The UNIVERSITY *of* OKLAHOMA®
Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies
(CIMMS)

January 29, 2019

Dear Emergency Managers:

We are seeking Emergency Managers to provide input for the development of a new hazardous weather warning paradigm. If you are interested, please consider applying to participate in one week of the 2019 Probabilistic Hazard Information (PHI) Prototype Project in the Hazardous Weather Testbed (HWT). The testbed is a joint project of the NOAA National Weather Service and the NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory to help foster collaboration between research and operations to test and evaluate emerging technologies and science. This year we are funded to test a new warning paradigm (similar to that shown in the animation of FACET #4 www.nssl.noaa.gov/projects/facets/). A summary of our project is on the second page of this letter.

Our project will take place during the weeks of May 13-17 and May 20-24 in Norman, Oklahoma. We will be selecting three non-local and participants and one local participant per week (eight total). Travel expenses for non-local participants are paid or reimbursed to the extent possible per State of Oklahoma travel rules. As a condition of receiving the travel stipend, those who are selected to participate in the HWT in 2019 will be asked to agree to allow the researchers to use data collected in the experiment for research and development purposes. More details about the research participation will be provided to those who are selected.

If you would like to apply, please apply online at: https://goo.gl/forms/T7845Lr8IWcDfrJi2.

Please complete the form by March 29, 2019, as candidates will be selected shortly thereafter so that we can begin travel arrangements. We are seeking enthusiastic people willing to work through simulated severe weather cases. If selected, you will also contribute in discussions/surveys concerning how you would use this experimental information to do your job, thus helping us develop a new severe weather warning paradigm. Emergency Managers play a critical role in the warning process, and your input is valuable. Please let me know if you have any questions (kodin@ou.edu).

Sincerely,

Kodi L. Berry, Ph.D.
Executive Officer, Hazardous Weather Testbed

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Prototype - Probabilistic Hazard Information Experiment

Who – Emergency managers serve a critical role in the communication of weather warnings. We are looking for a diverse set of emergency managers (8 in total). We hope that everyone who feels interested will apply.

When – May 13-17, May 20-24
Travel periods: Sunday, Friday afternoon

What - The main objective of this HWT PHI project is to learn how the continuous flow of probabilistic information impacts emergency managers and their decision making. Emergency managers will use a web-based tool to receive probabilistic forecasts for severe and convective hazards (severe wind/hail, tornado, lightning) during displaced realtime events. Researchers will study how the emergency managers interpret, use, and communicate the probabilistic information. This HWT project will help us as researchers learn participants' needs during the warning process under this potential new paradigm.

Why - The project investigators hope to gain insights into the ways in which continuous flow of information is received and used by decision makers.

For more information, see our recent conference presentations:

- American Meteorological Society 13th Symposium on Societal Applications: Policy, Research and Practice
- American Meteorological Society Fifth Symposium on Building a Weather-Ready Nation: Enhancing Our Nation's Readiness, Responsiveness, and Resilience to High Impact Weather Events