Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions

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Location of CEDAR and Related Programs in the NSF



Goals and Activities of the CEDAR Program

Goals:

- Understand the dynamics, chemistry, energetics, and coupling of atmospheric regions from the middle atmosphere upwards through the thermosphere and ionosphere into the exosphere
- Understand how these regions are impacted by disturbances propagating up from the lower atmosphere, energetic particle inputs from the magnetosphere, and radiation from the sun
- Develop and improve observational and modeling techniques relevant to these regions
- Encourage collaboration and cooperation between upper atmospheric scientists

Activities:

- Awards grants to individual researchers each year
- Appoints a science steering committee to guide the aeronomy community
- Hosts an annual workshop each summer

Coupling and Complexity in the Geospace System



Coupling to the Magnetosphere: Aurora



Coupling to the Lower Atmosphere: Sudden Stratospheric Warming



[Fejer et al. (2010). *J. Geophys. Res.* **115** A00G03.]

Coupling to Human Activity: Noctilucent Clouds

COLUMN STATE

Photo Credit: M. J. Taylor and C. D. Burton

Plasma Physics: Equatorial Spread F



[Hysell and Burcham (1998). J. Geophys. Res. 103 29,155.]

Plasma Physics: Meteor Trails



Plasma Physics: Upper Atmospheric Lightning



[Stenbaek-Nielsen and McHarg (2008). J. Phys. D 41 234,009.]

Engineering: Radars Big and Small

Arecibe Observatory Photo Cred



Engineering: Radars Big and Small



Engineering: Radars Big and Small



e Bolizmann temperature lidar, Xinzhao Chu Group

Engineering: Lasers for Lidar

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Engineering: GPS Receivers



Photo courtesy of Brady O'Hanlon

Engineering: CubeSats





Radio Aurora eXplorer. Photo Credits: Tanner Beck

Strategic Thrusts in the New Strategic Plan

- 1. Encourage and Undertake a Systems Perspective of Geospace
- 2. Explore Exchange Processes at Boundaries and Transitions in Geospace
- 3. Explore Processes Related to Geospace Evolution
- 4. Develop Observational and Instrumentation Strategies for Geospace Systems Studies
- 5. Fuse Knowledge Base Across Disciplines
- 6. Manage, Mine and Manipulate Geoscience Data and Models