Bios for Postdoc Workshop Speakers and Session Leaders

Please make sure that your information includes your name, title, organization, link to your webpage, and email address.

For the bio, please describe your position, role or work, your area of expertise, perhaps your past positions, and any awards that you would like to include.

Please send your revised text in an email to Marissa Miller at marissa@ucar.edu. She will update this information before it is posted live on the webpage.

If you were just recently asked to participate, we may not have added your contact or biographical information yet. Please send us what you would like posted.

Thank you very much for making this workshop so rich!

Val

Bios we still need:
Geoff Tyndall
Isla Simpson
Vanessa Vicente
Kristin Rasmussen
Shelley Olds

Bios Completed:

Wendy Abshire
Senior Project Manager/Meteorologist
The COMET Program
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Wendy is currently a Senior Program Manager for UCAR’s COMET Program in Boulder, CO where her duties include leading internationally recognized training efforts in the areas of satellite meteorology, hydrology, climate, water resources, winter weather, and tropical meteorology. Wendy credits much of her career success to the opportunities and connections made through both membership and volunteer involvement in both the NWA and AMS.

Amanda “Manda” Adams
Program Director of Education and Cross-Discipline Activities for the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division
National Science Foundation
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Manda Adams is the Director of Education and Cross-Discipline Activities for the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division of the National Science Foundation. She is a mesoscale modeler by background with research interests in phenomena that are strongly forced by boundary layer processes and topography. She has a particular interest in research questions that lie at the intersection of energy and atmospheric science. She is a member of the American Meteorological Society’s Energy committee.

Chris Atchinson
Executive Director
International Association for Geoscience Diversity
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Chris is the Executive Director of the International Association for Geoscience Diversity, an organization composed of the higher education community, geoscience industry representatives, disabilities education researchers, and members of the global community. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Science Education in the Department of Middle Childhood Education at the University of Cincinnati. His research focuses on establishing opportunities for access and inclusion in the earth sciences through experience-based learning opportunities for individuals with sensory and orthopedic disabilities. He received a Ph.D. in Science Education from the Ohio State University.

Linnea Avallone
Program Director of Lower Atmosphere Observing Facilities (LAOF), National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and National Mobile Doppler Radar Facility
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Linnea Avallone is currently manager of the National Science Foundation’s Lower Atmosphere Observing Facilities. She serves on several interagency groups related to research aviation and earth observation. As an atmospheric chemist, she specializes in the design, development, and deployment of instrumentation for measuring atmospheric trace gases, especially from airborne platforms. Linnea has taught courses on atmospheric chemistry, instrumentation, the relationship between science and public policy, and atmospheric science topics for non-science majors. She is also committed to inclusivity in science and education, and has been involved with several initiatives to foster diversity among students and faculty, and within the atmospheric sciences community.

Bec Batchelor
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Dr Rebecca (Bec) Batchelor is an atmospheric scientist with a specialty in measuring atmospheric trace gases using ground based spectroscopy. She completed her PhD at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, in conjunction with the National Institute of Water and Atmosphere, in 2005, after spending 10 months at Scott Base in Antarctica making measurements by moonlight during the polar winter. Following completion of her doctoral research she spent a further year in Antarctica, this time at the US McMurdo station, before switching poles to make atmospheric composition measurements in the high Canadian Arctic as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Toronto. She moved to Boulder late in 2009 to work in the Optical Techniques group of the Atmospheric Chemistry Division of NCAR, where she worked with measurements from Greenland and Hawaii, before joining the student opportunities group in the UCAR Center for Science Education in 2012. She brings writing and presentation experience gained through authoring, co-authoring and reviewing many papers, posters, public interest articles and presentations over the
last ten years. In addition to working part time for SOARS, she loves being home with her two little ones.

Brian Bevirt  
Writer/Editor III, Computational Information Systems Laboratory  
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Brian Bevirt provides project management, writing, editing, photography, outreach, and mentoring for the Computational Information Systems Laboratory. His professional career in technical communication spans more than four decades producing a broad spectrum of information products for online and print media. In his current position, Brian produces annual reports, planning documents, news features, research journal articles, assessment reports, funding proposals, photo essays, research summaries, and workflows to increase collaboration efficiency. He now has two decades of experience as a writing mentor for early-career scientists.

Scott Briggs  
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Scott Briggs has been with NCAR since 2002 and supports the Advanced Study Program. He is the lead organizer of the Postdoctoral Fellowship committee and supports the Software Engineering Assembly, Early Career Scientist Assembly, and the ASP Summer Colloquium. He currently sits as a member of the NCAR Web Advisory Group.

Lawrence Buja  
Director of the Climate Science and Applications Program (CSAP)  
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Lawrence Buja is the Director of the Climate Science and Applications Program (CSAP) at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder Colorado. CSAP addresses societal vulnerability, impacts and adaptation to climate change through the use of scenarios of projected climate change, development of tools and methods for analyzing current and future vulnerability, and integrated analyses of climate impacts and adaptation at local, regional and global scales. Focus areas are:  
- Governance of inter-linked natural and managed resource systems.  
- The role of urban areas in driving emissions of climate change  
- Weather, climate and human health,  
- GIS-based science data integration & knowledge systems.  
- Regional Climate Science for Adaptation  
- Behaviors, Decisions and Risk

Carolyn Brinkworth  
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Carolyn Brinkworth is the NCAR Director of Diversity, Education and Outreach where she advocates for and leads NCAR’s diversity, education and outreach strategic planning and operational program implementation. Additionally, she extends the NCAR diversity, education and outreach activities through the development of new collaborative partnerships.
and sustainable externally funded programs. Before this, she worked with NASA, Caltech, and the American Astronomical Society where she designed and led education programs, designed studies to assess campus climate for minorities, and wrote proposals and managed grants for education and outreach programs. She was honored with the NASA Equal Employment Opportunity Medal in 2013. Carolyn received her PhD in Astrophysics from the University of Southampton and is currently finishing her Masters in Education from Claremont Graduate University with a focus on minority access to STEM education.

Stephanie Chasteen
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Chris Davis
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Chris’s work has concentrated on mesoscale and synoptic-scale phenomena such as extratropical cyclones, tropical cyclones, mesoscale convective systems and cold surges and terrain-induced flows. In much of his work, Davis has consistently bridged theoretical and applied research through a combination of numerical simulation and observational analysis.

or

If it is mesoscale and it rotates, I am interested in it. This includes hurricanes, but also mesoscale convective systems with rotation. I am especially intrigued by the interplay between high frequency convective motions and low frequency rotational structures. I also am interested in how models simulate these behaviors. Moreover, I am pursuing new ways to evaluate mesoscale models for a variety of problems.

Louisa Emmons
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Louisa Emmons is a member of the Global Tropospheric Modeling and ACRESP groups of the Atmospheric Chemistry Division. Her research interests focus on the integration of measurements with models to investigate the impact of sources and their chemical evolution on tropospheric composition. This work includes the evaluation, and improvement, of models with observations, and the interpretation of observations with model results. Louisa has played a key role in the development of the NCAR community model MOZART (Model of OZone and Related Chemical Tracers).

Paula Fisher
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Paula manages the NCAR postdoctoral Advanced Study Program which provides an opportunity for recent-Ph.D. scientists to continue to pursue their research interests in atmospheric and related science.
Becky Flowers
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Becky Flowers is an Associate Professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder’s Department of Geological Sciences and specializes in tectonics and geochronology, and directs a (U-Th)/He geochronology lab. She is the recipient of a NSF CAREER Award and is a 2015-16 Mineralogical Society of America Distinguished Lecturer. Prior to joining CU-Boulder she was a Postdoc at the California Institute of Technology in the Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences. She has a Ph.D in Geology and Geochemistry from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, A M.Sc. from the University of Utah in Geology and Geophysics, and a B.S. in Geology from the College of William & Mary. Becky also is mom to 6 year old twins.

Dimitri Dounas-Frazer
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Dimitri Dounas-Frazer is a Research Associate in the Physics Education Research group at University of Colorado Boulder. He earned his PhD from the University of California Berkeley in 2012, where he performed high-precision measurements of atomic parity violation in ytterbium while also playing a leadership role in the diversity-oriented Berkeley Compass Project. His research focuses on studying and improving upper-division physics lab courses and increasing diversity in the sciences by supporting the persistence of students from underrepresented groups.

Peter Gent
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Peter Gent is a Senior Scientist in the Oceanography Section of the Climate and Global Dynamics Division. His research is focused on theoretical and numerical models of ocean circulation in both tropical and global domains. He is best known for the Gent and McWilliams eddy scheme, now used in virtually all ocean components of climate models and in a very large percentage of ocean models. He has been heavily involved, since its inception in 1996, in the Community Climate System Model, a cooperative project between NCAR, Universities and National Laboratories. Most recently, he was Chairman of the CCSM Science Steering Committee for over four years from 2005-2009.

Rebecca Haacker
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Rebecca Haacker is the Director of NCAR’s Advanced Study Program and UCAR’s SOARS Center for Higher Education, which in addition to the SOARS program includes several student visitor and faculty professional development projects. Rebecca is dedicated to providing students and early career scientists with relevant skills and training to have successful careers in the geosciences. She serves on several national boards including the AMS Board for Private Sector Meteorologists, with the goal of opening new pathways for her students. Prior to joining UCAR, Rebecca taught geography at the college and graduate level, and even earlier in her career she was the director of a national park in Central America. In addition to her graduate degree in geography and anthropology
from the University of Hamburg, Germany, Rebecca is a certified mediator and has extensive training in employment law, diversity, student mentoring, and counseling.

**Wieqing Han**
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Wieqing Han is an Associate Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at CU-Boulder. She specializes in tropical ocean circulation, dynamics, air-sea interaction, climate variability and change.

**Marika Holland**
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Marika Holland is a senior scientist in NCAR’s Climate and Global Dynamics Laboratory. Her research interests are related to the role of sea ice and polar regions in the climate system, including ice/ocean/atmosphere feedback mechanisms, high latitude climate variability, and abrupt climate change.

**David Hosansky**
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David Hosansky is the manager of media relations for the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) where he has placed stories about UCAR in The New York Times, ABC News, National Public Radio, USA Today, the Associated Press, and virtually every other major U.S. print, broadcast, and online outlet. He has a M.A. in Journalism from Northwestern University.

**Kris Karnauskas**
Principal Investigator, Cooperative Institute for Research in the Environmental Sciences (CIRES)/Assistant Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (ATOC)  
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Kris Karnauskas is a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Environmental Sciences (CIRES) and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (ATOC) at the University of Colorado Boulder. Prior to joining the CU-Boulder faculty, Kris spent six years on the faculty of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) and the MIT-WHOI Joint Program in Oceanography (also teaching at Boston College) followed by a sabbatical at the Institut Pierre Simon Laplace (IPSL) in Paris, France. Kris currently serves as Editor of the Journal of Geophysical Research-Oceans, will join the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) of U.S. CLIVAR in 2016. He is a proud alum of the 2nd NCAR Undergraduate Leadership Workshop.

**Kristin Larson**
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Kristin Larson Directs the Global Weather Corporation, an organization that is transforming how weather forecasts are created, delivered, and used. [Description of her role?] She has held multiple prior roles in the forecasting enterprise world and has a BSE in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science from the University of Washington.

Sandra Laursen
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Sandra Laursen is a senior research associate and co-director of Ethnography & Evaluation Research (E&ER) where she leads research and evaluation studies focusing on education and career paths in STEM fields. Her research interests include the underrepresentation of women and people of color in the sciences and organizational change in higher education. She is also interested in inquiry-based teaching and learning, and the challenges of improving STEM education in and out of the classroom and across organizations. She earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley. Previously, Laursen taught chemistry at Kalamazoo College in Michigan and conducted atmospheric science research at the NOAA laboratories in Boulder. She is a faculty associate at CU's Center for the American West.

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Scott is a Program Manager and Research Scientist in Applied Meteorology at Vaisala, where he global cross-functional teams to identify, define, and address market opportunities that lead to new products or improvements to existing offerings. He is the lead scientist in charge of developing and implementing Vaisala’s numerical weather prediction capabilities. In addition, he is a member of Vaisala’s Applied Meteorology team, providing meteorological expertise on topics including boundary layer processes, the wind energy industry, and ceilometer research.. He has a Ph. D. and M.S. in Atmospheric Science from the University of Alabama, Huntsville.

Scott McIntosh
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Scott McIntosh is the Director of NCAR’s High Altitude Observatory. His primary field of research lies in the understanding of how magnetism, mass, and energy are transported from the Sun’s convective interior to shape and fill the solar system in which we live. Scott began his career at
NCAR as a HAO post-doctoral fellow in NCAR’s Advanced Study Program in 1999. Scott has a Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of Glasgow.

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Marissa Miller supports the NCAR Diversity, Education and Outreach team where she coordinates the Diversity Brown Bag Series as well as the UNEION Training Cohort. Before joining NCAR, she was a Title I teacher through Teach for America in post-Katrina Louisiana and served as a graduate research assistant for the CU-Dialogues Program. She received her M.A. in Education Policy from CU-Boulder with a concentration in community-based change and is currently pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Diversity, Social Justice and Inclusion from the University of Colorado Matrix Center.

Helen Moshak
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Helen Moshak is the Director of Operations for the National Center for Atmospheric Research. She has worked extensively in management in the non-profit, government and private sectors and has a Juris Doctorate from the University of Colorado.

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Steven Pollock
2013 US Professor of the Year, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching
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Steven Pollock was named the named the 2013 U.S. Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. He studies student learning in large scale physics classes, and the constraints and opportunities involved in replicating "proven"
curricular practices, as well as issues of gender gaps in introductory physics. He heads the K-12 Research Team for an NSF-funded research project to study the efficacy of the Learning Assistant program for preparing highly qualified teachers (the Learning Assistant model for Teacher Education in Science and Technology (LATEST) Research project) and is engaged in studies of how educational models can be extended to the upper division, including research and development of materials, curriculum, and assessment tools in Electricity and Magnetism and Quantum Mechanics.

Cora Randall
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Cora Randall is the Chair of the Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a faculty member in the CU Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics. She earned her PhD in Chemistry from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and joined the University of Colorado in 1989 to work on the Hubble Space Telescope. She investigates processes related to stratospheric ozone depletion, polar mesospheric clouds, and atmospheric coupling through solar and magnetospheric energetic particle precipitation. She is a current or prior member of numerous international satellite science teams, and is principal investigator on the Cloud Imaging and Particle Size (CIPS) experiment on the NASA Aeronomy of Ice in the Mesosphere (AIM) satellite mission. She has published more than 100 papers in refereed scientific journals.

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Rich Rotunno
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Rich Rotunno is a Senior Scientist in the Mesoscale and Microscale Meteorology Laboratory whose recent scientific activities have focused on tropical cyclones, orographic precipitation and atmospheric predictability. Using both theory and numerical modeling, his work is directed at the understanding needed to make progress in the forecasting of mesoscale weather phenomena. Rich is a two-time recipient of the American Meteorological Society's Banner I. Miller Award (1991 with K. Emanuel and 2010 with G. Bryan) and in 2004 he was the recipient of the American Meteorological Society's Jule G. Charney Award.

Melanie Russ
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Bio: Melanie Russ is a Project Coordinator in the Joint Office for Science Support at UCAR where she conducts support to facilitate activities in the earth sciences.
Isla Simpson
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Val Sloan
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Val Sloan joined the SOARS Center for Higher Education at UCAR in 2014 where she directs the Network of REU PIs in the Geosciences, which provides faculty development in managing research internship programs for undergraduates. She is also involved in designing and running NCAR internships and career development workshops for undergraduates, high school students, and postdocs. She has a Ph.D in Geology from CU-Boulder and Masters in Earth Sciences from the University of Alberta where she conducted research on glacial geology in the Pakistan Himalaya, the Canadian High Arctic, and the Yukon Territory. Before coming to UCAR, Val directed the RESESS Internship at UNAVCO for three years, taught at CU Boulder and the University of Denver, and was a research scientist at the Geological Survey of Canada.

Michael Thompson
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Michael Thompson is the UCAR Interim President and the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer of NCAR, and an NCAR Senior Scientist. From 2010 to 2014 he was Director of the High Altitude Observatory and an Associate Director of NCAR. Prior to joining NCAR, Michael was Head of the School of Mathematics and Statistics in the University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, and was formerly a Professor of Physics at Imperial College London. Michael's scientific research activity is principally in helioseismology, asteroseismology, solar physics, and inverse problems. He has worked extensively over more than 25 years in developing and applying inverse techniques in helioseismology, and in particular measuring the stratification, rotation, and large-scale flows in the solar interior.

Leah Colvin Washura
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Leah Colvin Wanshura is the Director of the newly established Office of Postdoctoral Affairs at CU-Boulder where she leads programs and services for postdoctoral scholars university-wide. Leah received her Ph.D. from Mayo Graduate School and completed her postdoctoral training at the University of Minnesota, where she also served as the President of the Postdoctoral Association.

Christine Wiedinmyer
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Christine Wiedinmyer is a Scientist III in NCAR's ACOM lab where she researches how the emissions of trace gases and particles from the terrestrial biosphere impact atmospheric composition, air quality, and climate. She also investigates the effects of global change on these processes, such as how land cover and land use change alter the fluxes of trace gases to the atmosphere. As a co-founder of the Earth Science Women's Network, a peer-mentoring network with more than 2000 members, she builds community, provides informal mentoring and support, and facilitates professional collaborations for women working in the Earth sciences.

Bethany Wilcox
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Michael Steven Williams
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Michael Steven Williams is on faculty in the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY). Primarily a quantitative researcher, his interests focus on equity and diversity, the social psychological development of students, and institutional diversity in American postsecondary education. He earned his master's degree in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania, and his Ph.D. in Higher Education and Student Affairs from The Ohio State University (OSU).