1046-86-1242   **Elizabeth C. Hunke*** (`eclare@lanl.gov`), MS-B216, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM 87545. *Sea Ice Modeling in the GCM Context.*

Global Climate Models (GCMs) must balance limitations in computing resources and manpower with the need to simulate all aspects of the climate system accurately and in detail. As a result, polar simulations of GCMs often receive less attention than do the lower latitudes. This presentation will provide a global climate modeling perspective on the polar regions from the point of view of a GCM/sea-ice modeler, including an overview of the sea ice components in current IPCC-class GCMs. One of these models features some striking advances in its simulation of the polar regions since the recent IPCC modeling cycle; I will discuss the current status of this model and our plans for further improving the cryospheric component of GCMs. (Received September 15, 2008)