

OAR Scientists Bring Home Nobel Prize for Climate Change Leadership

Recognized “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change,” more than 120 NOAA scientists contributed to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report which shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize.

Impact
Scientific consensus about climate change and its causes

Of the NOAA Nobel group, just under half were OAR researchers. OAR contributions for this international effort, included leadership, model simulations, analysis, authorship and editorial review, all highlighting the preeminent science conducted by our researchers. Dr. Susan Solomon, a senior scientist of OAR’s Earth System Research Laboratory (ESRL), co-chaired Working Group 1, the Physical Science Basis. OAR scientists from OAR laboratories, programs, and joint and cooperative institutes served as contributors and government reviewers of the final report -- based upon published peer-reviewed literature. For this report, more than 5,000 scientific publications were referenced.

The 2007 IPCC Fourth Assessment Report was more insistent than earlier reports that there has been “dangerous anthropogenic [man-made] interference with the climate system.”

In 1988, the United Nations established the IPCC “to provide the decision-makers and others interested in climate change with an objective source of information about climate change.” The IPCC Assessments, internationally recognized as the premier source about climate change, are used by scientists and policy makers worldwide to describe the science behind climate change and to anticipate future trends. The IPCC relies on world-class scientists from 113 governments to scour and evaluate the body of scientific literature on climate science. The latest assessment received over 30,000 comments by 650 scientists, each painstakingly taken into account in the final synthesis.

The names of all NOAA Nobel recipients were recorded in the 2008 Congressional Record at the request of Senator Olympia Snow (R-Maine).



“...warming of the climate system is unequivocal...”



“A unanimous, definitive world statement”

House Science and Technology Committee Chairman Bart Gordon (D-Tenn), Washington Post, February 3, 2007

Learn More:

www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/assessments-reports.htm

Images, top to bottom: President George W. Bush meets in the Oval Office with the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize recipients including Dr. Susan Solomon, OAR; IPCC Fourth Assessment Report; Nobel Medal.