

December 2021

Season's greetings! Allow me to introduce myself. I, Dr. Elly Walsh, am serving as interim department chair this year. I have been at the university since 2012, serving with a joint appointment between Meteorology & Climate Science and Science Education, with a specialization in supporting just, inclusive and equitable geoscience learning experiences. I am honored to have the opportunity to share with you some highlights since the last department update.

Meteorology & Climate Science has had some incredible developments in our [academics](#). For the first time ever, we are offering a second major: a BS Climate Science, adapted from our former Climate Science Concentration. We also have two new minors in our program: Wildfire Sciences and Broadcast Meteorology, bringing our total offerings to four. In addition, we have added three new classes: Extreme Weather, Wildfire Science, and Broadcast Meteorology!



Speaking of Broadcast Meteorology, the department is thrilled to welcome [Rob Mayeda](#), meteorologist at NBC, to our lecturer faculty. With his help, the department has a brand new Meteorology Broadcasting Studio with state of the art software.



Senior Joshua Gillman delivering the weather forecast on [SJSU Update News](#). He is using weather graphics from the department's new WSI TruVu Max system. Our WSI system is one of only a few in use in a college campus setting, bringing professional grade weather graphics toon-campus broadcasts. Partnering with the School of Journalism and Mass Communications to utilize chroma key capabilities on the Update News set, this technology is part of the new Broadcast Meteorology minor program at SJSU Meteorology and Climate Sciences.



Dr. Adam Kochanski

The department is also delighted to welcome two new tenure-track faculty members: Dr. Adam Kochanski and Dr. Miguel Valero, who are both members of the [Wildfire Interdisciplinary Science Center \(WIRC\)](#). WIRC is off to an astonishing start, with faculty, including Dr. Craig Clements and Dr. Patrick Brown, receiving a \$750,000 Industry University Cooperative Research Center grant from the National Science Foundation. You can frequently find our faculty

Dr. Miguel Valero



speaking on the news as experts on wildfires ,and Dr. Clements brought that expertise to the [Congressional floor](#), providing expert testimony to Congress this past June.



The Fire Weather Lab vehicles | Server cluster for the intensive computing required | SJSU Grad students deploying Doppler radar at Dixie Fire, August 2021.

Our students continue to excel. Masters candidate Andrew Klofas received one of the first graduate student awards for Research, Scholarship & Creative Activity from the university. Our forecasting team continues to participate with great success in the annual collegiate weather forecasting competition, with numerous individual city winners, and the overall end of year tournament winner for 2020, Arlick Green. Seniors Howard Tang, Tyler Maio, and Chandler Price, working with Mike Voss, have redesigned and updated our website's live [Weather Center](#). You can always keep in touch with us through the department's recently completely renovated [website](#) as well!

Finally, the [Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society at San Jose State](#) has been very active since we returned to campus, safely hosting both educational and festive events as well as recruiting new weather enthusiasts.

Thank you so much for your interest and support of the Meteorology & Climate Science Department at SJSU. The generosity of weather-lovers like yourselves allows the department to provide an unrivaled education for our students, which allows them to participate actively in first-class research. Giving online is easy! Click [here](#) and then *Choose a giving opportunity*. Search for Meteorology, and select our Development Fund. On behalf of the students, staff, and faculty of the Meteorology & Climate Science Department, I send you our gratitude and our very best wishes for your holiday season!

Warm regards,

Elly Walsh

Interim Chair, Meteorology & Climate Science/San Jose State University



Club officers Kelsey Chase, Sonia Dosanjh, and Enrique Saldivar hosted a table at the Associated Students Welcome Back Fair.

They recruited almost 20 fellow weather aficionados from outside the department that day!