

Early Career Outreach for the New U.S. Regional Hydroclimate Project



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Objectives

To facilitate early career researcher (ECR) contributions to the RHP planning process at an early stage

To engage ECRs openly from all backgrounds (inclusivity)

To stimulate discussions at the RHP planning workshop

To provide ECRs with an opportunity to receive constructive feedback from senior researchers, including agency representatives

To give recognition to extraordinary ECR applicants via GEWEX and/or WCRP websites

To provide a pilot test case for future, larger-scale ECR outreach activities (e.g., 2018 GEWEX Conference)

Approach

To host an ECR video presentation competition

U.S. RHP EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER VIDEO COMPETITION



Regional Hydroclimate Projects (RHPs) are programs that improve the understanding and prediction of a region's weather, climate and hydrology. Within the Global Energy and Water Cycle Exchanges (GEWEX) project of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the GEWEX Hydroclimatology Panel (GHP) supports, plans, and helps to implement these regional studies. The first RHP, established in the Mississippi River Basin, created a legacy of research and information sharing for North America and set a precedent for RHPs worldwide.

Currently, GHP is promoting the establishment of a new concerted regional activity, preferably in the form of an RHP, for the Western U.S. and Canada to address pressing climate-related water challenges. This new RHP is expected to entail targeted research thrusts in the areas of: high-resolution regional weather, hydrology, and ecohydrology model applications and development, downscaling of remote sensing and climate model outputs, mountain meteorology and hydrology, water resources management, new observations and data, the water-energy-people nexus, socio-economic-environmental impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and more. Proposed geographic focal areas for the RHP include the U.S. Central Valley and U.S./Canada Great Plains food basket regions, which are hydroclimatically dependent on the adjacent Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains. A diverse team of physical and social scientists are being sought to join this effort.

WCRP, through coordination by GEWEX, is sponsoring a video presentation competition for Early Career Researchers (ECR) to invigorate ECR involvement and dialogue with the U.S. RHP Planning Committee from the outset of what could be a 5-10 year effort. GEWEX wants to know:

Are you an Early Career Researcher (ECR)?

Does your research fall under the umbrella of the Western U.S. and Canada RHP's scope?

Do you have new ideas or data that the U.S. RHP Planning Committee should know about?

If so, then advocate for your research to be included in the U.S. RHP, now!

How?

Submit a 15-minute or shorter recorded presentation to the U.S. RHP ECR video competition.

Why?

Visibility. Consider this a networking opportunity with an interdisciplinary group of senior U.S. researchers, including U.S. agency program managers, that could pay off in the future. Make a good impression! The five winning presentations will be featured on the GEWEX and WCRP websites (with author permission).

Impact. A select number of participants will be invited to serve on an ECR advisory panel for the U.S. RHP initiative.

Professional growth. All applicants will receive constructive feedback on their presentation from the RHP expert review panel.

Prizes. Five winners will each receive a monetary award of 500 USD and will be recognized in a future issue of GEWEX News.

An effective presentation could take one of many forms. For the purpose of this competition, GEWEX is recommending the following organizational outline, comprising all key evaluation elements:

- Self-introduction (1 min)
- Background, study area, and problem statement in the form of a science question (2 min)
- Description of the proposed research approach including potential collaboration with the RHP, and where applicable, contribution to the 7 GEWEX Science Imperatives (data sets, analysis, processes, modeling, applications, and technology transfer: <http://www.gewex.org/about/science/seven-gewex-imperatives/>) (6 min)
- Discussion of perceived obstacles to successful research implementation (3 min)
- Statement of scientific merit and anticipated social-economic-environmental benefits (3 min)

Presentation subject areas include, but are not limited to:

- High resolution (<1 km) modeling in complex terrain
- Mountain hydrology
- Water resources engineering and agriculture
- Water-energy-people nexus
- Socio-economic-environmental impacts
- New observational needs

Submissions should be uploaded to the Dropbox folder "Videos for the U.S. RHP Early Career Researcher Competition" at <https://www.dropbox.com/request/qC6LTVOpTYGbjr47wqZv> by **11:59 PM EDT on April 27, 2016**. Use the following filename format for your video: "lastname_USRH-PECR". After uploading your video, send an email to gewex@gewex.org with "US RHP ECR Video Submission" in the subject line and provide your name, organization, and mailing address in the email body. Note: Gmail account holders may include the presentation in their email as a Drive attachment instead of submitting it through Drop-

box. Winners will be selected prior to the Water Availability Grand Challenge for North America Workshop, held May 3-5, 2016. Winners will be announced at the workshop and notified accordingly by email.

Eligibility and Rules

Eligibility

To enter the contest and be eligible for a prize, an applicant must qualify as an Early Career Researcher. Early Career Researchers are defined as current students or researchers who have received their highest degree within the past five years. Winners must provide proof that they are either currently enrolled students or have graduated within the past five years before they can receive their prize. Acceptable forms of proof should come from the institution where you are currently enrolled or from which you graduated. For students, you must provide proof of enrollment that includes your name, degree program, and confirmation of your status as an enrolled student. This can come from the institution where you are studying or it can come from a supervising professor. For postgraduates, you must provide confirmation from your institution or from a supervising professor that you received a degree within the past five years. The confirmation should include your name, degree received, name of the institution granting the degree, and the month and year you graduated.

Winners should also be willing to serve on an ECR panel for the U.S. RHP.

Timeline

The deadline for the contest is 11:59 PM EDT on April 27, 2016.

Length, Content, and File Size

The total elapsed presentation time should not exceed 15 minutes, and content should center on climate-related water challenges for the Western U.S. and Canada. All presenters should strive to be succinct and easy to understand.

MP4 is the preferred video format; however, .avi, .wmv, and .mpeg4 formats are also acceptable. The file size should in no case exceed 35 MB. We recommend a resolution of 1280 x 720 (720p).

Videos must be the original creation of the person submitting them, and they must not violate the rights of another person, including copyrights. You must have permission to use any materials in your video, such as photos or music, that you do not own.

Judgment and Criteria

Entries will be judged on their potential contribution to the new U.S. RHP, as well as on their originality and relevance to RHP objectives. For more information on the U.S. RHP effort, please refer to the website on the Water Availability Grand Challenge for North America Workshop (<http://www.gewex-events.org/water-availability-grand-challenge-for-north-america/>).

Judges will be drawn from the workshop's organizing committee and WCRP and will rely on the above criteria to select the winners. Judges have the right to withhold prizes if they feel that none of the video entries are suitable or fit the criteria.

Prizes

Five winners will receive a monetary prize of 500 USD. These winners will join an Early Career Researcher Panel for the U.S. RHP, the scope of which will be defined at the Water Availability Grand Challenge for North America Workshop.

Winners and their videos will be featured on the

GEWEX website (www.gewex.org), the WCRP website (<http://www.wcrp-climate.org/>), and GEWEX's YouTube channel, and may be featured on an affiliate GEWEX website, www.gewexevents.org. Winners give permission for their videos to be featured by entering the contest, unless expressly prohibited by the winner. Winners will also be featured in an upcoming edition of GEWEX News, the quarterly mailed newsletter of the GEWEX community.

Submitting Your Entry

Submissions should be uploaded to the Dropbox folder "Videos for the U.S. RHP Early Career Researcher Competition" at <https://www.dropbox.com/request/qC6LTVOpTYGbjr47wqZv> by **11:59 PM EDT on April 27, 2016**. Use the following filename format for your video: "lastname_USRH-PECR". After uploading your video, send an email to gewex@gewex.org with "US RHP ECR Video Submission" in the subject line and provide your name, organization, and mailing address in the email body. Note: Gmail account holders may include the presentation in their email as a Drive attachment instead of submitting it through Dropbox.

By submitting your video, you agree that your participation in the contest is subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. This Agreement will be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the law of the State of Virginia.

QUESTIONS? SEND AN EMAIL TO GEWEX@GEWEX.ORG



http://www.gewexevents.org/wp-content/uploads/USRHP_Video_Competition.pdf

Approach

We asked for a 15min or shorter presentation:

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Approach

6 Judges: John Pomeroy, Matt Rodell, Jin Huang, Peter Van Oevelen, Lee Boram, and Craig Ferguson

Judging criteria:

- Relevance of proposed research to RHP scope and responsiveness to overarching GEWEX Science Imperatives (data sets, analysis, processes, modeling, applications, technology transfer, and capacity building). **(25%)**
- Intellectual merit of proposed research/potential to advance knowledge **(30%)**
- Potential societal impact of proposed research **(30%)**
- Presentation Quality **(15%)**

Outcome

Only (1) submission!

-Ted Letcher (Ph.D. student, Atmospheric Sciences, University at Albany)

Poor response may be explained by one or a combination of the following factors:

- Timing- competition deadline at the end of the spring semester, a busy period for students
- Limited advance notice- competition flyers were not distributed until March 28 (1-month lead)
- Limited workshop participation- less than 60 workshop participants and geographically limited to U.S./Canada
- No prior year submissions for applicants to follow