College of A&GS

Student Recognition & Donor Reception

April 10th, 2024
National Weather Center Atrium
5:30pm

College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
The University of Oklahoma
Student Award
Table of Contents

Click on the following text to quickly navigate through the program!

Advanced Radar Research Center

College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences

Department of Geography & Environmental Sustainability

Oklahoma Climatological Survey

School of Aviation

School of Meteorology

South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center

Click on the page number in the lower right corner, to return to this page.
College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences

A&GS Outstanding Senior
John W. Nichols Trailblazer Scholarship

Isaac Medina
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

A&GS Outstanding Senior
First Alternate

Gwyneth Glanton
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

A&GS Outstanding Senior
Second Alternate

Julia Manipella
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability & Creative Media Production

A&GS Outstanding Junior
Trailblazer Scholarship

Kyle Eskew
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
The John T. Snow Study Abroad Scholarship was established in 2010 to honor John T. Snow’s 16 years of service, from 1994-2010, as Dean of the College of Geosciences and subsequently the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences at the University of Oklahoma, and also in recognition of his efforts at promoting international experiences for undergraduate students. This year’s John T. Snow Scholarship will be announced in May 2024.
Clyde F. Bollinger was the first geography faculty member to be hired at OU, in 1920. The Clyde F. Bollinger Award is presented to a graduating senior who has shown an enthusiasm for the discipline and has exhibited exceptional involvement with the department. This year’s recipients are:

Jillian Olson  
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability

Haylee Kraker  
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability

The John Michael Caldwell Memorial Teaching Award was established in memory of Dr. John Caldwell, who earned his Ph.D. in Geography from OU in 1982. Dr. Caldwell was a professor of geography at Louisiana Tech University and an outstanding college teacher. The award goes to graduate students who have demonstrated excellence in college teaching. This year’s recipient is:

Gloria Nakyagaba  
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography & Environmental Sustainability
The Charles Standley Memorial Award is presented to a graduate student for an outstanding publication. This year we are pleased to award the Charles Standley Memorial to:

**Afshin Shayeghi Moghanlou**  
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography & Environmental Sustainability

**Belem Carrasco-Galvan**  
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography & Environmental Sustainability

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The Pugh Pioneer Family Scholarship was established by Dr. Ed Pugh and his wife Shirley to recognize a geography undergraduate major with an outstanding academic record. Ed Pugh received his Ph.D. in geography at OU in 1996 and was a very strong supporter of geographic education in Oklahoma. This year’s recipient is:

**Suraya Yamada-Sapién**  
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability + MCRP

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The Oklahoma Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America established a scholarship in 2017. This year, the fourth annual SWANA scholarship is presented to:

**Zoe Mertz**  
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

**Estafania Velazquez**  
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability
The Vernon & Sandra Nutter Award is presented to a student for superior academic performance. Vernon Nutter was a 1970 Geography graduate who, upon his passing, wanted to assist outstanding students in the department. This year’s recipients are:

Xiaolin Li
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability

Lucy Brodt
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

Abigail Williams
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

Chinedu Nsude
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography & Environmental Sustainability

Abigail Cervenka
Master of Science in Geography & Environmental Sustainability

The Gress Family Scholarship was established by Dr. Gary Gress and his wife, Wanda. Dr. Gress earned his Ph.D. in Geography from OU in 2001. He is currently a lecturer in the department, and previously served as the Coordinator of OKAGE, and as the Vice President of the National Council for Geographic Education Executive Planning Board. The Gress Family Scholarship is awarded to a student who is an active contributor to the department via academic endeavors, service projects, and research. This year’s recipient is:

Angelina Mirabella
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability
The Ralph and Margaret Olson Scholarships were established by a very generous donation from the late Ralph and Margaret Olson. Ralph Olson was a member of the Geography faculty for more than 30 years. These scholarships recognize students who have demonstrated commitment to geography, academic excellence, and financial need.

This year’s recipients are:

**Xochitl Hidalgo**
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

**Liam Thompson**
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

**Olivia VanBuskirk**
Doctor of Philosophy in Geography & Environmental Sustainability

**Dr. Millard Brent Geography Scholarship**

**Kennedy Bottoms**
Bachelor of Arts in Geographic Information Science + MCRP

**Snider Family Scholarship**

**Adeline Miller**
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

**Alison Holderbaum**
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability
David James Shellberg Memorial Scholarship

The Oklahoma Mesonet awards the David James Shellberg Memorial Scholarship, presented each year in memory of David Shellberg to a student in recognition of exemplary research using geophysical data.

David earned his Bachelor of Science in Meteorology from Purdue University before coming to the University of Oklahoma for graduate school. He earned his Masters in Meteorology from OU in 1994. After completing his degree, David joined the Oklahoma Climatological Survey as a research associate, to continue his work on the Oklahoma Mesonet, where he played an integral part in making the Oklahoma Mesonet a reality. David died in a plane crash in Indiana on October 31, 1994; he was only 25 years old. His parents, Rosemary and James Shellberg, endowed this scholarship in his name.

This award is presented at the end of the spring semester (May 2024), so we are honoring the 2023 winner here.

Arianna Jordan
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
Kenneth Crawford Awards

Dr. Kenneth Crawford was the director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey for 20 years, co-founder of the Oklahoma Mesonet, professor at OU’s School of Meteorology, and mentor for many students. During his 20-year tenure at OU, he supervised more masters and Ph.D. students than any other faculty at the School of Meteorology. This is in addition to the many undergraduate students that he taught and mentored over the years. He always had a line of students at his door. Before his passing in 2014, Dr. Crawford expressed a desire for his fund to financially assist students who shared in his passions for synoptic meteorology and measurements. Today, Kenneth Crawford awards carry on his legacy by recognizing outstanding performance and student initiative in these areas.

2023 Kenneth Crawford Award for Synoptic Meteorology:
Reese Mishler
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

2024 Kenneth Crawford Award for Synoptic Meteorology:
Taylor Sprang
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

The Measurement award is presented at the end of the spring semester (May 2024), so we are honoring the 2023 winner here.

2023 Kenneth Crawford Award for Measurements:
Kyle Eskew
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
School of Aviation

Winifred Adams Holland Scholarship
This scholarship fund was set up by Ms. Jane Browning in honor of her mother Ms. Winifred Adams Holland, and has been awarded since 2008.

Kayla Poole (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Ryan Robinson (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Luke Waitkus (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Maddie Baca (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Lydia Koehler (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Aviation Management - Flying

Lindy Ritz ATC Scholarship:
This scholarship was set up by OU Aviation External Advisory Board Member, Lindy Ritz, to assist a deserving Aviation Major in furthering his or her studies within the department. It was first awarded in the Spring 2018 semester.

Jovana Dragovic (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Air Traffic Management

Curtis Harris (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Air Traffic Management
Margie Richison Women’s Aviation Scholarship

This scholarship fund was set up by Mr. Randy Richison in memory of his wife, Mrs. Margie Richison who completed her flight training at OU Aviation and served as a Certified Flight Instructor here. She was an avid Aviatrix winning two Okie Derby Air Races and flew in two Air Race Classic competitions. She also served as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the 99s Museum of Women Pilots. She was passionate about encouraging women of all ages to learn to fly and inspired many to consider the field of aviation as a career.

Morgan Moore (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Kayla Poole (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Stick-N-Rudder Award

This scholarship is awarded each semester to an outstanding Aviation Flight Major based on the collective vote from the CFI cadre for the student they feel exhibits the best flying skills, shows up prepared for all lessons, and has a positive attitude.

Rachel Avedon (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Hannah Schmid (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Aviation Management - Flying
Joe Coulter Scholarship
This scholarship was set up in memory of J.E. Coulter who was the first Chair of the OU Aviation Department in 1946. He served 27 years in that capacity until 1973 when he retired as Professor Emeritus. He was selected as airport manager of the year in 1962 as he served on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and was President of the AAAE in 1973. During WW II he served as a pilot instructor at Randolph and Foster Fields TX. He passed away in September 1995. He personally established this endowed fund during his tenure with the University.

Emily Jensik (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Jordan Sarmento (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Aviation Management - Flying

Lauren Shock (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Brandon Chee (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Macee Peterson (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot
James M. Cook Memorial Scholarship
This is a memorial scholarship fund for James M. Cook (1921-1992) that was set up as an extension of Mr. Cook’s lifelong practice of teaching and encouraging young pilots and pilot scientists. It has been awarded to outstanding students in the University of Oklahoma Aviation program since 2008.

Emily Jensik (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Jordan Sarmento (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Aviation Management - Flying

Bella Martens (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Everett Wehling (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Christiansen Aviation Flight Scholarship

Kayla Poole (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Lauren Shock (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot
Tom Clark Scholarship

This scholarship was provided by Carolyn Clark Powers to honor the service and dedication of her father, Tom Clark, during his lifetime. Tom Clark was a former Regent of The University of Oklahoma and served on the OU Department of Aviation Advisory Board. Mr. Clark was the principal owner of Tulsa Air in Tulsa OK

Najib Saleh Sidi Omar (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Air Traffic Management

Luke Waitkus (Fall 2023)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Kayleen Maddox (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation:
Aviation Management - Flying

Wyatt Grubbs (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Ralph Keen (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot

Natalie Smith (Spring 2024)
Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot
Dave Buckles Memorial Aviation Scholarship:
This scholarship was set up to honor the memory of OU Aviation May 2008 Alumnus, Dave Buckles, by assisting a flight student in the program to pursue their passion for flying.

**Leah Brannon**
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot*

Ken Carson Leadership Program (KCLP) Scholarship Awards
The purpose of this scholarship award is to recognize active KCLP leaders who have shown personal and professional growth while serving their community with a likelihood to give back to OU/OU Aviation after graduation.

**Carly Banham** *(Fall 2023)*
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot*

**Kennedy Corbin** *(Fall 2023)*
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Aviation Management - Non-Flying*

Ken Carson Leadership Program (KCLP) Conference Stipend

**Emily Jensik** *(Fall 2023)*
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot*

**Andrew Fowler** *(Fall 2023)*
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Aviation Management - Non-Flying*
In honor of Richard Carson, OU ’46 and Ken Carson, OU ’80.

This annual award was established by Ken, Jan, and Richard Carson to aid students in the pursuit of their studies, and to inspire them to get involved and make a difference outside the classroom. The goal is to encourage student recognition that through belonging, contributing and engagement they can make a significant difference in the communities, within their profession, and as a citizen so they may be a part of the upward march of aviation and humanity.

**Paige Simpson** (Fall 2023)  
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Aviation Management - Flying*

**Carson Endowed Scholarship**

**Samuel Ang** (Spring 2024)  
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot*

**Gabrielle Mammen** (Spring 2024)  
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Professional Pilot*

**AVIA Major Financial Need Scholarship**

**Bella Lee** (Spring 2024)  
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Air Traffic Management*

**Paul Nguyen** (Spring 2024)  
*Bachelor of Science in Aviation: Air Traffic Management*
School of Meteorology

Meteorology Junior with Best Overall GPA

Evan White
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Xochitl Hidalgo
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability

Parker Davis
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Andrew Kenny
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Kyle Eskew
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Daniel Fenske
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Meteorology Senior with Best Overall GPA

Joshua Duncan
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
Outstanding Performance as an Undergraduate
The criteria for the faculty recognition for Outstanding Performance as an Undergraduate includes grade point average and other extracurricular activities, such as jobs, volunteer work and committee work. This year’s recipient is:

Savannah Southward  
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

Outstanding Performance as a Graduate Student
The Faculty Recognition for Outstanding Performance as a Graduate Student is based on GPA, volunteer work, and committee work. The recipients of this year’s award are:

Erin Jones  
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

Francesca Lapin  
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

Outstanding Service as an Undergraduate
The School of Meteorology Director’s Recognition for Outstanding Service to the Department as an Undergraduate Student is presented to a student who has given freely of his or her time and talents to departmental activities, such as participation in student groups. This year’s winner is:

Isaac Medina  
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

Outstanding Service as a Graduate Student
The School of Meteorology Director’s Recognition for Outstanding Service to the Department as a Graduate Student is presented to a graduate student who has given freely of his or her time and talents to departmental activities. This year’s recipient is:

Bobby Saba  
*Master of Science in Meteorology*
The Eric Nguyen Memorial Scholarship is awarded to the School of Meteorology student who is involved in developing and maintaining weather displays and visualizations as part of the HOOT Development lab. This Scholarship was founded by Rachael Sigler, Bob Fritchie, and Amos Magliocco.

This year’s recipient is:

Mac Syrett
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Gwyneth Glanton
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

The Kelvin and Lisa Droegemeier Endowed Scholarship for Excellence in Meteorology was established to award full-time undergraduate students who have completed at least 45 hours of course work and have maintained at least a 3.5 GPA in their meteorology courses as well as direct prerequisites. This year’s recipient is:

Kelvin & Lisa Droegemeier Scholarship for Excellence in Meteorology

This year’s recipient is:

Mac Syrett
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Gwyneth Glanton
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Eric Nguyen Memorial Scholarship

The Eric Nguyen Memorial Scholarship is awarded to the School of Meteorology student who is involved in developing and maintaining weather displays and visualizations as part of the HOOT Development lab. This Scholarship was founded by Rachael Sigler, Bob Fritchie, and Amos Magliocco.

This year’s recipient is:

Amelia Urquhart
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Outstanding Teaching Assistant

Andrea Gordon
Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology

Edwin Adlerman Award for Graduate Research on Severe Weather

Katie Giannakopoulos
Master of Science in Meteorology
Forrest W. Johns Memorial Scholarship
Since 2007, the Forrest W. Johns Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to a graduate or undergraduate student who has made a significant contribution to the Oklahoma Weather Laboratory, which is a student organized weather forecasting service for the OU campus. The recipient is selected based on the quantity and quality of the student’s contributions, which include leadership, forecast skills and overall participation. Dr. Mary Ann Johns provided the funding for this scholarship in honor of her late husband. This year’s recipients are:

**Colin Welty**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

**Rachel Emery**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

Yoshi Sasaki Award
The Yoshi and KoKo Sasaki Award for Best M.S. Manuscript is named in honor of the late Dr. Yoshi Sasaki, one of the founding faculty members of the OU School of Meteorology. Dr. Sasaki is recognized for developing the theory of single Doppler Radar wind analysis and was a George Lynn Cross Research Professor at OU. We are honored to keep his memory alive with this award. The Yoshi Sasaki Award for Best M.S. Manuscript was first awarded in 1999. This year the Sasaki award is presented to:

**Lauren Pounds**
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

James Bruce Morehead Award for Research in Weather and Climate

**Taylor Grace**
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

**Ben Davis**
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*
Elbert W. “Joe” Friday Scholarship
The Elbert W. “Joe” Friday Scholarship is named in honor of meteorology professor emeritus Elbert W. “Joe” Friday. Dr. Friday served as professor of applied meteorology at OU, as WeatherNews Chair, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Director of the Board on Atmospheric Sciences and Climate at the National Academy of Sciences, among many other professional accomplishments. This scholarship is presented to a full-time female meteorology major in her sophomore or junior year. This year’s recipient is:

**Xochitl Hidalgo**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*  
*Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability*

Rex Inman Scholarship
The Rex Inman Scholarship is named in honor of former School of Meteorology director Dr. Rex Inman. Dr. Inman was as well-known for his tough, demanding classes in Atmospheric Dynamics and Numerical Weather Predictions as he was for his gregarious personality. The award named in his honor is presented to a full-time undergraduate student who has completed at least 45 hours of coursework and has maintained a 3.50 grade point average in their meteorology courses as well as a 3.50 in the pre-requisites to those courses. This year’s recipient is:

**Cal Watson**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*
Mark & Kandi McCasland Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research

The Mark and Kandi McCasland Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research is presented to the authors of a refereed journal article that was based on undergraduate research. Given the time for the journal submission and review process, the award is usually presented to alumni within one year of graduation. This year’s Mark and Kandi McCasland Award is presented to:

Matthew Ammon
Master of Science in Meteorology

Tommy C. Craighead Award

The Tommy C. Craighead award was established in 2007. Mr. Craighead was a prominent Ardmore businessman and a major donor to the University of Oklahoma. This award is presented to any University of Oklahoma student or recent graduate who is the lead author on a refereed journal article (preferably accepted, but at least submitted) with a focus on radar studies of the atmosphere. The research described in the article should exemplify the interdisciplinary nature of remote sensing of the atmosphere using radar.

The 2023-2024 recipient of the Tommy C. Craighead award is:

Rachael Cross
Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology

Thomas Julian Lockhart Scholarship

The Thomas Julian Lockhart Scholarship in Meteorological Measurements and Observing Systems is presented to a top performing student who has attained at least junior status and who has also demonstrated strong abilities and interests in meteorological instrumentation and observing systems.

This year’s recipient is:

Evan White
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology
Edwin and Lottie Kessler Memorial Scholarship

Dr. Edwin Kessler was the first director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory when it moved to OU’s North Base in 1964. Under Dr. Kessler’s leadership, new and far-reaching Doppler radar research was conducted that would eventually lead to the development of NEXRAD, the Next Generation Radar System, in the early 1980s. Dr. Kessler passed away in 2017 at the age of 88. The Edwin and Lottie Kessler Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Meteorology was established to honor Dr. Kessler’s many years of service. The recipients of this year’s scholarships are:

**Robert Frost**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

**Lucas Bush**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

**Ethan Stroberg**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

Nair Family Scholarship

**Dylan Strilko**
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*

Richard J. Doviak Scholarship

**Morgan Schneider**
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*
**Douglas Lilly Award**

Dr. Douglas Lilly was an OU professor of Meteorology, and was the first to hold the Robert Lowry Endowed Chair in Meteorology at OU. In addition, he was the Director of the Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies, as well as Director for the Center for Spatial Analysis. Dr. Lilly also became the State of Oklahoma’s first person to be elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

**2024 Douglas Lilly Award for Best PhD Manuscript:**

**John D’Alessandro**  
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

**2024 Douglas Lilly Award Endowed Scholarship:**

**Melanie Schroers**  
*Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology*

**OU3 Memorial Meteorology Endowed Scholarship**

**Jonathan Douglas**  
*Bachelor of Science in Meteorology*
South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center

SC CASC International Studies Scholarship

Courtney Ames
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology

Mackenzie Flynn
Master of Education in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum

Nour Bou Alwan
Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering Sustainability

SC CASC Scholarship

The South Central Climate Science Adaptation Center Scholarship is presented to outstanding undergraduates from any major within the Department of Geography & Environmental Sustainability. This year’s recipients are:

Lucy Brodt
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability

Haylee Kraker
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sustainability

Alison Holderbaum
Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science

Abigail Williams
Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Sustainability
Advanced Radar Research Center

WeatherNews Endowed Scholarship

Sam Emmerson

Doctor of Philosophy in Meteorology