



Dr. Melvyn A. Shapiro

Dr. Melvyn A. Shapiro is currently a Visiting Scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR).

He obtained undergraduate and graduate degrees in meteorology at Florida State University (1958-1968), where his research addressed the analysis and numerical diagnosis of tropical and extratropical cyclone structure and internal mesoscale processes. In 1968, he received a post-doctoral position in the NCAR Advanced Studies Program, which transitioned into an NCAR research staff position in 1970.

Whilst at NCAR (1970-1981), Shapiro's research included the isentropic-coordinate approach to the analysis and numerical prediction of extratropical cyclone and their internal jet-stream/frontal evolutions; research aircraft observations of tropopause structure, including the exchange of air and trace constituents between the stratosphere and troposphere.

From 1982-2008 he was a research scientist at the NOAA/Wave Propagation Laboratory and subsequent Environmental Technology Laboratory, where he directed the Meteorological Research Group. Research activities included: applications and assessment of ground and airborne remote sensing systems, e.g., radar wind profilers; aircraft field campaign and numerical studies of extratropical mid-latitude arctic cyclones and associated jet stream/frontal and turbulent processes; target observation strategies and deployment. Shapiro and Professor Alan Thorpe served as Co-chairs of the WWRP/THORPEX Science Steering Committee coordinating the development the THORPEX research agenda articulated in the THORPEX International Science Plan. These activities continued from 2008-2009, as a Research Associate at the NOAA/University of Colorado Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science (CIRES).

In the most recent years (2009-present), Shapiro's activities have been directed toward mentoring of early-career scientists; development of advanced computer visualizations applied to ultra-fine resolution numerical simulation/prediction data sets; promotion of Earth-System prediction initiatives that foster interdisciplinary research/applications between physical, socioeconomic and human dimension sciences. He was also a part-time professor at the Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen, Norway during 2009-12.

Professional recognitions include: Fellow of the American Meteorological Society; AMS Jule Charney Award; US Department of Commerce Gold Medal; member of The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters.