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NATIONAL
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**NOAA AWARDS OVER \$3.4 MILLION
TO PRINCETON UNIVERSITY FOR CLIMATE**

Princeton University in Princeton, N.J., will receive more than \$3.4 million from the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) under a cooperative agreement for interdisciplinary climate modeling activities. NOAA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

"This is an increase of \$2.2 million over last year for new activities that will focus on developing models to forecast future changes to the Earth's climate system," said retired Navy Vice Adm. Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Ph.D., undersecretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere and NOAA administrator. "Advanced climate models were initially envisioned in the Bush Administration's Climate Change Research Initiative."

The award, provided by NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory within the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, will support earth system model development and climate product generation under the direction of the Trustees of Princeton University through a partnership between the University's Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Program and the Princeton Environmental Institute. GFDL scientists also will participate in these efforts.

"The Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton does probably the best work in the world in climate models and I am pleased to be able to help them secure this funding. This is some of the most important research under way today," said Rep. Rush Holt (D-12th) of New Jersey.

The funds are intended to support university scientists, graduate students, and a few support personnel in the development of computer models to study regional and global climate variability and change, oceanic and terrestrial carbon cycles, and other processes important in reducing the uncertainty in projections of future climate variability and change.

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“This cooperative agreement award to Princeton University will help advance knowledge critical to those efforts,” said Ants Leetmaa, Ph.D., GFDL director.

The goal of GFDL research is to understand and predict the earth's climate and weather, including the impact of human activities. GFDL conducts leading edge research on many topics of great practical value, including weather and hurricane forecasts, El Niño prediction, stratospheric ozone depletion, and climate change.

NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (NOAA Research) is dedicated to creating, through inspired research, the scientific basis for more productive and harmonious relationships between humans and their environment.

NOAA is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources.

On the Internet:

NOAA – <http://www.noaa.gov>

For more information about GFDL - <http://www.gfdl.noaa.gov>