

## Highlights from the 30th SLS:

- SLS reconvened for the first since the 29th SLS in 2018 (Stowe, VT)
- The conference had about 300 attendees meet at The Eldorado Hotel & Spa in Santa Fe, NM
- The conference theme was "The Decade Ahead" focused on identifying and discussing the major research questions to address in the 2020s in severe storms science
- The first session each morning on Mon-Thurs featured a sampling of the research occurring in Forecasting, Supercells, Tornadoes, and QLCSSs, respectively, and had a discussion period to allow time for discussion regarding the above themes for each of the four areas
- Other Plenary Session topics were Hail, Severe Convection in a Warming Climate, and High Impact Events
- We had a special Tuesday evening session on Novel Ideas in Tornado Science that we dedicated to Dr. Brad Barrett of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research
- The conference emphasized slightly shorter talk windows and longer breaks, which provided ample time for questions and discussion in all sessions
- **SLS received a record number of requests for oral presentations at 256, and 26% talks were given by females, 28% by students, and 35% by early-career scientists**
- Monday night's Icebreaker included a dedicated period for students to meet and socialize with early-career scientists in our field in an informal setting
- On Wednesday evening, the Women's Dinner was held with ~50 attendees at the Burger Stand in Santa Fe
- Recordings of all sessions are now available to attendees on the Program Page

## Outstanding Student Presentation Awards:

### [Oral Presentations](#)

**3rd:** Luke LeBel, Penn State University

15.1A: An Analysis of the Impact of Vertical Wind Shear on Convection Initiation Using Large-Eddy Simulations: Importance of Wake Entrainment

**2nd:** Andrew Muehr, OU/CIWRO

15.5A: Examining the Impact of Mid-Level Shear and Low-Level Storm-Relative Flow on Supercell Characteristics and Evolution

**1st:** Rachael Cross, Univ. of Oklahoma

17.4A: A Radar Simulation and Large-Eddy Simulation Approach to Exploring Observational Tornado Debris Signature Hypotheses

## Poster Presentations

**3rd:** Milind Sharma, Purdue University

P9: Quantifying the covariability between ZDR/KDP Column Volume and Lightning Flash Rates in Southeast U.S. Storms

**2nd:** Tyler Pardun, OU/CIWRO

P97: QLCS Tornado Detection Using Merged Products Derived from MRMS

**1st:** Funing Li, Purdue University

P70: Rough Amazon Suppresses South American Tornado Potential