**Notes taken by Dr. Zeng:**

Overall: Good topic/good presentation; schedule feasible

Mexico/Central America region precip is sensitive to both Pacific and Atlantic SSTs, is undergoing drought, and is projected to be influence by climate change; already done good analysis; MS thesis related subtropical climate variability/change for the Med sea region;

**Hugo:** analyze/plot also: climatology, vorticity, moisture convergence (ok without soil moisture)

**Carton:** Basin average temperature SST ATL -> rainfall on interannual timescale  
Analyze some CMIP6 runs feasible?

**Dalin:** model 100km resolution for Central America: sensitivity to model resolution (50km) feasible?

Possible to compare the two Japanese models Miroc high vs low resolution? (though maybe more)

**Hu:** El Nino vs La Nina asymmetry?  Mention different flavor of El Nino

Look at one member, not ensemble mean to see better internal variability

**Notes from Dr. Carton:**

1a) There are warm and cold years in the tropical Atlantic as you show in your SVDs but this variability is not so evident in the Li et al time series on slide 5. The 2nd pattern on slide17 looks more like a North/south dipole pattern.

1b) I know there is a lot of discussion of rivers of atmospheric moisture associated with the southwest US monsoon. I didn’t see this kind of mechanistic discussion in your prospectus. What is the actual mechanism by which SST affects precip? Likewise, your CMIP5 results do show a long-term drying trend. Why is this happening?

2) How good is CAM for this problem since the width of Central America is only 1-3 grid points? Same comment for land runoff. You have 18 ensemble members. How do you decide if this is the correct number?

3) You use CMIP5. I guess the work is already underway and you already have those data. But is it worth looking at CMIP6? I realize you may not be able to mix the two.