

**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWS RELEASE**



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**VERMONT ACADEMY OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING PRESIDENT HONORED
BY AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY**

Dr. Alan K. Betts, president of the Vermont Academy of Science & Engineering and a climate scientist from Atmospheric Research in Pittsford Vermont, has won the 2007 Jule G. Charney Award by American Meteorological Society, the nation's leading professional society for those in the atmospheric and related sciences.

The award “for his pioneering and sustained contributions to understanding the atmospheric boundary layer, cumulus convection, and land-surface-atmosphere interactions,” was presented on January 17 at the Society's 87th Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

The Charney Award is given to individuals in recognition of highly significant research or development achievement in the atmospheric or hydrologic sciences. The award was established in 1969 during the 50th anniversary of the Society and was originally called the “Second Half-Century Award.” In 1982, it was renamed in honor of Jule Charney, who played a major role in establishing the theoretical framework on which numerical weather prediction is based.

Dr. Betts research has covered many areas that are important to understanding weather and climate; ranging from the climate in the tropics, the moist thermodynamics of clouds in the atmosphere, modeling atmospheric convection in global and regional models, and analyzing data from field experiments over grassland and forests from the Amazon to the northern boreal forests of Canada. He has played an important role in evaluating and developing the physics of the global forecast model at the European Weather Centre, which is used operationally for both 2-week and seasonal forecasts, and is widely considered to be our best global analysis and forecast system.

Dr. Betts earned his bachelor's and honorary master's degree in natural sciences from Peterhouse, Cambridge, England, and his Ph. D. in meteorology from Imperial College, London. He is a fellow of the AMS, the American Geophysical Union, the Royal Meteorological Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Founded in 1919, the AMS has a membership of more than 11,000 professionals, professors, students, and weather enthusiasts. AMS publishes nine atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic journals, sponsors multiple conferences annually, and directs numerous education and outreach programs and services. For more information see www.ametsoc.org

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