

Special Seminar

**University Distinguished Professor Emeritus
Graeme Stephens**

Visiting from JPL, California Institute of Technology

Cloud Physics from Space

Hosted by A.R. Ravishankara and Sue van den Heever

**3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17
ATS 101**

Sir John Mason was a giant in the field of cloud physics and the immense shadow he cast on the science is still felt today. In his time, cloud physics was a science that had a significant focus on microphysical to cloud scale processes – scales that could be readily touched by laboratory or by aircraft sensors. In the same era, and in a different country, another giant of our science was casting a similar long shadow across the meteorological landscape. Vern Suomi, widely considered the father of satellite meteorology, was shaping new ways to view the atmosphere offering a wider perspective on a completely different time and spatial scale. Today, science and technology have evolved, not always in lock-step, and we are now at a point where the scales of focus of Mason’s cloud physics and the vast scales of Suomi’s vision have connected. This talk will provide a journey along the pathway of cloud physics exploring how the science of Mason’s cloud physics is now being addressed within the vision of Suomi. The talk will strive to balance those advances in our basic understanding of the physics of the atmosphere that have resulted from these spaceborne observations weighed against advances enabled by technology innovation while offering a glimpse of the near future.

Link to colloquia page: <https://www.atmos.colostate.edu/colloquia/>