THORPEX

Lydia Dumenil-Gates
Program Director
Large-scale Dynamic Meteorology
I regret to be unable to attend this meeting personally.
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- THORPEX is showing that it will become a landmark project
- THORPEX addresses fundamental issues that are relevant to atmospheric dynamics and weather forecasting
- THORPEX covers the U.S. and international interests in developing an observing system that serves societal benefits such as severe weather, air quality, prevention of disasters
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- NSF applauds the efforts made by the PIs and the Program Office so far to create a well-organized program of theoretical and experimental studies.

- Efforts seem to be still evolving and it is expected that this meeting will make great progress towards a program that is well coordinated nationally and internationally.
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- THORPEX is aligned with NSF’s core program Large-scale Dynamic Meteorology
- LDM is looking forward to the focused development of the program and will give it detailed consideration
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- There are two avenues for NSF funding of THORPEX research topics
- In the short term: individual proposals of average demand of LDM and deployment pool on an annual, competitive basis (pathways exist)
- In the long run, if necessary: development of a budgetary strategy for exceptional, well-coordinated demands on LDM and the deployment pool (no pathway exists)
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- NSF will make well-defined contributions to the THORPEX implementation strategy, but will not be able to earmark large sums or have special announcements.

- All proposals will be evaluated according to NSF’s criteria of intellectual merit and broader impacts.
NSF is currently in the process of developing a new process for review of research proposals and facility requests associated with research that requires field campaigns. This new process will significantly increase the time between the submission of the currently required "Science Overview Document" (SOD), research proposals and facility requests and the start date of any field work. Additionally, this new process will significantly change the format of some of these documents.
Currently, the plans are to implement this new process for field programs that will occur in either Calendar Year or Fiscal Year 2007. If, for example, the new process is implemented for Calendar Year 2007, any field campaign occurring during that time frame will be required to submit extensive documents that describe the Program Science and Program Experimental Design by January of 2005. If THORPEX intends to conduct a field campaign in 2007, it is strongly encouraged that PIs contact Steve Nelson at NSF as soon as possible to discuss the timing of required submissions.