

Dr. Preston W. Leftwich, Jr.
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Professional Experience:

Flight Meteorology Officer

1969-1971: U.S. Navy, Jacksonville, FL

Briefed Plane Commander on meteorological requirements of hurricane reconnaissance missions.

Responsible for quality control of all meteorological information transmitted from aircraft during operational missions.

Flew missions in support of Project Stormfury.

Techniques Development Meteorologist

1976-1983: National Weather Service (NWS), National Hurricane Center, Coral Gables, FL

Developed operational objective techniques for prediction of track and intensity of tropical cyclones in the Atlantic and Eastern/Central Pacific basins.

Assisted with calculation, analysis and presentation of verification results for forecasts of tropical cyclones.

Developed first statistical-synoptic forecast model for tropical cyclone tracks in the Eastern Pacific.

Developed first statistical tropical cyclone track forecast model for the Central Pacific.

Accomplished initial adaptation of computer code of U.S. Navy strike probability technique for the Atlantic basin.

Authored reports and scientific papers on tropical cyclone forecasting.

Prepared climatological risk assessment of hurricane threat to island of Oahu in response to request by Governor of Hawaii.

Techniques Development Meteorologist

1983-1992: NWS, National Severe Storms Forecast Center, Kansas City, MO

Developed automated techniques for operational prediction of severe local storms. Worked operational shifts as Assistant Forecaster.

Served as NSSFC focal point for national wind profiler assessment.

Served as NSSFC representative on the NWS National Verification Committee.

Prepared tornado risk assessments at nuclear power plants for Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Prepared and published several reports related to prediction of severe local storms.

Regional Science Officer

1992- 2002: NWS, Central Region Headquarters, Kansas City, MO

Coordinated development and execution of applied science program efforts in field offices of the NWS Central Region.

Editor for applied science publications of the Central Region.

Reviewed manuscripts for American Meteorological Society and National Weather Association journals.

Received National Weather Service Modernization Award for development of applied publication related to operational use of Doppler radar.

Served as Central Region member of the NWS National Verification Committee.

Recent primary publications: (1) Author: "Estimating the Probability of Severe Local Storms: A Local Perspective for the Central and Northern Plains." National Weather Digest, 1999; (2) Co-author: "Forecasting the Impacts of Strong Wintertime Post-Cold Front Winds in the Northern Plains." Weather and Forecasting, 1995.

Climate Services Program Manager

2003: NWS Central Region Headquarters, Kansas City, MO

Team Leader of development of Climate Services program for 38 field offices and two River Forecast Centers

Served as conference chairperson for Central Region Climate Services Workshop. Awarded Central Region Isaac Cline award for leadership as result of work in initiating a climate services program in the Central Region

Research Assistant

2004 to Present: Florida Climate Center, Center for Ocean-Atmosphere Prediction Studies, Florida State University

Research assistant at the Florida Climate Center. Support agricultural studies for the southeastern states. Support production of web pages displaying climatological data for the Southeast.

Adjunct Professor

2004 to 2008: Florida State University, Department of Meteorology
Taught course in introductory meteorology. Taught course in application of statistics and FORTRAN 95 to atmospheric problems.

Education:

1968 **B.S., Meteorology**, Florida State University

Elected to Chi Epsilon Pi, Meteorology Honorary Society, 1967.

1973 **M.S., Meteorology**, Florida State University

1976 **Ph.D., Meteorology**, Florida State University

Dissertation: A Statistical Analysis of the Effects of Initial Analysis Errors on Quantitative Precipitation Predictions Made with a Numerical Model

Professional Memberships:

American Meteorological Society

National Weather Association

American Association of State Climatologists (Associate Member)