

SCOSTEP 2020 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



SCOSTEP is pleased to announce that the
2020 Distinguished Service Award is given to

Dr. Sunanda Basu
National Science Foundation (Retired)
Visiting Research Scholar, Boston College

Citation: For selfless service over nearly three decades towards promoting SCOSTEP science, together with promoting, encouraging, and recognizing the talent in solar terrestrial sciences across the globe.

Dr. Sunanda Basu is recognized for her selfless service, over a period of thirty years, rendered for the benefit of the scientific community working in sciences related to SCOSTEP. Over these years, Dr. Basu participated passionately in several roles, such as (i) active researcher working on several topics of SCOSTEP science, (ii) leader of working groups wherein she led the researchers on focused solar-terrestrial problems, (iii) science management wherein she interfaced with various working groups, (iv) fundraiser for the success of major SCOSTEP programs, (v) encouragement of human resources in SCOSTEP sciences (with a special emphasis on gender balance and global participation), and (vi) outreach and popularization of SCOSTEP science. She has been a true champion in promoting, encouraging, and recognizing the talent in solar terrestrial sciences across the globe. Some aspects of her contributions are briefly mentioned below to highlight her commitment, dedication, care, concern, and service to the SCOSTEP science and SCOSTEP programs.

Dr. Basu has served SCOSTEP in various programs and in various roles since 1990. In the STEP program, she chaired one of the working groups and served as guest editor of papers that this group produced. In 1998, she served on the steering committee to develop the S-RAMP program and spearheaded an international campaign in 1999 called Space Weather Month which brought together ground-based facilities worldwide to draw a global picture of space weather activity. Sunanda was a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee that created CAWSES program and then served as Chair of the Science Steering Committee. As part of CAWSES in 2006, Sunanda supported a first ever worldwide virtual conference in Sun-Earth system science to kick off an international investigation of extreme space weather, promote science capacity building in developing countries, provide a resource for students worldwide, and celebrate the spirit of exploration and collaboration in science that fueled the International Geophysical Year 50 years prior. By the final day, the conference had logged 272 registered participants from 20 countries and more than 120,000 total hits.

Finally, Dr. Basu's efforts in building capacity for science worldwide were focused on inspiring and supporting scientific talent) our greatest asset for scientific progress.

As the examples above demonstrate, Dr. Basu has contributed tirelessly to SCOSTEP programs over the past 30 years recognizing that space weather is experienced worldwide and that scientific talent knows no geophysical boundaries. It is with gratitude and honor that we present the 2020 SCOSTEP Service Award to Dr. Sunanda Basu.