The capstone of the undergraduate major in Atmospheric and Oceanic Science at the University of Maryland (AOSC) is a full year senior research project that students must defend to AOSC faculty. Undergraduates work closely with scientists on active research projects to complete this requirement. In the Fall, students give oral presentations as part of their prospectus defense. In the Spring, students give their final poster presentations as part of an AOSC student research symposium. Many AOSC students begin their work well before their senior year and this has lead to co-authored publications and two first authored publications, in prep. It is important to AOSC that our students participate in the research process and that they contribute to the overall success of the project. CICS-MD has been a model for this cooperation between AOSC and research scientists. Roughly 1/3 of all AOSC student research projects have been supported by CICS-MD. A majority of our students hope to work with NOAA/NASA at some point in their careers. We hope to develop closer communication with our local research partners and encourage involvement with our undergraduate program. This is an excellent opportunity for the research community to train the next generation of students while they are still in school.