



Dr. Brigitte Schmieder (Observatoire de Paris, LESIA, France) is the recipient of SCOSTEP's Distinguished Service Medal for 2015. The Award is given for to Dr. Schmieder for her immense and unique contributions to SCOSTEP activities, and towards realization of its programs and events and for her outstanding leadership and long service, spanning several decades, within the SCOSTEP community. She has served on the SCOSTEP Bureau as a representative of IAU for ten years (1996 - 2006) and later as a Vice-President (2007 - 2011). She was the Chairperson of the SCOSTEP Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC), which provided the motivation and early planning for the remarkably successful CAWSES-I and CAWSES-II programs of SCOSTEP. The VarSITI program of SCOSTEP also continues to follow the vision laid out by the LRPC, which emphasized a unified view of solar-terrestrial system, thus promoting interdisciplinary programs in solar-

terrestrial physics. She has promoted the participation of early career scientists at the many meetings she has organized for SCOSTEP, and encouraged international collaborations.

Dr. Brigitte Schmieder began her service to SCOSTEP in 1991 when she organized a SCOSTEP workshop on "Flare 22". The content of the workshop has made a profound impact on the study of Flare Physics. In 1996, Brigitte was elected to the Bureau to represent IAU. She served in the Bureau for ten years, and then she was elected to the position of vice-president of SCOSTEP in 2007 until 2011. In 2000, she was selected as the Chairperson of the SCOSTEP Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC). The purpose of this committee was to define future research programs of CAWSES. The other committee members were Sunanda Basu, W. Baumjohann, J. Lean, T. Ono and R. A. Vincent. This group, with Brigitte's leadership, came up with a new approach for solar terrestrial physics and led to a multi-disciplinary program covering the global Sun-Earth System based on various time scales. Each sub-program covered a specific time-scale event set, from short time scales like solar eruptions (i.e. flares and CMEs) and space weather effects to long time scales such as solar cycle effects on climate. Instead of considering solar events in one theme, and different layers of the Earth's atmosphere in other themes, this new program mixed different solar-terrestrial physics disciplines which enabled researchers in various disciplines to work together to understand the signatures of Sun on the Earth environment in both short and long time-scales. This program (CAWSES1) was accepted by the SCOSTEP Bureau in September 2002 at the Rio de Janeiro meeting. Dr. Sunanda Basu was the chairperson of the program which consisted of four specific themes: (1) Sun's Influence on Climate, (2) Space Weather: Science and Applications, (3) Atmospheric Coupling Processes and (4) Climatology of the Sun-Earth System.

As the Vice-President of SCOSTEP, Brigitte also played a leading role in formulating the CAWSES II Program (2009 - 2013). The CAWSES II program consisted of four specific topics with a concept similar to CAWSES I but with a more quantified study. The four topics were: (1) What are the solar influences on Earth's climate, (2) How does the geospace respond to an alert climate, (3) How does the short term solar variability affect the geospace environment, and (4) what is the geospace response to variable waves from the lower atmosphere.

In addition to her major participation in building and promoting the CAWSES programs, Brigitte has organized numerous meetings for SCOSTEP. To name a few: STP-12 in Berlin (2012), SCOSTEP/CAWSES Session at the IUGG General Assembly held in Melbourne, Australia (2011), etc. In addition, Brigitte had a remarkable role in promoting SCOSTEP and its programs in particular using her association with other International Unions. The essential contributions given by Brigitte are the formation of CAWSES I and II programs.