

JOINT POLAR SATELLITE SYSTEM (JPSS) PROVING GROUND AND RISK REDUCTION PROPOSALS (PG/RR) AWARDED TO SPORT (email to: jason.e.burks@nasa.gov/256-961-7661, andrew.molthan@nasa.gov/256-961-7474, brad.zavodsky@nasa.gov/256-961-7914).

Members of the NASA Short-term Prediction Research and Transition (SPoRT) Center were awarded proposals in response to a NOAA solicitation for JPSS PG/RR activities spanning FY15 through FY18. Proposal titles include “Integration of JPSS Experimental Products in AWIPS II through Experimental Products Development Team Code Sprints” (Burks, PI), “Expanded Demonstration of Suomi NPP Data to Improve Situational Awareness and Short-term Forecasts” (Molthan, PI), “Continued Expansion, Enhancement and Evolution of the NESDIS Snowfall Rate Product to Support Weather Forecasting”, (Zavodsky, Co-I), and “The Cold Air Aloft Aviation Hazard: Detection Using Observations from the JPSS Satellites and Application to the Visualization of Gridded Soundings in AWIPS II” (Zavodsky, PI). Combined, these proposals demonstrate continued collaborations between NASA and NOAA to prepare NOAA’s National Weather Service forecasters on the use of new capabilities available from the Suomi National Polar-Orbiting Partnership mission and the 2017 launch of the first JPSS satellite, JPSS-1.

EARTH SCIENCE INNOVATION FUND (SCIF) PROPOSAL AWARDED (email to: dale.quattrochi@nasa.gov/256-961-7887; cory.morin@nasa.gov/256-961-7813; brad.zavodsky@nasa.gov/256-961-7914; jonathan.case-1@nasa.gov/256-961-7504):

Dr. Dale Quattrochi (ZP11) is the Principal Investigator on a NASA/MSFC Science Innovation Fund (ScIF) proposal that has been awarded funding. ZP11 Co-Investigators on the project are Brad Zavodsky (ZP11) and Dr. Jon Case (ZP11) from SPoRT, and Dr. Cory Morin (ZP11) who is a NASA Postdoctoral Fellow working with Dr. Quattrochi. The project entitled “Predicting Trends in Dengue Fever Incidence Using Weather Forecasts in Puerto Rico” will use real-time forecast data along with a dynamic, process-based model for calculating dengue fever transmission, to develop a method for forecasting the incidence of this disease in Puerto Rico over a three month period this summer. Dengue fever is transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito and is characterized by sudden high fever, headaches, severe joint and muscle pain, nausea and other symptoms. There are annually approximately 96 million cases of the disease worldwide, and it is endemic in Puerto Rico and is now appearing in south Florida and south Texas. Because resources are often limited in dengue fever-burdened areas, it is essential that public health policy be efficient and effective, and forecasting of potential dengue fever incidence would be of significant value to public health officials.

PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL WATER CENTER MEETING (email to: brad.zavodsky@nasa.gov/256-961-7914):

Mr. Bradley Zavodsky (ZP11) participated in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Weather Service (NWS) Hydrology Program Managers Meeting in Tuscaloosa, AL from May 12-14. The objective of the meeting was to communicate the mission of the new NOAA NWS National Water Center (NWC), a multi-agency effort to address hydrology research and modeling, flood and flash flood forecasting, and the operational hydrologic warning process. The meeting was attended by hydrologists from Weather Forecast Offices and River Forecast Centers, as well NOAA Program Managers, including the NOAA Associate Administrator. The NWC formally opens at the end of May. Currently, NASA is not linked as an official partner with the NWC even though NASA has a number of satellite platforms that observe important components of the hydrologic cycle. Mr. Zavodsky discussed NASA’s satellite capabilities and MSFC’s expertise in areas of hydrological modeling for weather and climate studies with NOAA leadership and expressed an interest in establishing formal collaborations between MSFC and the NWC. An invitation was extended to the Acting Director of the NWC to visit MSFC to discuss these potential collaborations in more detail.