



## Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC

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### **Alicia C. Wasula, Ph.D.**

#### **President and Certified Consulting Meteorologist**

#### **1. Earned Degrees**

August 2005, Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science, University at Albany/SUNY May 2001, M.S. in Atmospheric Science, University at Albany/SUNY December 1998, B.S. in Atmospheric Science, University at Albany/SUNY

#### **2. Ph.D. Dissertation**

**Ph.D. Dissertation: "A Comprehensive Study of Cool Season Tornadoes in the Southeast United States"**

Advisor: Lance F. Bosart

#### **3. Professional Experience: Consulting**

In the Fall of 2013, I began working at Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC as a Consulting Meteorologist. My research and classroom experience have helped me understand the needs of my forensic meteorology clients. I have been the primary author of a number of forensic reports which have been praised by clients as thorough, accurate and useful. In January 2015 I was awarded American Meteorological Society (AMS) Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) certificate #711. Subsequent to passing the oral examination, I was invited to begin a four year term as a member of the AMS board of Certified Consulting Meteorologists in January of 2016. That board is the examining and review body for the CCM program which develops, administers and evaluates written and oral examinations for CCM candidates. In December 2016, I assumed full ownership of Shade Tree Meteorology, LLC and continue to provide quality forensic reports to our clients.

#### **4. Professional Experience: Teaching**

I have experience teaching at many levels of higher education, from general education non-majors up through college seniors. I am able to present high-level scientific topics in a format that makes them accessible to my students; I often cite current examples of weather events to make the topics relevant and meaningful to my students. I am very careful to understand my audience and present the material in the way that will be most understandable to them. I willingly spend extra time tutoring students who may benefit from an alternate method of learning the material. I have received overwhelmingly positive reviews regarding my teaching style and preparedness in anonymous end-of-semester surveys. I particularly enjoy the challenge of teaching at a community college, and find great fulfillment in successfully engaging (predominantly) non-science majors from widely varied backgrounds.

1) Spring 2006-Present: Adjunct professor, Hudson Valley Community College

*Classes taught:*

a. Introduction to Meteorology: General survey of the atmospheric sciences.

b. Physical Science II: Interdisciplinary survey of meteorology, geology, and astronomy.

*Classes developed:*

- a. Introduction to Meteorology (see description above)
  - b. Atmospheric Structure and Circulation: Calculus and physics-based survey of the atmosphere for meteorology majors
  - c. Natural Hazards (in progress): General education course which explores science and public impact of various natural disasters
- 2) Spring 2008: Instructor, Dynamic Meteorology II, SUNY Albany, Albany, NY
  - 3) Fall 2007: Instructor, Introduction to Meteorology, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY
  - 4) Fall 2006: Instructor, ATM 411, Dynamic Meteorology I, SUNY Albany, Albany, NY

Graduate teaching experience:

- 1) 2003-2004: Teaching Assistant, ATM 401 (Synoptic Meteorology II), SUNY Albany, Albany, NY
- 2) 2001-2003: Instructor, ATM 400 (Synoptic Meteorology I), SUNY Albany, Albany, NY
- 3) 2002-2003: Teaching Assistant, ATM 450 (Computer Applications in Atmospheric Science), SUNY Albany, Albany, NY
- 4) 2000-2001: Head Teaching Assistant, ATM 100N (Intro. to the Atmosphere), SUNY Albany, Albany, NY
- 5) 1999-2000: Teaching Assistant, ATM 100N (Intro. to the Atmosphere), SUNY Albany, Albany, NY

**4. Professional Experience: Research**

I have had extensive experience in operational research, collaborating with both the local National Weather Service office at Albany, national centers such as the Storm Prediction Center, and other universities. I have presented my work both at local and national conferences, and have published numerous conference preprints, in addition to refereed journal articles. My work on the effect of local terrain (Hudson and Mohawk river valleys and surrounding mountains) has helped to quantify the effect that these features have on the development and evolution of thunderstorms and severe weather in upstate New York. My work on nocturnal tornadic cool-season thunderstorms in the southeast United States resulted in a framework to better understand the mechanisms by which these storms form. Additionally, several detailed case studies of both high-impact and null events emphasize the importance of careful analysis of observational data from any and all available sources.

Refereed publications and selected conference preprint publications:

Wasula, A. C., L. F. Bosart, R. Schneider, S.J. Weiss, G. Manikin, and P. Welch, 2005: Mesoscale aspects of the rapid intensification of a tornadic convective line across central Florida: 22-23 February 1998. *Weather and Forecasting*, **22**, 223-243.

Wasula, A. C., L. F. Bosart, and K. D. LaPenta, 2002: The Influence of Terrain on the Severe Weather Distribution across Interior Eastern New York and Western New England. *Weather and Forecasting*, **17**, 1277-1289

Bosart, L. F., Alicia C. Wasula, W. H. Drag, and K. W. Meier, 2008: Strong Surface Fronts over Sloping Terrain and Coastal Plains. *Meteorological Monographs*, **33**, 35-86.

Wasula, A. C., L. F. Bosart, R. H. Johns, S. J. Weiss, and R. Schneider, 2002: An examination of the contrasting evolution of two southeast United States cool-season severe weather episodes. *Preprints, 21st Conf. on Severe Local Storms*, San Antonio, TX, 11-16 August 2002, AMS, 659-662.

#### **4. Professional Affiliations**

American Meteorological Society  
National Weather Association

#### **5. Awards/Honors**

Presidential Scholar, 1995-1998

Dean's List, 1995-1998

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Golden Key National Honor Society

Summa Cum Laude (B.S., Dec. 1998)

2004: Bernard Vonnegut Teaching Award, in recognition of "extraordinary dedication to teaching by an atmospheric science graduate student."