

December 16, 2019

Greetings and Happy Holidays to our SJSU-Meteorology Alumni, Friends, and Emeritus Staff!

As the new Department Chair, I wanted to connect to you all in this holiday season to share some of the major new and future developments within the Department of Meteorology and Climate Science. The University, College, and Department have and are making substantial commitment to the progress in the atmospheric, meteorological, climate sciences through support of faculty and student educational and research activities. We now offer an expanded variety of research programs for both undergraduate and graduate students (<http://www.sjsu.edu/meteorology>).

For example, Prof. Craig Clements is leading the way in fire science. As you may have seen on the local or national news, our *Fire Weather Research Lab* is a leader in the research related to fire weather and behavior. We are also engaging youth through Prof. Eugene Cordero's *Green Ninja* climate research-based educational program, which engages middle school students in the earth and climate sciences with personal inquiry and action. The *Center for Applied Atmospheric Research and Education (CAARE)* trains next generation atmospheric science students, particularly from underrepresented groups, with an emphasis on understanding atmospheric processes with modern observing instruments. CAARE students and faculty contribute to a variety of NASA research programs in earth science and remote sensing.

I am thus writing to ask for your support to continue and expand these student activities! The generosity of supporters like you enables the Department to provide superlative undergraduate and graduate educational programs, along with vital practical and research experience for the meteorologists and climate scientists of the future who will help solve the problems that affect us all.

Each year, the Department's requests for student financial assistance far exceed the amounts currently available. Please thus consider supporting one of the specific areas below with a gift of any amount to make a real difference in the lives of current and future students in the Department:

- Student Travel (conferences, workshops, etc.)
- Student Awards
- Student Mentoring and Tutoring
- Scholarships and Fellowships (Undergraduate and Graduate)
- Student Organizations

I am working to reconnect with you all. We plan to have more activities, such as reunion dinners at the annual AMS meeting and a bi-annual Department newsletter. If you have any questions or feedback, are interested in visiting the campus (perhaps present a talk illustrating how your SJSU experience effected your professional career), or just learning more about our work, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at sen.chiao@sjsu.edu and 408-924-5204.

With gratitude,

