



Bronze Medal
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AND
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Distinguished
Career
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AWARDS
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May 24, 2016

NOAA AUDITORIUM ■ SILVER SPRING, MD



Bronze Medal and Distinguished Career Awards

NOAA AUDITORIUM | SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND
MAY 24, 2016

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Mark Seiler

Chief Financial Officer

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Cynthia Davis

Workforce Management Office

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan

Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere
Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

**NOAA Leadership Competencies Development Program Graduates
Line and Staff Office Representatives**

CLOSING

Mark Seiler

Bronze Medal

The highest honor award bestowed by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, the Bronze Medal recognizes superior performance by Federal employees.

National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service

Boyin Huang
Viva Banzon
Jay Lawrimore
Thomas Peterson
Thomas Smith
Huai-min Zhang

For innovations in climate science, providing the authoritative source of sea surface temperature data for global climate monitoring and assessment.

Shobha Kondragunta
Istvan Laszlo

For enhancing the accuracy of Suomi National Polar-Orbiting Partnership Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite aerosol products and ensuring that products reach the operational user community with reduced latency.

Glenn Tallia (OGC)
Tahara Dawkins
Eve Douglas

For leadership in promoting international competitiveness of the U.S. Commercial Remote Sensing industry while addressing important national security risks.

Robert Sears (OAR)
Jeffrey Flick (OAR)
Jeremy Warren (OAR)
Jerry Janssen (OAR)
Steve Grippando
Patrick Gregory
Walter Schleicher
Parmesh Dwivedi
Frank Menzer

For outstanding leadership in the development and implementation of robust network capabilities that serve the NOAA enterprise.

Robin Warnken
Margot Bohan (OAR)
Andrew Armstrong III (NOS)
Meredith Westington (NOS)

For planning and establishing a multi-departmental U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project Office to define and document U.S. territorial limits.

National Marine Fisheries Service

Julie Blair
Craig Faunce
Glenn Campbell
Paul Packer
Farron Wallace
Heather Weikart

For developing the online Observer Declare and Deploy System to automate observer selection process, improving customer service and the management of fisheries off Alaska.

Steve Branstetter
Ken Brennan
Kelly Fitzpatrick
Elaine Harrell
Catherine Hayslip
Janet Miller
Pat O'Shaughnessy
Shawn Puyear
Jessica Stephen
Andrew Strelcheck

For developing the first catch share program and real-time landings monitoring system for a recreational fishery in the Southeastern United States.

Roy Mendelssohn
Robert Simons
Lynn deWitt
Steve Cummings
David Nordello
Skip Bertolino
Steve Miller

For maintaining uninterrupted services while simultaneously moving and upgrading web services and data access for NOAA researchers and managers.

James M. Nance
Rick A. Hart
James A. Primrose
Rebecca C. Smith
Jo Anne Williams
Timothy J. Baumer
Susan D. Gerhart

For improving the efficiency and accuracy of monitoring the Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery, resulting in an annual savings of \$700,000 for the Department.

Rhonda Reed
 Elif Fehm-Sullivan
 Chris Keifer (OGC)
 Shelby Mendez
 Jeffrey McLain
 Erin Strange
 John Carlos Garza
 Sierra Franks

For reintroducing Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon to the San Joaquin River, California.

Howard Brown
 David Hines
 Irma Lagomarsino
 James Simondet
 Garwin Yip
 Barbara Byrne
 Maria Rea
 Jeffrey Stuart
 Paul Ortiz (OGC)

For creating contingency plans and voluntary water conservation agreements that helped save threatened species during the 2014 California drought.

Thomas Moore
 Sean Meehan
 Shelley Norton
 Kelly Logan
 Jocelyn Karaszia
 Joaquin Javech
 Margaret Miller
 Joseph Contillo
 Lyudmila Shaulova
 Cheryl Scannell (OGC)
 LT Rachel Kotkowski (OMAO)
 LTJG Aras Zygus (OMAO)

For the rescue and relocation of 200+ Endangered Species Act threatened staghorn coral colonies in the Port of Miami, FL, saving the American public more than \$14 million.

Kate Swails
 Michael Asaro
 Glenn Salvador
 John Kenney
 John Higgins
 Katherine Richardson
 Kristy Long
 Barb Zoodsma
 David Gouveia
 Kevin Collins (OGC)

For exceptional leadership, innovation, and collaborative approach to solving complex management issues concerning the conservation and recovery of endangered right whales.

National Ocean Service

Alan Mearns
Gary Shigenaka

For assiduous scientific study and monitoring of the effects of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill, bringing critical lessons learned to the Nation.

Lori Cary-Kothera
Nancy Cofer-Shabica
Nathaniel Herold
Douglas Marcy
Elizabeth Mountz
Heather Stirratt
Richard Edwing
Andrew Gronewold (OAR)
Julie Sims (NMFS)
Jessica Berrio (NMFS)

For building innovative partnerships, furthering community resilience, and protecting coastal habitats throughout the Great Lakes.

Richard Stumpf
Michelle Tomlinson
Tim Wynne
Marc Suddleson
Quay Dortch
Timothy Davis (OAR)
Duane Gossiaux (OAR)
Eric Anderson (OAR)
Steven Ruberg (OAR)
Margaret Lansing (OAR)
Tom Joyce (OAR)
Steve Constant (OAR)

For response activities for the Lake Erie harmful algal bloom that impacted drinking water supplies in Ohio and Michigan.

Jay Lewis
Shawn McLaughlin
Bob Wood
Dennis Donahue (OAR)
Andrew Yagiela (OAR)
Jack Workman (OAR)
Darel McCormick (OMAO)
Jeffrey Kingrey (OMAO)
Michele McCoy (AGO)
Erin Masini (OGC)

For professional excellence in holding contractor accountable for loss of a NOAA vessel and efficiently using government assets to replace the vessel.

Michel Gielazyn

Brendan Bray

Mary Elliot Rolle (OGC)

For exceptional innovation in securing a \$22 million bankruptcy settlement for restoration of NOAA resources—the first-ever NRDA recovery in North Carolina.

CAPT Shepard Smith (OMAO)

John Nyberg

Craig Winn

Mark Griffin

Dawn Forsythe

Marc Higgins

For strategically managing the transition from Government-run paper nautical chart printing and distribution to a digitally-based private market.

Aijun Zhang

Degui Cao

Eugene Wei

Zizang Yang

John Kelley

Hocheng Lin (NWS)

For the operationalization of NOAA's first regional hydrodynamic forecast model in the Northern Gulf of Mexico.

National Weather Service

Brandt D. Maxwell

For exceptional support of NOAA/NWS International Affairs Office mission to support education and training efforts with the international community.

Russell Treadon

For extraordinary performance in the development, testing and operational implementation of the high resolution global forecast system.

Jennifer McNatt

Brian Hoeth

Kurt Van Speybroeck

Mark Wiley

For leading the development of a Regional Operations Center; providing support to partners and field offices while promoting collaboration and consistency.

Wayne Presnell

Christine Alex

Brian Hirsch

Robert Dukesherer

Mike Gittinger

Scott Kennedy

Jeffrey Lorens

Megan Dodson

Larry Smith

Mark Tew

For developing and implementing a new Beach Hazards Statement to communicate risks from marine and ecological hazards on coastal communities.

Maria Torres

Barry Goldsmith

Justin Gibbs

Steve Drillette

Douglas Butts

Paul Schaafsma

Kirk Caceres

Pablo Gonzalez

Matthew Duplantis

Blair Scholl

For exceptional development and implementation of outreach and warning services to Spanish-language citizens.

Weather Forecast Office Buffalo, NY

For providing extraordinary decision support services to decision makers and the public, saving lives during the record snowstorm of November 2014.

Weather Forecast Office Guam

For outstanding decision support provided to the 500,000 residents of Micronesia during major typhoon events from October 2013 through March 2015.

Weather Forecast Office Las Vegas, NV

For outstanding impact-based decision support services in support of historic flash flooding due to remnants of Tropical Storm Norbert.

Weather Prediction Center

For leading outstanding decision support and improved forecast consistency during the winter storms of 2014–2015 through unprecedented collaboration.

**Central Pacific Hurricane Center
Data Collection Office Hilo, HI
Pacific Region Headquarters**

For providing exceptional decision support services for Hurricanes Iselle and Julio, unprecedented twin threats to the State of Hawaii.

**Weather Forecast Office Houston/
Galveston, TX**

**Weather Forecast Office
Corpus Christi, TX
Office of Response and Restoration
(NOS)**

For critical and timely decision support services supporting the multiple agency response to the major Galveston Bay oil spill March/April/May 2014.

**Weather Forecast Office Medford, OR
Weather Forecast Office
Sacramento, CA**

**Weather Forecast Office Pendleton, OR
Weather Forecast Office Spokane, WA**

For exceptional support of wildfire response and suppression efforts during the summer of 2014, which saved numerous lives and minimized property damage.

**Weather Forecast Office Seattle, WA
Northwest River Forecast Center**

For providing unique emergency weather and river forecasts in support of the search and rescue efforts associated with the SR-530 landslide near Oso, WA.

**Weather Forecast Office Tucson, AZ
Weather Forecast Office Phoenix, AZ**

For building dust aware communities and increasing collaboration among public, private, and government stakeholders.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Dwight Gledhill
Elizabeth Turner (NOS)

For critical leadership of the Northeast Coastal Acidification Network that provided authoritative scientific information to regional stakeholders.

Gustavo Goni
Francis Bringas
George Halliwell
Richard Bouchard (NWS)

For the rapid and successful implementation of an array of underwater gliders geared toward Caribbean Sea and Tropical Atlantic hurricane research and forecasts.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

CDR Kristie Twining

For helping to design and implement the NOAA Observation System Integrated Analysis to evaluate the Nation's and NOAA's Earth-observation investments as a prioritized portfolio integrated and linked to mission and societal areas.

Office of the Chief Administration Officer

David W. Johnson

For the development and implementation of an advanced on-line safety incident reporting system and a safety knowledge management system for NOAA.

Office of the Chief Information Officer

David Emmons

Lawrence Reed

Charles MacFarland (NESDIS)

Douglas Brackett (NMFS)

Tameka Hill (NMFS)

John Oakley (NMFS)

Gustavo Limon (NWS)

William McMullen (NOS)

Thomas Murphy (NOS)

Vincent Garcia (OAR)

For deployment of NOAA-wide Enterprise Cybersecurity Monitoring Operations.

Distinguished Career Award

NOAA's Distinguished Career Award honors cumulative career achievement of sustained excellence, rather than a single defined accomplishment, in specific categories. In addition, this award recognizes significant accomplishments across all NOAA program areas and functions that have resulted in long-term benefits to our mission and strategic goals.

National Environmental Satellite Data and Information Service

David M. Anderson

For innovations in climate science, leading NOAA Paleoclimatology into the 21st century.

Patricia J. Mulligan

For leadership in acquiring novel satellite capabilities needed to observe and predict the impact of solar storms on lives and property.

Russell H. Beard

For superior sustained leadership, promoting teamwork, and supporting crisis management during 28 years of service to NOAA and the Nation.

National Marine Fisheries Service

Joan Arrington Browder

For 38 years of sustained dedication, leadership excellence, and scientific contributions to NOAA's efforts in Ecosystem and Everglades Restoration.

David L. King

For outstanding leadership and distinguished technical gear expertise in the support of fisheries stock assessment surveys and research during 36 years of continuing service to NOAA.

Patricia A. Livingston

For continuous and exemplary leadership in advancing the science and stewardship of Alaskan fisheries throughout 38 years of service to NOAA Fisheries.

Susan A. Murphy

For exemplary service to the Nation, our natural resources, and all constituents in conserving and managing fisheries for the benefit of all.

William T. Peterson

For exceptional scientific achievements on how climate variability influences ocean conditions and productivity in the California Current ecosystem.

Samuel G. Pooley

For providing sustained leadership and scientific direction at NOAA's Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center throughout his 33 years of service to NOAA.

National Ocean Service

Michael J. Dowgiallo

For sustained excellence in developing and leading applied scientific research programs throughout 35 years of service to NOAA.

David B. Enabnit

For visionary leadership in the modernization of NOAA's nautical charting program.

Edward Lindelof

For exceptional contributions to designating and managing national marine sanctuaries throughout 36 years of service to NOAA.

Debra L. Payton

For sustained excellence in contributions to oil and chemical spill science, preparedness, and response throughout 38 years of service to NOAA.

Gary Shigenaka

For sustained excellence in contributions to oil spill science, preparedness, and response over 35 year of service to NOAA.

Albert E. Theberge, Jr.

For using knowledge gained through 46 years of exemplary NOAA service in bringing NOAA history to life for current and future generations.

National Weather Service

Michael Esip

For advancing the mission of the NWS and NOAA through leadership of the Taunton Weather Forecast Office Electronics Unit.

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

James McFadden

For unparalleled efforts in support of aviation weather research and operations throughout 50 years of dedicated service to NOAA and the Nation.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Roland R. Draxler

For significantly improving U.S. and international capabilities to respond to airborne hazards, including radionuclides, chemicals, and volcanic ash.

Michael K. Trainer

For developing a powerful strategy to use NOAA aircraft to advance our scientific understanding of pollution sources that cause poor air quality.

Frederick Gorell

For communications, outreach, and partnership development expertise, which laid a foundation for the national program on ocean exploration and research.

Qin Xu

For exemplary service as a research scientist with extraordinary contributions to theoretical understanding and fundamental applications of atmospheric dynamics, physics, and numerical prediction.

Acquisition and Grants Office

Michele N. McCoy

For an exceptional 31 year career at NOAA demonstrating acquisition skills, professionalism, and leadership.

Office of the General Counsel

Theodore (Ted) Beuttler

For his career-long, thoughtful, and tireless advocacy and legal counsel for marine protection, and mentoring and bettering the lives of those within NOAA and beyond who shared his love for marine resources.

Workforce Management Office

Theresa A. Berry

For sustained superior administrative performance and commitment to the mission and goals of NOAA and the Workforce Management Office throughout 24 years of service.

Employees/Team Members of the Month

These awards reward excellence for demonstrated and sustained effort in advancing NOAA's mission. The NOAA Employee of the Month Award honors an outstanding employee chosen from among all occupations and grade levels except members of the Senior Executive Service and Office Directors. The NOAA Team Member of the Month Award pays tribute to a non-NOAA employee.

November 2015

Todd Smith, NMFS
Rick Rives, OMAO

March 2016

Jennifer Saari, NWS
Nicole Bonine, NMFS

December 2015

Linda McGuckin, OAR
Alan Free, NWS

April 2016

Bonnie Morgan, NESDIS
Caridad Ibis Gonzalez, OAR

January 2016

Ashfaq Dawood, OCIO
Susan Osborne, NESDIS

May 2016

Tia Brown, NOS
Patrick Condemi, OCAO

February 2016

Scott Jones, OMAO
Carly Weil, NOS

Department of Commerce Gold and Silver Medal Honorees

The Gold Medal is the highest honorary award given by the Department, granted by the Secretary for distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary, notable, or prestigious contributions that impact the mission of the Department and/or one operating unit and that reflect favorably on the Department.

The Silver Medal is the second highest honorary award given by the Department, granted by the Secretary for exceptional performance characterized by noteworthy or superlative contributions that have a direct and lasting impact within the Department.

To warrant a Gold or Silver Medal, a contribution must focus on qualitative and quantitative performance measures reflected in the Department's Strategic Plan and in one of the following areas:

- Leadership
- Personal and professional excellence
- Scientific/engineering achievement
- Organizational development
- Customer service
- Administrative/technical support
- Heroism

These awards were bestowed on September 29, 2015.

GOLD MEDAL

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Jennifer Moore
 David Bernhart
 Stephania Bolden
 Marta Nammack
 Lance Smith
 Alecia (Lisa) Van Atta
 Ruth Ann Lowery (OGC)
 Elena Onaga (OGC)
 Cheryl Scannell (OGC)

Nominated by NMFS the final regulation listing 20 of 82 proposed coral species under the Endangered Species Act, the largest such action in Department history.

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Barbara French
 John Incardona
 Jana Labenia
 Cathy Laetz
 Tiffany Linbo
 Nathaniel Scholz
 Catherine Sloan

Nominated by NMFS for groundbreaking science on how crude oil from the Deepwater Horizon spill causes heart failure in commercially valuable fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

Assimilation and Modeling Branch
 National Centers for Environmental Prediction Central Operations (NWS)
 Environmental Modeling Center (NWS)

Nominated by OAR for the success of High-Resolution Rapid Refresh, the first storm-scale model to give forecasters and decision-makers fast, local weather guidance.

Global Climate and Weather Modeling Branch
 Production Management Branch
 Statistical Modeling Branch

Nominated by NWS for implementing a new Global Forecast System to improve public safety, quality of life, and business decisions that drive U.S. economic growth.

NMFS Bering Sea Research Team
OAR Bering Sea Research Team

Nominated by NMFS for leading and conducting a comprehensive, integrated ecosystem research program that reveals how climate cycles affect the Nation's largest fishery.

HEROISM

Sean P. Campbell

Nominated by OMAO for saving the life of a co-worker by administering first-aid on a remote mountain trail and then delivering him to the nearest medical facility.

Todd Nickerson

Nominated by NMFS for an act of heroism that saved the life of a badly injured driver trapped in an overturned vehicle.

Jeffrey Pollack
Grant Demesillo

Nominated by NMFS for their rapid and courageous response to a mayday call, saving nine crewmen adrift in heavy seas after their 95-foot tugboat sank miles offshore.

SILVER MEDAL

LEADERSHIP

Zdenka Willis (NOS)
 Jessica Snowden (NOS)
 John Murphy (NWS)
 Kevin Schrab (NWS)
 Pamela Taylor
 Martin Yapur
 David Helms
 Mark Vincent (OAR)
 Felipe Arzayus (NMFS)

Nominated by NESDIS for developing and implementing a first-of-its-kind tool to measure the impact of the Nation's and NOAA's observation portfolio on societal issues.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Allan Coker
 Elizabeth Nelson
 Emanuel Antonaras
 Kelly Moran Kalamas

Nominated by NMFS for investigating individuals and businesses who conspired to illegally harvest and sell unreported Gulf of Mexico Individual Fishing Quota species.

Zachary Goldstein
 David Michaud
 Lawrence Reed
 Ben Kyger (NWS)
 Michael Kane (NWS)
 Irene Parker (NESDIS)
 Amy Bennett (NESDIS)
 Emily Kilcrease
 (International Trade Administration)
 Ann Chun
 (International Trade Administration)

Nominated by OCIO for extraordinary and notable contributions during a Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. review and approval of the sale of IBM's x86 server line of business to Lenovo while preserving U.S. national security.

Ritchie Graves
Scott Carlon
Dale Bambrick
Bryan Nordlund

Nominated by NMFS for developing fish passage solutions to prevent loss of an entire year's return of endangered salmon during repair of a major Columbia River dam, while preserving irrigation for valuable orchards and vineyards.

Annarita Mariotti
Gabriel Vecchi
Rich Gudgel
William Stern

Jin Huang (NWS)
Huug van den Dool (NWS)
Qin Zhang (NWS)
Suranjana Saha (NWS)

Nominated by OAR for implementing the North American Multi-Model Ensemble to put timely and useful seasonal forecast information into the hands of decision-makers.

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Joseph Cione
Erica Rule
CDR Nancy Hann (OMAO)
CDR Kristie Twining (OMAO)
LCDR Justin Kibbey (OMAO)
James Roles (OMAO)
Jeffrey Smith (OMAO)
Steven Paul (OMAO)
Andrew Hornbeck (OMAO)
Joseph Bosko (OMAO)

Nominated by OAR for successfully executing the first-ever launch of an Unmanned Aircraft System from a manned aircraft into a major hurricane, Hurricane Edouard.

Kenneth Howard
Jian Zhang
Jonathan Gourley
Luis Cano (NWS)
Mark Miller (NWS)
Scott Jacobs (NWS)
Rebecca Cosgrove (NWS)
Michelle Mainelli (NWS)
Cameron Shelton (NWS)

Nominated by OAR for the successful transition of the Multi-Radar, Multi-Sensor system into operations to provide critical radar-based products to forecast weather hazards.

Jeremy Mathis
Christian Meinig
Noah Lawrence-Slavas
Scott Stalin
Nicholas Delich
Stacy Maenner-Jones

Nominated by OAR for developing a multi-platform observing array to collect integrated environmental intelligence on ocean acidification in the Gulf of Alaska.

HEROISM

Jerome F. Sheehan III

Nominated by OMAO for outstanding response to uncontrolled flooding aboard NOAA Ship *Bell M. Shimada*, preventing her sinking, significant damage, and expensive repairs.

Lauren Heesemann

Joseph Hoyt
Roger Mays

Nominated by NOS for their rapid, skilled response to a cardiac arrest emergency experienced by a volunteer, which resulted in the complete recovery of the victim.

*We appreciate the work of the many individuals
across NOAA who contributed to our efforts
to recognize our colleagues' outstanding achievements.*

Special thanks to:

The Nominators

Line and Staff Office Performance Management and Awards Committees

NOAA Incentive Awards Board Members

Line and Staff Office Incentive Awards Program Representatives:

Adam Basch, AGO
Albert Maynard, WFMO
Augusta Gudeman, NESDIS
Blair Duncan, AGO
Charlene Dunn, CFO
Cynthia Way, OAR
Daria Webb, OCIO
Delores Frazier, NWS
Helen Buggs, OCAO
Kathy Lewis, ODUS
Keisha Palmer, OAR
Nancy Jackson, OMAO
Octavia Saine, OGC
Rachel Kinney, NESDIS
SheRee Lee, NMFS
Sloane Strother, NOS
Stacey Lassiter-Watson, OAR
Tishema Miller, OCIO

Workforce Management Office:

Debbie Farmer
Karen Robin
Susan Barker



U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration