

PROPOSAL SELECTED FOR FUNDING (email to: william.koshak@nasa.gov/256-961-7963): A proposal with title, “*Lightning as an Indicator of Climate: Enhancements & New Developments*” (PI: Dr. William Koshak, NASA/MSFC/ZP11; co-I: Dr. Brian Vant-Hull, City College of New York; co-I: Dr. Themis Chronis, University of Alabama in Huntsville), a 3 year work effort, was selected for funding in response to the ROSES A.29 solicitation call: *Climate Indicators and Data Products for Future National Climate Assessments*.

EARTH SCIENCE OFFICE TO CONDUCT NASA SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OBSERVATIONS AND REGIONAL MODELING (NSTORM) PROJECT (email to: patrick.gatlin@nasa.gov/256-961-7910): NASA Headquarters has given MSFC’s Earth Science Office (ZP11) the approval to conduct a NASA-led severe weather research project focused on the Tennessee Valley region this spring. The NSTORM project will include expansion of the North Alabama Lightning Mapping Array, development of value-added products that integrate satellite, radar and lightning measurements, as well as the addition of regional ensemble numerical severe weather prediction capabilities to the NASA Short-term Prediction Research and Transition (SPoRT) Center portfolio. As a result, MSFC will be positioned to effectively respond to future NASA Severe Weather research opportunities. The NSTORM project will be jointly led by Dr. Christopher Schultz (ZP11) and Dr. Patrick Gatlin (ZP11) with contributions from several other ZP11 scientists.

US ARMY SPACE & MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND (SMDC) INVESTS IN MSFC PRECIPITATION SCIENCE WORK (email to: patrick.gatlin@nasa.gov/256-961-7910): As a result of initial collaborations between Dr. Patrick Gatlin (ZP11) and the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) with the U.S. Army SMDC Concepts Analysis Laboratory, the SMDC Technical Center has requested MSFC’s Earth Science Office (ZP11) provide an expert-level evaluation of their rain simulation laboratory. These efforts will be leveraged by the Precipitation Science Group at MSFC to perform testing of advanced, in-situ precipitation instruments that help support NASA’s Global Precipitation Measurement Mission Ground Validation activities. Patrick Gatlin will lead the precipitation science work for MSFC, and Walt Petersen (ZP11) will also participate.

SERVIR – CLIMATE SERVICES MEETING (email to: cindy.stemple@nasa.gov/256-961-7701): Drs. Ashutosh Limaye (ZP11) and Pete Robertson attended a joint NASA/United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Workshop on Climate Services for Resilient Development on February 9-10 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The objective of the meeting was to engage the Ethiopian National Meteorological Authority (NMA) and their end users in Ministries of Agriculture to improve understanding of user needs for climate services. The focus was to explore how products arising from SERVIR, other U.S. agency-sponsored research, and other international partners can augment climate services in Ethiopia. Ethiopia, with its agricultural-based economy, faces exposure to climate variability and change and was therefore selected for this pilot effort. There were approximately 40 workshop attendees from various public sector entities in Ethiopia as well as from USAID-Ethiopia, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC), Care International, and SERVIR-Eastern and Southern Africa. Drs. Limaye and Robertson presented hydro meteorological variables as monitored from space as well as seasonal forecasting capability. As a result of the meeting, a strategy was developed for pilot collaborative efforts, data sharing, and evaluation.