

EDITORIAL

This special issue of the *Journal of Applied Meteorology* contains papers presented at the Fourth International Conference on Precipitation: Hydrological and Meteorological Aspects of Rainfall Measurement and Predictability, held at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa, 26–28 April 1993. The first conference in this series was organized in 1986 by Vijay K. Gupta and Ignacio Rodriguez-Iturbe in Caracas, Venezuela. The second and third conferences took place at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Texas A&M University, respectively. These conferences serve the expressed aim of bringing together meteorologists, hydrologists, mathematicians, physicists, statisticians, and all others who are interested in fundamental principles governing the physical processes of precipitation. The results of the previous conferences have been published as special issues of the *Journal of Geophysical Research* (Vol. 92, No. D8, 1987 and Vol. 95, No. D3, 1990) and the *Journal of Applied Meteorology* (Vol. 32, No. 2, 1993).

One hundred fifty scientists and engineers attended the fourth conference and presented 100 papers. The presentations addressed the following topics: precipitation dynamics, precipitation prediction and predictability, precipitation modeling, precipitation estimation, and remote sensing of precipitation. Many of the papers presented during the conference reported work in progress; thus, only a relatively small fraction of them appears here. A volume of abstracts of the papers presented at the conference is available from the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242. The papers included in the present issue are listed based on an arbitrary grouping into diagnostic studies, studies of probabilistic rainfall characterization, and remote sensing studies.

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Guest Editors