Shuttleworth Wins International Hydrology Prize

The International Association of Hydrological Sciences awarded the 2006 International Hydrology Prize to W. James Shuttleworth, professor of hydrology and water resources at the University of Arizona and director of the Center for Sustainability of semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas (SAHRA). Shuttleworth is the fifth U.S. resident to receive the prize in its 25-year history. It recognizes outstanding and practical contributions to hydrology on an international basis. Shuttleworth was cited “for his innovative, international leadership over more than thirty years, contributing to the growth of hydrology into a major discipline of Earth System Science.” Shuttleworth’s work has produced new theories and methods in the field of natural evapotranspiration, and new understandings of the relationships among hydrology, climate, weather prediction, and ecology. An advocate of the direct application of hydrologic research in support of societal needs, his collaborations and field studies have taken him to Brazil, Europe, Africa, and elsewhere.

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Elvis Sighted at NWRA Meeting

About 250 people attended the Nevada Water Resources Association’s 2006 Annual Conference, held Feb. 21-23 in Mesquite, Nevada. The first day of the meeting offered options of a golf tournament, a field trip along the Virgin River, or workshops on groundwater principles and the National Environmental Policy Act. The formal meeting started with a keynote talk by Grady Gammage, a Phoenix attorney and former member of the Central Arizona Project Board, on water resources issues in Arizona and Nevada. Throughout the remainder of the meeting, panel discussions addressed topics related to habitat conservation plans, desalination, mediation, floodplain management, treated effluent, conservation-focused nongovernmental organizations, and climate change. Many of the concurrent technical sessions related to the Southern Nevada Water Authority’s proposals to transfer water from rural portions of the state to Las Vegas, particularly with regard to quantifying evapotranspiration and improving understanding of carbonate-aquifer systems.

On a lighter note, Elvis showed up to entertain meeting participants after Wednesday’s dinner, even convincing the venerable state engineer to sing a few notes into the microphone. Not only did Elvis sing and groove, he also was an auctioneer, helping NWRA raise nearly $3,000 for its scholarship fund.