

10/7/09

John T. Snow has announced his plans to step down as dean of the University of Oklahoma College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences on June 30, 2010.

"After sixteen years as Dean, first of the College of Geosciences and now of the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences, it is time for me to relinquish my position as Dean and transition to regular faculty status. I have very much enjoyed being Dean and take great pride in the accomplishments of the College's academic and research programs during my tenure. The construction of the National Weather Center facility as the anchor of the University Research Campus is the highpoint of my professional career," said Snow. "I look forward to teaching again and working collaboratively with both private sector weather companies and national weather services around the globe to improve weather and climate prediction capabilities for all countries,"

President David L. Boren said, "John Snow has provided truly exceptional leadership to the college; he has been dedicated to building a sound foundation for the newly organized College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences. He has been unselfish and giving of his energy and talents to the institution."

Dr. Nancy Mergler, Sr. Vice President and Provost said, "Dean Snow has overseen tremendous growth of the University's weather enterprise. He was a leader in the effort to obtain approval and funding for the National Weather Center building, and then oversaw the multiyear construction of the building itself that houses both federal weather related entities, the School of Meteorology, and related University weather programs. He continues to work with our federal, state, and City of Norman partners to expand the weather community based in Norman. Most recently, he worked to help create a new Bachelors degree in Geoinformatics that is attracting some of the very brightest undergraduate students in the University."

Snow came to OU on January 1, 1994 from Purdue University where he had been a faculty member in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences since 1977. He is a Fellow of both the American Meteorological Society and the Royal Meteorological Society. Snow's research expertise is the experimental investigation of the dynamics of geophysical columnar vortices such as tornadoes and dust devils; he is also involved in the design and testing of meteorological measurement systems. While at OU, Snow has been active in promoting the growth of the private sector in meteorology and in the establishment of an economic cluster in central Oklahoma focused on weather research and services. Snow is also passionate about improving secondary level science education in the earth sciences and in involving undergraduate University students directly in research activities. During his tenure as Dean, the AMS awarded Snow its Charles Anderson Award for his support of education and diversity, and later its Cleveland Abbey Award for service to the profession and the Society. In recognition of

his service to OU and Oklahoma, on October 27th, Snow will be inducted into the 16th Annual Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame.

Snow was a long-time member of the US Army Reserve, retiring in 1996 with the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Signal Corps. During the Gulf War, he served on active duty in Saudi Arabia and received the Bronze Star for his service.

John and his wife Janet are active in the Norman community having made their home here for the past 15 years.

The University will be conducting a nationally advertized search to identify the next Dean of the College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences.