

## THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The 69<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern Snow Conference was held at the Frost Valley YMCA conference facility, near Clareville, New York, in the beautiful Catskill Mountains. The area also serves as one of the major water supplies for the 9 million people of the City of New York. Thus, it was fitting that a portion of the technical program of this year's meeting dealt with the characteristics of the New York City water supply and the role of snow in affecting the quantity and quality of water delivered to the system's reservoirs.

The conference had participants from the United States and Canada, as well as from Europe. We had a very successful technical program, consisting of 27 oral presentations and 23 poster presentations. As always, one of the highlights of the conference was the large number of excellent student presentations. The following students received awards that were presented at the annual banquet:

- The Don Wiesnet award for the ESC Student Paper competition was given to Elizabeth Burakowski (University of New Hampshire) for her paper "Putting the Capital 'A' in CoCoRAHS: An experimental program to measure albedo using the Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow (CoCoRAHS) Network."
- The Robert Miller Award for Best Poster Presentation was given to Jonathan Sugg (Appalachian State University) for his paper "Satellite and surface perspectives of snow extent in the southern Appalachian Mountains."
- The Campbell Scientific Canada Award for the paper demonstrating innovative technical expertise in data collection was given to Andrew Kasurak (University of Waterloo) for his paper "A simple in-situ sensor for snow grain size."

The high quality of these and the other student presentations augurs well for the continued success of the ESC. Thanks to the judges of these awards for their hard work in evaluating a large number of excellent submissions in arriving at their decisions. I also take this opportunity to thank the following for making the 69<sup>th</sup> ESC such a great success:

- Glen Horton (NY Department of Environmental Protection) and Allan Frei (City University of New York) of the local arrangements committee for their hard work in organizing a great meeting.
- The Frost Valley staff for making our stay there such an enjoyable one.
- Robert Hellström (Bridgewater State University) for setting up and running a highly interesting and engaging technical program.
- The ESC secretary-treasurers Miles Ecclestone and Derrill Cowing for their efficient handling of conference registration and the ESC finances and Mary Jean Cowing for taking the minutes of the pre- and post-conference meetings of the ESC Executive.
- The ESC's webmaster, Andrew Klein (Texas A&M).
- The ESC's sponsors: Campbell Scientific, Geonor, Bridgewater State University, and the US Army Engineer Research and Development Center–Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (ERDC-CRREL).
- The editors of the ESC Proceedings (Robert Hellström, Alex Langlois, Susan Frankenstein, Del Levia) and the editor of ESC Special Issue of Hydrological Processes (Richard Kelly).
- Ben Snyder, Director of Natural Resources and Environmental Science at Frost Valley, who conducted the field trip to the long-term acid and mercury deposition site and the US Geological Survey's stream gage on Biscuit Brook, which flows through the Frost Valley facility.
- The 2011–2012 ESC Executive for their support and for their dedication to the ESC, particularly Past-President Mauri Pelto.

At the annual ESC banquet, I had the pleasure of announcing that Peter Adams (professor emeritus, Trent University) was made a lifetime member of the ESC in recognition of his long-standing scientific and administrative contributions to the ESC and particularly his outstanding efforts in fostering student research in snow and ice and their participation in the ESC. ESC Past-President Mauri Pelto presented the coveted Sno-Foo Award to Don Pierson of the New York Department of Environmental Protection (a former graduate student of Peter Adams) for his outstanding efforts in being included in the list of authors on every single paper at the conference that was related to the New York City water suppl, and for his creativity in avoiding completion of a comprehensive examination as part of his PhD studies (namely, doing his PhD in Sweden rather than North America). The highlight of the banquet was the keynote

talk by David Robinson of Rutgers University and the New Jersey State Climatologist, “Hemispheric to regional dimensions of snow covered extent.” The ESC is very grateful to David for a very entertaining and informative presentation.

On a sadder note, I also took an opportunity at the banquet to dedicate the 69<sup>th</sup> ESC to Austin Hogan, whose extensive contributions to the ESC span his initial attendance in at the ESC 1966, when he was at the State University of New York at Albany, through his research while at ERDC-CRREL and into his retirement from that agency. Austin was ill at the time of the meeting, and sadly passed away on January 7, 2013. All of us in the ESC who knew Austin were impressed by the outstanding quality of his research related to snow and ice, by his eagerness to engage in discussions (scientific or otherwise), and by his commitment to the ESC. As someone pointed out to me, Austin made it a habit of always offering to give a presentation in the last session of the technical program (preferably the last presentation). My hope is that the precedent Austin set for us becomes an ESC tradition, such that there will be a fierce competition to give the last presentation on the last day of the conference. Perhaps we can begin the tradition at the 70<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, to be held at the Waterloo Summit Centre, Huntsville, Ontario, in 2013. I look forward to seeing you there.

Jim Buttle