

SCOSTEP 2023 Distinguished Service Award

SCOSTEP is pleased to announce that the
2023 Distinguished Service Award is given to

Dr. Marianna G. Shepherd

York University, Toronto, Canada



Marianna G.
Shepherd

Citation: For unique and meritorious service to SCOSTEP activities and interests at an international level, particularly for her work in the position of the Scientific Secretary of SCOSTEP.

Dr. Marianna G. Shepherd served SCOSTEP as Scientific Secretary from 2010 to 2019. In this role, Dr. Shepherd organized and oversaw the day-to-day financial and administrative operations of SCOSTEP. In addition, Dr. Shepherd organized and managed the annual SCOSTEP Visiting Scholars program; the Capacity Building activities; and assisted in the organization of the 13th Quadrennial Solar-Terrestrial Physics Symposium, Xi'an, China in October 2014. She also served as the main local organizer of the 14th Quadrennial Solar-Terrestrial Physics Symposium in Toronto, Canada in July 2018.

Dr. Shepherd represented SCOSTEP at many events including two AGU Town Hall meetings. She also gave presentations on SCOSTEP and its relevant scientific programs at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (STSC) meetings at the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) held in Vienna in 2012, 2014 and 2015. Dr. Shepherd was instrumental in SCOSTEP's successful application for Permanent Observer status at the COPUOUS in 2012 – giving SCOSTEP a seat at future STSC COPUOS meetings. These activities contributed to the success and visibility of SCOSTEP and its scientific programs.

Dr. Shepherd assisted with the management and events for the CAWSES II and VarSITI scientific programs. She organized, prepared and managed SCOSTEP Newsletters from 2013 to 2019 and prepared brochures on SCOSTEP and VarSITI. She also organized and managed elections for SCOSTEP executives in 2011, 2015 and 2019. Dr. Shepherd designed and managed the first website for SCOSTEP. She also organized a digital archive of all SCOSTEP documents and activities.

This award recognizes Dr. Shepherd's many unique and meritorious services to SCOSTEP activities, particularly her work as Scientific Secretary of SCOSTEP, which contributed much to successful running of SCOSTEP and its projects and to a better visibility of SCOSTEP in the international scientific community.