

DR. JAMES KIMPEL

Director, National Severe Storms Laboratory, Professor of Meteorology

B.S., 1964, Denison University; M.S. 1970, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr. Kimpel is a futurist with an emphasis on the atmospheric sciences and their potential impact on society. Kimpel is interested in putting together alliances of organizations and people to tackle complex, multidisciplinary problems. Past efforts include contributions to the creation of the National Weather Center, the OU/Fort Valley/Industry Consortium, and the Center for Computational Geosciences. He presently is designing alternative graduate curricula in Meteorology to develop student expertise in the transfer of technology and high-quality service to clients. He occasionally teaches a course in private sector meteorology the case-study method.

Dr. Kimpel presently serves on the National Academy of Sciences Board on Natural Disasters and on the National Centers for Environmental Prediction Advisory Panel. Previously, he chaired the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research and the National Science Foundation's Advisory Committee for the Atmospheric Sciences. Since coming to OU in 1973, Dr. Kimpel has served as the Associate Dean of the College of Engineering, the Director of the School of Meteorology, the Dean of the College of Geosciences, and the Senior Vice-President, Provost of the Norman Campus, and now the Director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory.

His research interests include cyclogenesis, severe storms and energy-balance climatology.