



**Sixth Northern Plains Winter Storm Conference**  
**24-25 October 2011 - Saint Cloud, MN**  
**Holiday Inn**



**Monday, October 24**

7:30 - 9:00 AM Conference Registration

**SESSION 1: WINTER STORMS I**

**Session Chair: Anna Louks, Vice President, SCSU WEA**

- 8:00 AM *Conference Welcome* - Rod Kubesh, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
- 8:05 AM *Current Weather Briefing* - Bob Weisman, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
- 8:25 AM *The "Back to Back" Blizzards 30 December 2010 – January 1, 2011*  
*Part 1: The Perspective from National Weather Service, Grand Forks, ND* – Geoffrey Grochocinski, NOAA/National Weather Service, Grand Forks, ND
- 8:55 AM *The "Back to Back" Blizzards 30 December 2010 – January 1, 2011*  
*Part 2: A Private Sector Perspective* – Kevin Huyck, Meridian Environmental Technology, Inc., Grand Forks, ND
- 9:25 AM *An Investigation of a Significant Downslope Wind Event and Blizzard – in Eastern South Dakota?* – Michael Fowle, NOAA/National Weather Service, Aberdeen, SD
- 9:55 AM *Break*

**Session 1 Ends**

**SESSION 2: IMPACTS ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Session Chair: Nick Corbett, President, SCSU NWA**

- 10:15 AM *Using Traffic Accident Data to Refine Winter Weather Headline Criteria* – Justin Titus, NOAA/National Weather Service, Marquette/Negaunee, MI
- 10:45 AM *Development of a Winter Impact Index for the Twin Cities* – Shawn DeViny and Tom Hultquist, NOAA/National Weather Service, Twin Cities/Chanhassen, MN
- 11:15 AM *A Detailed Analysis of Ceiling and Visibility Characteristics for the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport During Significant Winter Storms* – James Taggart and Tom Hultquist, NOAA/National Weather Service, Twin Cities/Chanhassen, MN
- 11:45 AM *Post Winter Storm Survey: How Responses Have Changed from 2008 to 2011* – Sarah Stalker, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

**Session 2 Ends**

**12:15 PM *Conference Luncheon – Holiday Inn***

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**Keynote Speaker**

*A Cold Place and a Warming Planet: The Future of Winter Weather on the Northern Plains*  
Robert Henson, UCAR

**SESSION 3: CLIMATOLOGICAL**

**Session Chair: Sarah Stalker, SCSU EAS**

- 2:15 PM *The Winter Misery Index* – Pete Boulay, State Climatology Office, University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN
- 2:45 PM *A Winter Misery Index? Snow Cover Season in Saint Cloud, MN* – Bob Weisman, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
- 3:15 PM *Break*
- 3:45 PM *A Climatological Look at the Timing of Hazardous Weather Conditions During Winter Storms in Duluth, MN* – Rick Hluchan, NOAA/National Weather Service, Duluth, MN
- 4:15 PM *Inter-annual Variability of Snow Cover in the Sierra Nevada Mountains Using NASA Satellite Data Products and Models* – Erin Walter, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

**Session 3 Ends**

**5:15 PM** *Social Hour at Granite City Food & Brewery, followed by dinner on your own*

**Tuesday, October 25**

- 7:45 AM ***Continental Breakfast***
- 8:15 AM *Current Weather Briefing* – Bob Weisman, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

**SESSION 4: MODEL GUIDANCE**

**Session Chair: Leandro Ribeiro, SCSU EAS**

- 8:40 AM *Longitudinal Variations of MOS Errors During Topographic Cold Surge Events* – Brian Billings, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN
- 9:10 AM *Determining Model and Model Guidance Skill in the Sioux Falls CWA During the Winter of 2010-2011* – Kyle Weisser, NOAA/National Weather Service, Sioux Falls, SD

**Session 4 Ends**

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## **SESSION 5: WINTER STORMS II**

**Session Chair: Katie Klarkowski, President, SCSU SCC**

- 9:40 AM *An Examination of Cyclone Occlusion in Northwest Flow Over the North Central United States* – Phil Schumacher, NOAA/National Weather Service, Sioux Falls, SD
- 10:10 AM *Break*
- 10:30 AM *An Analysis of the Near Storm Environment of Non-typical Blizzard Events in the Central Plains* – Jacob Beitlich, NOAA/National Weather Service, Des Moines/Johnston, IA
- 11:00 AM *The Minnesota State Record Low Pressure System of 25-27 October 2010: Examining Operational Challenges from a WFO Duluth Perspective* – Kevin Kraujalis, NOAA/National Weather Service, Duluth, MN
- 11:30 AM *The 11 December 2010 “Metrodome” Blizzard or How to Ruin a Sunday* – Tom Hultquist, NOAA/National Weather Service, Twin Cities/Chanhassen, MN
- Session 5 Ends**
- 12:00 *Closing Remarks*, Rod Kubesh, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

**End of Conference**

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