

PRESIDENT BUSH NOMINATES OU PROFESSOR TO NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

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NORMAN – President George Bush has nominated Kelvin Droegemeier, Regents’ Professor of Meteorology and director of the Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms at the University of Oklahoma, to a six-year term on the National Science Board. Droegemeier, who is also the Roger and Sherry Teigen Presidential Professor, must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the board, which oversees, guides and establishes policies for the National Science Foundation and serves as an independent national science policy body that provides advice to the President and Congress.

Droegemeier, the only person in Oklahoma ever appointed to the NSB and the only person in the nation to have co-founded both an NSF Science and Technology Center and an NSF Engineering Research Center, has served on numerous NSF committees and panels. As director of the Center for Analysis and Prediction of Storms model development project, he managed the creation of a multi-scale numerical prediction system that helped pioneer the science of storm-scale numerical forecasting. In 1997, the model team received the *Computerworld*-Smithsonian Award and the Discover Magazine Award for Technology Innovation. Droegemeier now serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, which manages the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and also is on the board of directors of the OU Supercomputing Center for Education and Research, which he helped establish.

“The entire OU family is extremely proud of Kelvin Droegemeier’s appointment to the National Science board,” said OU President David L. Boren. “The leadership and forward research of Professor Droegemeier has been a key element to OU’s rapid increase in research programs.”

Droegemeier, a national leader in the creation of partnerships among academia, government and industry, has generated more than \$40 million in external research funding, including a three-year project with American Airlines that resulted in the establishment of two private companies and a \$10.6 million research alliance with Williams Energy Marketing and Trading Co., the largest partnership between a private company and a university in the field of meteorology. Working with colleagues in the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, he initiated and led a national project to deliver streaming NEXRAD Doppler radar data via the Internet. It won two NOAA awards and led the National Weather Service to select OU as a designated provider of NEXRAD data to industry, for which Droegemeier established a special unit at OU called Integrated Radar Data Services.

A major force behind the development and application of high performance computing systems in Oklahoma and across the nation, Droegemeier received an NSF grant in 1996 that brought the first supercomputer to OU. He received his bachelor of science with special distinction in meteorology from OU, and received master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After receiving his doctoral degree in 1985, Droegemeier joined OU as an assistant professor. He was tenured in 1991 and promoted to professor in 1998.

An invited speaker and organizer of conferences and symposia world-wide, including those in Australia, England, France, Japan and Korea, Droegemeier has authored or co-authored nearly 300 publications, including more than 60 refereed journal articles. Chair of the weather and climate team for Governor Brad Henry's Economic Development Generating Excellence program, he serves or has served on multiple boards and committees, including the Norman Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and as a consultant for groups such as Honeywell Corporation, American Airlines and the National Transportation Safety Board.

Droegemeier also has been the recipient of multiple awards. He was named Presidential Young Investigator by the National Science Foundation in 1987 and received the NSF Pioneer Award and Federal Aviation Administration Excellence in Aviation Award.

The 24 members of the National Science Board meet six times each year. The group initiates and conducts studies on a broad range of policy topics related to science and engineering research and education. They present results and recommendations to the President and Congress in reports and policy statements and make the documents available to the public.

Members are selected based on their distinguished service in science and engineering research and education. They are chosen to represent scientific, engineering and educational leadership throughout the nation.

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