it a good book for classroom use. The traditional approach to monitoring global environmental change taken in this book is limiting and neglects a discussion of atmospheric remote sensing related to global environmental change (i.e., monitoring CO₂ and Earth warming with passive microwave measurements in 50–60-gHz region, remote sensing to study the Earth’s energy balance, and the role changes in cloud cover and aerosols play in climate and environmental change). However, the book’s strengths include the comprehensive material presented in the chapters on remote sensing of the land, oceans, and coastal regions, which are areas of expertise for the authors. For this reason alone it is a valuable addition to the bookshelf of any student of remote sensing.

—Gary Jedlovec

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2012 ASLI’S CHOICE AWARD WINNERS

At January’s AMS Annual Meeting in Austin, Atmospheric Science Librarians International (ASLI) announced the 2012 ASLI’s Choice winners for the best books in the fields of meteorology, climatology, and atmospheric sciences.

This year, ASLI gave awards in four categories: science, history, reference, and popular. Selections were based on nine criteria: uniqueness, comprehensiveness, usefulness, quality, authoritativeness, organization, illustrations/diagrams, competition, and references.

The winning book in the science category was The Future of the World’s Climate (Second Edition), edited by Ann Henderson-Sellers and Kendall McGuffie, published by Elsevier. ASLI praised the book for “the broad scientific context that it provides for current efforts to model and predict climate change.”

In the history category, the winning book was Hawai‘i’s Mauna Loa Observatory: Fifty Years of Monitoring the Atmosphere, by Forrest M. Mims III, published by the University of Hawai‘i Press, which ASLI lauded for “its engrossing perspective on the scientists, discoveries, and ground-breaking atmospheric measurements done at Mauna Loa Observatory.”

In the reference category, the award went to The Atmospheric Chemist’s Companion: Numerical Data for Use in the Atmospheric Sciences, by Peter Warneck and Jonathan Williams, published by Springer, for “its well-organized assembly of frequently needed numerical data and measurement techniques.”

The award in the popular category went not to one book but to a series: Princeton Primers in Climate, edited by Alison Kalatt, published by Princeton University Press. This series was recognized by ASLI “for brief, readable books on key topics in climate science that provide essential knowledge and point to further investigation.”


ASLI is a professional organization devoted to communicating and disseminating information among libraries and educational institutions involved in atmospheric science research and scholarship. ASLI is now seeking nominations for the 2013 ASLI’s Choice awards; the deadline for nominations is November 1. For more information, go to http://aslonline.org/wp/asli-choice/.

ASLI and AMS congratulate all of the 2012 winners!