

Awards, Honors, and Other Recognition

The following material includes awards, honors and other recognition for ARL groups and individuals for their research, development, and/or application during the period 2010-2015.

Sharon Conger received the NOAA Distinguished Career Award 2010: "For outstanding support to critical NOAA research and development activities through administrative services that far exceeded requirements." The Distinguished Career Award is designed to recognize long-term achievement in advancing the goals and mission of NOAA. The intent of the Career Award is to honor contributions which represent sustained excellence--rather than a single, defined accomplishment.

Mark Hall received the NOAA Employee of the Month in June, 2010.

Roland Draxler received an OAR Employee of The Year Award 2011 for his outstanding scientific contributions in the NOAA responses to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill (beginning April, 2010), the volcanic eruption of Eyjafjallajokull in Iceland (in April-May, 2010), and the Fukushima-Daiichi, Japan, nuclear power plant incident (April, 2011). In each of these very different events, Mr. Draxler quickly and efficiently adapted and applied the HYbrid Single-Particle Lagrangian Integrated Trajectory (HYSPLIT) model to address atmospheric releases and dispersion of harmful materials.

Daniel Tong received a 2011 EPA Science and Technology Achievement Award (STAA), Level II for work on aerosol formation from volcanic emissions. Using isotope measurements and a 3-D atmospheric sulfur chemistry and transport model, Daniel and colleagues demonstrated that atmospheric secondary sulfate preserved in continental deposits represents an unexploited geological archive for sulfur dioxide oxidation chemistry in the atmosphere. Their work was published in a 2010 issue in Nature. Daniel also received an Honorable Mention from the STAA Committee for his contribution in improving the atmospheric chemistry modeling in the Community Multi-scale Air Quality model.

Dian Seidel received a 2012 Department of Commerce Bronze Medal "for developing a NOAA administrative order on scientific integrity policy and accompanying handbook on scientific misconduct" as part of a NOAA-wide team award. The team developed NOAA's first Scientific Integrity Policy and accompanying Handbook to promote a continuing culture of scientific excellence and integrity and establish a policy on the integrity of scientific activities that the agency conducts and uses to inform policy and management. The policy has been recognized by the Union of Concerned Scientists as "raising the bar" for scientific integrity in government, and it serves as a model for other U.S. government agencies.

LaToya Myles was selected for the Alcorn State University's 2012 award for Top 40 Alumni Under 40.

Will Pendergrass received a NASA Letter of Commendation in 2012 from the NASA Mars Science Laboratory Interagency Nuclear Safety Review Panel for his support of NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Mission nuclear risk assessment and NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Radiological Contingency Support Team.

Roland R. Draxler, Steve Fine, Richard Eckman, Barbara Stunder, and Glenn Rolph were awarded the DOC 2013 Bronze Medal for their outstanding response to the 2011 Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant disaster by providing important information about the expected spread of radiation in the air and the ocean.

Winston Luke received the Department of Commerce 2013 Silver Medal Award for Meritorious Federal Service for exceptional team achievements in creating the NOAA Center for Weather and Climate Prediction (NCWCP), a state-of-the-art facility that enhances NOAA's ability to meet global atmospheric challenges.

Glenn Rolph, Roland Draxler, and Brad Reese received the 2014 NOAA Administrator's Award for major advances in toxic gas dispersion model forecasting capabilities for the Nation to better protect human life and property.

Pius Lee received the 2014 NOAA Research Employee of the Year Award for his superior sustained performance leading ARL's Air Quality Forecasting Team.

Ogie Olanday was awarded with an OAR Employee of the Year Award (2015). The award recognizes OAR employees who have made outstanding contributions to promote excellence in the operations or programs of NOAA Research. Ogie was awarded for outstanding administrative service in support of the ARL mission.

Kirk Clawson received a Certificate of Appreciation (2015) from the American Nuclear Society, in recognition of his support in the development of ANSI/ANS-3.11-2015 "Determining Meteorological Information at Nuclear Facilities."

LaToya Myles received the NOAA OAR EEO/Diversity Award for Exemplary Service, 2016 for her work with the NOAA Educational Partnership Program (EPP) serving as a presenter and student mentor. She also participates in numerous outreach activities and presentations for ARL targeting women and minorities.