

SPECIAL EDITION

Dr. Dave Williams Announces Christy Appointment

January 24, 2008

I am pleased to announce that Dr. John R. Christy, Director of the Earth System Science Center and Professor of Atmospheric Science, has been appointed to the position of Associate Vice President for Research. The appointment begins immediately. In August Dr. Christy will become the Interim Vice President for Research while a national search is conducted starting in the fall for a permanent Vice President for Research.

Dr. Christy has had a long and distinguished career at UAHuntsville in both research and teaching, and he has managed one of our largest and most successful research centers. He earned his doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Illinois and his bachelor's degree from California State University at Fresno.

Dr. Christy secured numerous research awards over the years and he serves as the Alabama State Climatologist. He has an extraordinary record of service to numerous US Senate and House Committees and other national committees and organizations on the subject of global climate variability and climate change.

As Interim Vice President, Dr. Christy will succeed Dr. Ron Greenwood, current Vice President for Research. Last fall, Dr. Greenwood announced his intention to resign from the vice presidency in August 2008. At that time, Dr. Greenwood will join the faculty of the College of Business Administration as Professor in the Department of Management and Marketing and Executive in Residence.

I am looking forward to having Dr. Christy join my management team as we address strategic research issues to enhance and insure UAHuntsville's future. Dr. Christy has an outstanding record of success in both teaching and research, and I am confident that he will provide valuable assistance as Associate Vice President for Research and later as Interim Vice President for Research.

David B. Williams, Ph.D., Sc.D.
President

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National Weather Service Office at UAH Celebrates 5 Years

It took dedication and hard work on the part of many individuals, but five years ago this month the National Weather Service opened a Forecast Office in Huntsville on the campus of The University of Alabama in Huntsville.

U. S. Representative Bud Cramer led the campaign to open a local forecasting office in Huntsville.

“After listening to local emergency managers and responders, local climate experts and local media, we realized the need for a local weather forecasting office in our area,” Cramer said in a news release. Cramer recognized the necessity of a local forecasting office in the Tennessee Valley because of the region’s potential for severe weather.

Locating the NWS office on the UAHuntsville campus has provided additional benefits. The weather service staff is located in the National Space Science and Technology Center on the campus. A large number of NASA and UAHuntsville climate experts and researchers are co-located with the weather service staff, providing unique opportunities for collaboration and research.

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