

## F. Awards, Honors, and Other Recognition

### Department of Commerce

#### 2015 Gold Medal – Scientific and Engineering Achievement

**GSD's Assimilation and Modeling Branch/High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Model Team** (along with NWS colleagues in NCEP Central Operations and the Environmental Modeling Center) for achieving success for the High-Resolution Rapid Refresh, the first storm-scale model to give forecasters and decision-makers fast, local weather guidance.

### NOAA

#### 2015 Bronze Medal

**William B. Bendel, Fanthune Moeng, Wilfred G. Von Dauster, Vivian A. LeFebvre, Alexander E. MacDonald, Phyllis Gunn, and Rhonda Lange** for achieving the 100th worldwide Science On a Sphere® installation and continuing to grow its global engagement of the public in NOAA science.

#### 2014 Bronze Medal

**Scott Nahman, Kathryn Gilbert, Rusty Benson, Mark Iredell, Geoff Dimego, Shraddha Upadhyaya, Luis Cano, Michael Blumenfeld, Michael Young, and David Michaud** for dedication in acquiring supercomputing services to sustain production of the Nation's operational numerical weather and climate forecast systems.

#### 2010 Bronze Medal

**Steve Weygandt, Stan Benjamin and John Brown** for developing the first NCEP operational radar reflectivity assimilation technique and improving convective storm forecasting.

**Seth Gutman** for innovative contributions to the development of the Coastal Atmospheric River Monitoring and Early Warning System

#### 2015 NOAA Administrator's Award

**Kevin Kelleher, John Schneider, and Greg Pratt** (as part of an NWS/NESDIS/OAR Team) for successfully transitioning MADIS (the Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System) to operations within the NWS and archiving in NESDIS.

#### 2014 NOAA Administrator's Award

**Kevin Kelleher** with other NOAA colleagues for helping to establish the first systematic approach and consistent voice for advancing the testing capabilities at NOAA testbeds and proving grounds.

#### 2011 NOAA Administrator's Award

**Seth Gutman** for long-term leadership in establishing a national ground-based GPS observing network for measuring and monitoring atmospheric water vapor.

**2014 Distinguished Career Award for Professional Achievement**

**Darien Davis** - for an enduring commitment to NOAA's mission, a tenacity to succeed, and an optimistic vision of the future that drew experts from across the agency to advance NOAA IT systems.

**2012 NOAA Research Employees of the Year**

**Individual - David K. Himes - ESRL/GSD** - posthumously awarded the NOAA Research Employee of the Year (Individual) for Personal and Professional Excellence for his innovative software engineering critical to the development of Science on a Sphere®.

**Group - ESRL/GSD/Assimilation and Modeling Branch** - for the development, integration, and transition of the next generation of NOAA's hourly North American prediction, a foundation for realizing NOAA's 'Weather Ready Nation' strategies as well as position NOAA for emerging service areas.

**2011 August Employee of the Month Award from NOAA Research EEO/Diversity**

**Dr. Hongli Jiang** for her current research on the development of methods for fine scale and frequent updated numerical analysis.

## Cooperative Institute Awards

**2015 CIRA Research and Service Initiative Award** was presented to **Steve Albers**. The award is for outstanding contributions to science and technology research and his noteworthy, sustained, accomplishments leading and contributing to numerous research projects over the past four years. These accomplishments include team leadership and mentoring, the implementation of innovative and creative technology, and successful research proposals resulting in significant funding to the laboratory. Steve has applied his considerable scientific and technological expertise to many projects acknowledged by ESRL/GSD awards including the all-sky camera vs. LAPS cloud analysis, cutting edge NWP-based cloud analysis, NWP visualization software and complex Science on a Sphere® data sets.

**2015 CIRES Outstanding Performance Award - Service** presented to **Chris Golden** - GSD/Evaluation and Decision Support Branch for his work developing a user interface for the National Weather Service's "Hazard Services." The Hazard Services application on AWIPS II (the National Weather Service Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System), is designed to streamline forecaster workflow by combining functions of three legacy applications.

**2015 CIRES Bronze Medal for Superior Performance** was presented to **Shilpi Gupta, Hilary Peddicord, and Beth Russell**, CIRES staff in GSD/Advanced Technology and Outreach Branch, were part of a NOAA team honored with a DOC Bronze Medal for achieving the 100th worldwide installation of Science On a Sphere®.

**2014 CIRES Outstanding Performance Award in Science and Engineering** was presented to **Ligia Bernardet**, CIRES staff in GSD/Assimilation and Modeling Branch, for her excellence in scientific research, collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach, and uncommon initiatives, specifically for, her leadership in working to unify differing versions of the Hurricane Weather Research and Forecasting (HWRF) Model.

**2013 CIRES Innovative Research Program Grant** was presented to Shilpi Gupta (and non-GSD colleague), CIRES staff in GSD/Advanced Technology and Outreach Branch, for their project entitled "SOS: Cognition + Affect = Effect" that studied how collaboration between the arts and sciences may be more effective for inspiring social engagement and behavior change than science alone.

**2013 CIRES Outstanding Performance Award** was presented to **Christopher Clack**, CIRES staff in GSD/Renewable Energy Program, for his work in renewable energy and atmospheric science.

**2013 CIRA Research and Service Initiative Award** was presented to **Sher Schranz**, CIRA staff in GSD/Advanced Technology and Outreach Branch, for her outstanding service in administrative oversight, project management, and outreach. From the notification letter by CIRA Director Christian Kummerow, "Your superb accomplishments across a myriad of high-visibility programs and projects (fire weather research, NextGen aviation weather, unmanned aircraft systems, NEIS, FX-Net) are highly valued. Your wealth of technical knowledge, coupled with excellent project management and leadership skills, are especially noteworthy."

**2013 CIRES Outstanding Performance Award for Science and Engineering** was presented to **Julien Lynge**, CIRES staff in GSD/Advanced Technology and Outreach Branch. Julien works with scientists to make data easy to find, access, visualize, and understand, and is the lead developer on TerraViz, a highly creative and innovative graphical interface that may revolutionize the way scientists and others visualize massive physical data sets in real time. TerraViz is the visualization component of GSD's NOAA Earth Information System (NEIS).

**2012 CIRES Employees of the Year (Team)** was presented to **Curtis Alexander, Eric James, Steven Peckham, Patrick Hofmann, Bill Moninger, Tanya Smirnova, Ming Hu, Joe Olson, and Xue Wei** for the development, integration, and transition of the next generation of NOAA's hourly North American prediction, a foundation for realizing NOAA's 'Weather Ready Nation' strategies as well as position NOAA for emerging service areas.

**2012 CIRA Research Initiative (Team) Award** was presented to **Jebb Stewart, Jeff Smith, Chris MacDermaid, and Randy Pierce** for their work on the NOAA Environmental Information System (NEIS).

**2012 CIRA Research Initiative Award** was presented to **Haidao Lin** for his work on satellite temperature and moisture bias corrections in the High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Model.

**2012 CIRA Service Initiative Award** was presented to **Chris MacDermaid** for his efforts as GSD's representative on a number of NOAA and OAR working groups and committees.

**2011 CIRES 2011 Performance Award - Service Category** was presented to **Dr. Steven Peckham** for helping to develop and provide support for a complex modeling system known as WRF-Chem.

**2011 CIRES 2011 Performance Award - Service Category** was presented to **Dr. Craig Tierney** for promoting and inspiring excellence and dedication to the science and research performed at CIRES as a cornerstone of the NOAA High Performance Computing (HPC) team in Boulder, and took

on the demanding role of acting High Performance Computing (HPC) Lead, responsible for managing all aspects of NOAA Boulder's HPC resources and representing NOAA Boulder's HPC interests in the midst of a NOAA-wide HPC realignment.”

**2010 CIRA Research and Service Initiative Award** was presented to **Isidora Jankov and Steve Albers**. The award is in recognition for their contributions to numerical weather prediction (NWP) forecasting – and more specifically, research that focuses on the initialization of fine-scale numerical models in GSD's Local Analysis and Prediction System (LAPS) and research efforts aimed at improved physical parameterization schemes and ensemble forecast techniques in NWP.

**2010 CIRES Bronze Medal Awards to Curtis Alexander, Ming Hu, and Tanya Smirnova**, received the awards for their contributions to the operational assimilation of radar reflectivity that won 2010 **NOAA Bronze Medal** awards for Stan Benjamin, Steve Weygandt, and John Brown. GSD CIRA colleagues Kevin Brundage and Bob Lipschutz were also a part of this cooperative effort.

## Other External Awards and Commendations

**2015 American Meteorological Society Editors Award** - Presented to **Mark Govett** for outstanding merit in performing technical reviews of manuscripts submitted for publication in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society (BAMS)*.

**2015 State of Colorado Governor's Award for High Impact Research\_**– Presented to **GSD's High Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Model Development Team from the Earth Modeling Branch** for the development and implementation of the HRRR Weather Model. The prestigious award was presented in a ceremony at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science on Thursday, October 8, 2015. The Governor's Award for High-Impact Research was launched in 2009 by CO-LABS to celebrate the achievements of Colorado scientists. CO-LABS is a non-profit consortium of federal laboratories, research institutions, businesses and economic development organizations that provide financial and in-kind support for programs that promote the retention and expansion of Colorado's scientific resources. For more information visit <http://cires.colorado.edu/news/press/2015governorsawards/>.

**2015 Certificate of Recognition** – Presented to GSD **Senior Scientist Zoltan Toth** by the U.S. THORPEX Executive Committee for his international leadership and multifaceted research contributions to US participation in the World Meteorological Organization's THORPEX Weather Research Program.

**2015 UVIG Achievement Award** - The Utility Variable-Generation Integration Group (UVIG), previously known as the Utility Wind Integration Group (UWIG), is giving a UVIG 2015 Achievement Award to the DOE/NOAA Wind Forecast Improvement Project (WFIP) staff for contributions to improve wind energy forecasts. **The NOAA Team includes Stan Benjamin and Joseph Olson from GSD's Earth Modeling Branch and Melinda Marquis from GSD's Office of the Director**. The UVIG was established in 1989 to provide a forum for the critical analysis of wind and solar technology for utility applications and to serve as a source of credible information on the status of wind and solar technology and deployment. The group's mission is to accelerate the development and application of good engineering and operational practices supporting the appropriate integration and reliable operation of variable generation on the electric power system.

**2015 The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Gold Award** for the calendar year 2014 was presented to ESRL's Global Systems Division.

**2015 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Silver Star Awards** for the calendar year 2014 were presented to two members of the GSD's Office of the Director, **Cherie Adams** for her administering and running of the CFC Silent Auction, and **Penny Granville** for processing almost all of the on-line CFC contributions from an overwhelming majority of the David Skaggs Research Center's on-site organizations.

**2015 American Meteorological Society's Outstanding Leadership Award** presented to CU/CIRES Senior Scientist and GSD/Evaluation and Decision Support Branch Scientist **Betsy Weatherhead**, who received the award at the 2015 annual AMS conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Betsy received the award for her work with the public, private, and academic sectors in improving weather forecasts.

**2014 UVIG Achievement Award** - The Utility Variable-Generation Integration Group (UVIG), previously known as the Utility Wind Integration Group (UWIG), is giving a UVIG 2015 Achievement Award to GSD's **Melinda Marquis** for her work in leading research to improve weather forecasts in support of wind power.

**2014 Commendation From NASA to GSD** - A team from the Global Systems Division/Assimilation and Modeling Branch, **Stan Benjamin, John Brown, Bill Moninger, Eric James, Curtis Alexander, and Steve Weygandt**, was commended by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Aviation Safety Program for support and performance in providing numerical weather model data and modeling support to the program for their development and evaluation of new Integrated Alerting and Notification (IAN) concepts for the Vehicle Systems Safety Technologies (VSST) Project. The team provided NASA with numerical data from the High-Resolution Rapid Refresh (HRRR) Model to represent the weather conditions for the NASA/IAN/VSSST studies. They also provided support and expertise in aiding NASA's use of special software for accessing the formatted model data and in properly interpreting the data.

**2014 Certificate of Appreciation** - Presented to GSD Senior Scientist **Zoltan Toth** by the WMO/WWRP in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the World Meteorological Organization's THORPEX Weather Research Program for the years 2005 - 2014.

**2013 Thomas Day, National Weather Service NextGen IT Project Manager**, commended GSD's **MADIS Team, Greg Pratt, Leon Benjamin, Tom Kent, Gopa Padmanabhan, and Leigh Cheatwood-Harris**, in a formal letter to then Acting GSD Director, Dr. Scott Hausman for their work on connecting MADIS to the NextGen Web Service Environment.

**2013 National Science Foundation's International Research Fellowship Award** to GSD/Office of the Director/Global Observing Systems Analysis Group's **Tanya Peevey**.

**2012 Australia's Bureau of Meteorology Awards** - Australia's Bureau of Meteorology received Highly Commended Award in the Comcover Awards for Excellence 2012 - Risk Initiative for their Next Generation Forecast and Warning System Project, a major component of which was installing

the Graphical Forecast Editor (GFE), designed, developed, and transferred by GSD/Information Systems Branch, in their forecasting offices. In addition, just recently the Next Generation Forecast and Warning System Project featured prominently in the Excellence in eGovernment Awards that recognize the most outstanding initiatives in Government Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) at the local, state, and federal level. These are very prestigious awards for Australia's Bureau of Meteorology. Congratulations to GSD/ISB's Graphical Forecast Editor Team.

**2011 OAR EEO Newsletter Recognition** - In the September 2011 quarterly issue of OAR EEO, "CONNECTIONS", the EEO/diversity newsletter for NOAA Research, **Vivian LeFebvre** is recognized in the "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories: One American Spirit" article, and **Jeff Van Buskirk** is recognized in the "EEO/Diversity Across OAR" article.

**2011 Federally Employed Women - Penny Granville** was named the Vice President of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW). She helped get GSD mentioned in a document from FEW on how federal government employees affect everyone's everyday life. A subset of this document, including a GSD reference, was a major part of an article in the Wednesday, December 2, 2011 edition of the *Washington Post* titled, "Employee group shows impact of proposed cuts on government services."

**2011 Space Shuttle Program Commendation for GSD** – The Global Systems Division recently received a commendation from the Space Shuttle Program and the National Weather Service/Spaceflight Meteorology Group (SMG) for our assistance in customizing AWIPS for unique data sets and displays needed for every space shuttle launch and landing.