GES DISC Vision
To enable researchers and educators maximize knowledge of the Earth by engaging in understanding their goals, and by leading the advancement of remote sensing information services in response to satisfying their goals

The GES DISC Approach
- Engage Users
  - Communications must be frequent
  - Dedicated points of contact to gather/provide information are identified
- Build economically
  - Look for reuse, ways to save funds
  - Willing to take calculated risks; Otherwise low risk
- But also, to build new technologies
- Engage employees
  - Ensure that employees realize the value of their contributions
  - Treat all employees equally

We will: Not build it and they will come.
We will: Build it because they came (collaborating on mutual interest)

Successes
- Up to date on all Mission reprocessing and documentation
- Successfully released first data products produced for newest missions: GPM, OCO-2, SNPP
- Completed transition to dynamic web page capability, driven by EMR web documentation
- Released new version of Giovanni (smoothing maps, histograms, download GeoTIFF maps, etc.)
- Delivered the first version of Unified User Interface with support for faceted navigation
- Completed population of HRDLS data and documentation into preservation system; Other datasets in the works
- Deployed User Registration for GES DISC services and data access
- Recovered heritage data (Nimbus, et al) from 1960’s vintage media.
- Rescuing data continues.
- GES DISC is now a recognized data repository by Scientific Data, an open-access, peer-reviewed journal for descriptions of scientifically valuable data sets

Challenges
- Efficiently adapting potentially useful advancing technologies to specific problems
- Facilitating science research or the masses, based on a handful of use cases
- Rapidly responding to the needs of users needs for value added products, tools, and services
- So much to do, so little time to do it.

Best Practices
- Implement in response to user driven needs
  - LANC: Use user feedback, user surveys, science meetings
- Seek opportunities for collaboration
  - EOSDIS drivers, but also new shareable initiatives
- Strategically utilize technology to enhance efficiency in the face of growing archives and number of users
  - Rapidly understand forward looking relevant information technologies, but also engage science data users and information technologies
- ‘Partner’ with users and producers
  - Remain expert in Atmospheric, Hydrology, Climate Modeling data (both NASA and other) and data management services, but also engage science research and applications users to better understand their needs, and improve GES DISC services
- Publish results for the betterment of information science