

Lonnie G. Thompson

Brief Bio

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Updated: February 19, 2019

Full CV: http://research.bpcrc.osu.edu/icecore/vitae/Lonnie_Thompson_Full_CV.pdf

Lonnie G. Thompson is a Distinguished University Professor in the School of Earth Sciences and a Senior Research Scientist in the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center at The Ohio State University. His research has propelled the field of ice core paleoclimatology out of the Polar Regions to the highest tropical and subtropical ice fields. He and the OSU Ice Core Paleoclimate Research Group have developed light-weight solar-powered drilling equipment for acquisition of histories from ice fields in the tropical South American Andes, the Himalayas, and on Kilimanjaro. These paleoclimate histories have advanced our understanding of the coupled nature of Earth's climate system. Thompson's research has resulted in major revisions in the field of paleoclimatology, in particular, by demonstrating how tropical regions have undergone significant climate variability, countering an earlier view that higher latitudes dominate climate change. Observations of glacier retreat over the last three decades confirm that glaciers around the world are melting. He has published 238 peer-reviewed papers, led 63 field expeditions and received 73 research grants. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Society and is an elected Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2007 he received the National Medal of Science, the highest honor the U.S. awards to American scientists.