

David Changnon
Professor and Advisor
Meteorology Program
Department of Geography
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
Email: dchangnon@niu.edu

Bio

David Changnon is an atmospheric scientist specializing in climatological studies in the Department of Geography at Northern Illinois University (NIU). After receiving his Ph.D. in atmospheric sciences in 1991 from Colorado State University, he spent a year and a half at the Southeast Regional Climate Center in Columbia, South Carolina, before taking an academic position at NIU in August 1992. His major expertise rests in developing climatological information and models for use by weather-sensitive decision makers in agriculture, utilities, insurance, and transportation. He has developed an innovative new “education-to-career” program to train students and simultaneously solve climatological problems facing government and private industry. A recent example of bridging the gap between climatologist and weather-sensitive user involves the collaborative efforts of he, Mike Sandstrom, and Dr. Brian Flood of Del Monte Foods to develop a real-time insect migration risk forecast for corn growers in the eastern U.S. and southern Ontario. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 refereed articles and five book chapters and has been a P.I. or co-P.I. on grants from the National Science Foundation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Midwestern Regional Climate Center. He has served on various committees of two scientific societies and participated in the U.S. Climate Change Science Program and on a National Research Council (NRC) Panel titled “Estimating and Communicating Uncertainty in Weather and Seasonal Climate Forecasts.” He has participated in NIU’s Strategic Planning Initiative, serving as the chairperson for the Curricular Innovations Task Force. He has been awarded NIU’s Presidential Teaching Professorship (2008) and Board of Trustees Professorship (2010). During the 2010-11 academic year, he accepted the Acting Associate Vice Provost position in NIU’s Office of the Provost. In August 2011 he returned to his faculty role in NIU’s Department of Geography.