

# Eric M. Holthaus

*Current (Until June 2005):*

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## Objective

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Gain further research experience within the atmospheric sciences, particularly with regard to the policy implications and societal impacts of global change; prepare for a career in which I can make a significant contribution toward the broad task of mitigating climate change.

## Education

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- 1999-2003 Saint Louis University; St. Louis, MO and Madrid, Spain**  
Honors B.S. in Meteorology  
Study Abroad Spring Semester 2001  
Graduated Summa Cum Laude (3.75 GPA)
- 2004-2005 University of Oklahoma – School of Meteorology; Norman, OK**  
One year of graduate study towards M.S. in Meteorology  
Advisor: Dr. Howard Bluestein  
Research topic: Mobile Radar Observations of Tornadoes
- 2005-Present Columbia University – Earth Institute; New York, NY**  
Pursuing M.A. in Climate and Society  
In cooperation with the IRI – LDEO  
Research topic: The Impact of Climate Change on the Developing World

## Experience & Accomplishments

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- Fall 2005-Present International Research Institute for Climate Prediction; Palisades, NY**
- Performing research under the direction of Dr. Howard Bluestein on mobile Doppler radar observations of intense atmospheric vortices, namely tornadoes and dust devils.
- January 2005 Oklahoma Scholar Leadership Enrichment Program; Norman, OK**
- Special honors intersession course at the National Severe Storms Laboratory directed by Dr. Jeff Kimpel, director; entitled “Using the Science of Weather in Business and Public Policy”
- Fall 2004-Spring 2005 National Forecasting Contest – Penn State University; State College, PA**
- Local and National Champion – Week 9 – Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - Local Champion – Week 3 – New Orleans, LA
  - Finished 12<sup>th</sup> of 63 locally, 109<sup>th</sup> out of 1110 total forecasters nationally.
- Fall 2004-Summer 2005 Research Assistant – OU School of Meteorology; Norman, OK**
- Research performed under the direction of Dr. Howard Bluestein on mobile Doppler radar observations of tornadoes, duties include collection and analysis of data.
  - Member of the Visiting Students Weekend panel; helped design an event to welcome and introduce potential grad students to the department.
  - Participated in a special “dream course” on climate change and societal impacts directed by Dr. David Karoly with lectures by invited scholars including Dr. Kevin Trenberth (NCAR), Dr. Suki Manabe (GFDL), Dr. Rosina Bierbaum (UMich), and Dr. Richard Sandor (CCX).
- August 2003-August 2004 Jesuit Volunteer Corps; Woodburn, OR**
- Social Services/Senior Ministry coordinator at St. Luke’s Catholic Church.
  - Duties during this AmeriCorps funded year long volunteer program included operation of the local food pantry, administration of emergency energy and rent assistance to low-income families, and home visitation of senior and disabled parishoners.
  - Lived under the four JVC values of spirituality, community, simplicity, and social justice.

**Summer 2003    National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Goddard Space Flight Center**

- Member of the Student Internship Program, supervised by Dr. Gail Skofronick-Jackson.
- Developed Fortran-based transfer code for ice microphysical model used in hurricane research.
- Presented poster of related research at the 2004 AMS Student Conference in Seattle, WA.
- Upcoming publication in the JAS CAMEX-4 special issue entitled: "Microphysical Characterization of Ice in Hurricane Erin for Wideband Passive Microwave Measurements".

**Fall 2002            Photography Editor, The University News**

- Elected photo editor for SLU's campus newspaper after 3 years as a staff photographer.
- Responsibilities included keeping a staff of approximately 10 photographers, setting and meeting deadlines, selection and processing of all photographs for each weekly issue.

**Summer 2002    National Center for Atmospheric Research; Boulder, CO**

- Delegate to the first ever Undergraduate Leadership Workshop.
- Chosen to represent Saint Louis University among a group of sixteen students from universities across the US and Canada expressing interest in graduate research in the atmospheric sciences.

**Summer 2002    National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Marshall Space Flight Center**

- Member of the Undergraduate Student Research Program, mentored by Dr. William Lapenta.
- Developed proficient skills in Fortran-90, UNIX, Gempak, and numerical modeling (MM5).
- Incorporated a simple land-use model into MM5 to study effect on direct thermal circulations.
- Published NASA Technical Report: "Mesoscale Modeling of a Sea Breeze Circulation on the Gulf Coast".

**Spring 2002       Saint Louis University's Truman Scholarship Nominee**

**Summer 2001    State of North Dakota**

- Provided ground support for the North Dakota Cloud Modification Project in Stanley, ND.
- Duties included nowcasting and assessment of active storms, direction of project aircraft used in cloud seeding missions (with authority over chemical release) and associated personnel, and operation of a WSR-74C weather radar.

**Fall 2000           KTVI-TV Fox 2; St. Louis, MO**

- Fall Semester internship with Chief Meteorologist Dave Murray in a top-20 market station.

**Summer 2000    Chanute Municipal Airport; Chanute, KS**

- Obtained my FAA Private Pilot's License in three weeks while flying a Cessna 182 Skylane.

**Summer 2000    KSNT-TV 27; Topeka, KS**

- Summer internship working with the Chief Meteorologist of the NBC affiliate, Bruce Jones.

**Spring 1999       National Weather Service Storm Spotter Certification**

**1999-Present    Member, American Meteorological Society**

## **Interests & Extracurriculars**

My research interests include environmental policy, global and local climate change (particularly the impacts of climate change on society), and severe storms. Other interests are aviation, photography, storm chasing, travel, hiking, amateur astronomy, baseball, community service and campus ministry activities.