as a professor, he directs the Master's programme in Science and Management of the Environment. He publishes papers on all aspects of climate modelling including changes in sea-ice, in palaeoclimate, and in the climate in Europe, Greenland and Africa. His more recent work is related to integrated assessment modelling of climate stabilisation jointly with interdisciplinary teams including economists and social scientists. He has also published on the relations between climate and desertification, and the impacts of climate change on human activities and ecosystems. His work is cited in reports of the IPCC.



Jean-Pascal van Ypersele at the NCCARF conference, 2010. Photo source: NCCARF.

Read more

Guardian newspaper article: <http://www.climatemodellingprimer.net/lk207.htm>

Gallée, H., van Ypersele, J.-P., Fichefet, T., Tricot, C., Berger, A. (1991) Simulation of the last glacial cycle by a coupled, sectorially averaged climate/ice sheet model. I.

The climate model. *J Geophys Res* 96, 13139–13161.

Smith, J.B., Schneider, S.H., Oppenheimer, M., et al. (2009) Assessing dangerous climate change through an update of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 'Reasons for Concern'. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 106(11), 4133–4137.



Watch

Interview on the frustration of climate scientists at climate negotiations: <http://www.climatemodellingprimer.net/lk209.htm>

Stephen H. Schneider symposium talk on uncertainty handling in climate science: <http://www.climatemodellingprimer.net/lk210.htm>

