Jeffrey T. Kiehl Receives 2012 Climate Communication Prize

Jeffrey T. Kiehl was awarded the 2012 Climate Communication Prize at the AGU Fall Meeting Honors Ceremony, held on 5 December 2012 in San Francisco, Calif. The Climate Communication Prize is funded by Nature’s Own, a purveyor of fossils, minerals, and handcrafted jewelry based in Beadrol, Colo. The prize honors an "AGU member-scientist for the communication of climate science, and recognizes the delivery of scientific literacy, clarity of message, and efforts to foster respected and understandable science-based values as they relate to the implications of climate change."

Citation

Jeffrey Kiehl’s career has been marked by exceptional accomplishments with identifiable impacts in both scientific understanding and the practice and leadership of national and international research programs. He has made many fundamental contributions that have enabled the impacts of climate change to be measured. In order to detect ecosystem-level responses to change, Jeffrey’s work on communicating climate change to open up. Jeffrey has not only brought the science of climate change to the public but also has worked not only for the public, but also includes the audience in the process by asking them to share their personal feelings about the issue. This process allows the listeners to become an integral part of the learning process, an approach that has enabled those who are initially resistant to the message to share with the public.

Jeffrey’s presentations employ images and narratives that are specific to those diverse audiences. He has tended to the fields of philosophy, psychology, religious studies, filmmaking, and anthropology. Jeffrey has spoken about climate change, and he is recognized internationally as a leading communicator of climate change. He organized a recent meeting on the topic. He has spoken about climate science to groups including executives of the fossil fuel industry, politicians, geologists, renewable energy businesses, and religious organizations. Jeffrey has presented to the National Organization of Information Scientists, biologists and Librarians, the International Men’s Association, senior citizens groups, and a large number of psychology groups. Jeffrey co-organized and co-led a recent meeting in Portland, Ore., aimed at bringing diverse communities together to discuss existing divides around climate change. He organized a highly successful Asian Global Change Institute workshop that included speakers from the fields of philosophy, psychology, religious studies, filmmaking, and anthropology. Jeffrey’s presentations employ images and narratives that are specific to those diverse audiences. He has tended to the fields of philosophy, psychology, religious studies, filmmaking, and anthropology.

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