




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
The Under Secretary of Commerce
for Oceans and Atmosphere
Washington, D.C. 20230

FEB 6 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Administrators
Corporate Office Directors

FROM: Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.) 
Under Secretary of Commerce for
Oceans and Atmosphere

SUBJECT: 2006 Distinguished Career Award Recipients

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is pleased to announce the winners of the 2006 Distinguished Career Awards. The awards will be presented along with the Bronze Medal Awards at a ceremony to be announced at a later date.

Please join me in congratulating the following individuals for their dedicated careers at NOAA and selection for the 2006 Distinguished Career Awards.

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service

Helen Coffey

For environmental data stewardship which has helped establish NOAA as a leader in preserving and maintaining long-term archives of historical solar-geophysical data.

John Kinsfather

For exemplary, innovative, and sustained leadership in keeping NOAA's National Data Centers at the forefront of the rapidly evolving information technology environment.

W. Paul Menzel

For innovative contributions and international leadership in the field of satellite remote sensing, resulting in improved measurements, applications, and understanding of global weather and climate.

Michael Mignogno

For leadership and professional achievements in successfully planning and executing NOAA's polar satellite program and remote sensing activity.



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THE ADMINISTRATOR



NOAA Marine and Aviation Operations

Paul Fletcher

For long-term contributions to the efficiency and morale of the NOAA Fleet during the last 16 years of a 46-year career that began in the U.S. Navy and ended as Chief Yeoman on the NOAA Ship *RAINIER*.

National Marine Fisheries Service

Debra Drinnin

For sustained, superior administrative support to the Southwest Region's Santa Rosa Office during twenty-two years of service to NOAA.

Catherine Noonan

For extraordinary efforts in supporting management and staff at the James J. Howard Marine Sciences Lab, particularly during times of extreme need, throughout thirty-seven years of service to NOAA.

Joseph Powers

For invaluable scientific and management contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources worldwide.

Lucille Tsukano

For career achievements in ensuring the accuracy, integrity, and timely delivery of fishery statistics and research data essential for marine resource conservation and management.

National Ocean Service

J. Harold Hudson

For cutting-edge work in coral age dating and career-long leadership in the protection of the coral marine resources of the Florida Keys.

William Sunda

For pioneering research in the area of trace metal-biological interactions in the ocean that contribute to our understanding of climate change and biogeochemical cycling.

National Weather Service

James Laver

For leadership in developing the Climate Prediction Center into a highly-recognized source of real-time climate monitoring and climate outlook information.

Joseph Schaefer

For modernizing NWS training activities and leadership in developing the Storm Prediction Center into an all-hazards forecast center with additional products available to the public and FEMA.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Howard Friedman

For providing guidance and career mentoring to NOAA scientists, from the youngest interns to seasoned researchers, and for contributions to NOAA's work environment through dedication to EEO and mediation programs.

Carmen Nappo, Jr.

For continued improvements of scientific understanding and predictions of atmospheric transport and dispersion, especially in the nocturnal stable boundary layer, throughout thirty-seven years of service to NOAA.

CONCURRENCE/DISAGREEMENT

✓K 1/31 I concur with the nominations recommended for approval by the NIAB.

_____ I do not concur with the nominations recommended for approval by the NIAB, and I wish to disapprove the following nomination(s):