

SCOSTEP 2020 DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARD



SCOSTEP is pleased to announce that the **2020 Distinguished Scientist Award** is given to

Professor Qiugang Zong
Peking University, Beijing, China

Citation: For breakthroughs in identifying particle acceleration mechanisms and in unifying fundamental magnetic structures in space plasmas, and for many significant contributions to space physics for over 25 years.

Professor Qiugang Zong's contributions to space science are widely known in the international space science community and evident through his extensive publication record in AGU scientific journals. Professor Zong's scientific findings demonstrate exceptional physical insight into the behavior of energetic particles and ultra-low-frequency (ULF) wave-particle interactions in Earth's magnetosphere and radiation belts. A specialty of Professor Zong is the analysis of multi-spacecraft data, a notoriously difficult endeavor in which practical experience in the design and exploitation of spacecraft instrumentation are required to significantly advanced basic knowledge of geospace. Professor Zong is at the forefront of science through his co-investigator status on the Geotail, Cluster and Double Star missions. His science has been recognized through international awards such as the European Space Agency (ESA) "Outstanding Scientist Award," the "Special Cluster Award," and the NASA-Cluster science team "Group Achievement Award." At the EGU meeting in Vienna in May 2020, Professor Zong received the prestigious "Hannes Alfvén Award" in recognition of his twenty-five years record of excellence in space science.

As well as his many scientific contributions, Professor Zong has been instrumental in recruiting and training a young, vibrant team of students who have gone on to become faculty members at major universities, e.g., UCLA, UC Berkeley, U Michigan. As a result of Professor Zong's leadership, the space science group at Peking University (PKU) has emerged as one of the leading research groups worldwide in space physics, especially in energetic particle measurements and the design and building of energetic particle detectors. At PKU Professor Zong is the consummate professional, fully committed to the pursuit of scientific excellence, and advancing the careers of the many highly qualified people under his wing. Professor Zong's knowledge and experience are, without a doubt, crucial to the future success of China's emergence as a major space-faring nation.

Professor Zong is also very active in service to the space science community and has organized AGU Chapman conferences and sessions for workshops hosted by the AGU, EGU, and AOGS. He has also served as a Guest Editor of JASTP, and as an editor of Geoscience Letters and Earth & Planetary Physics. He has also served as an Associate Editor for JGR and President of the Solar & Planetary Section of AOGS.

Professor Zong has impeccable scientific credentials and he is internationally recognized and renowned for his contributions to space physics for over 25 years. His role in planning and participating in space science missions in China and Europe is widely recognized. Outside of China, in his area of specialization, Professor Zong is one of the most respected space physicists of his generation. It is an esteemed honor to present the 2020 SCOSTEP Distinguished Scientist Award to Professor Qiugang Zong.