

During the NTHMP Annual Meeting, Dr. Grant Cooper, Chair, recognized the following individuals for their contributions to the success of the NTHMP:

John Schelling of Washington. John served eight years with the NTHMP and the Coordinating Committee, and four years of that as Co-Chair of the Mitigation and Education Subcommittee.

John has accepted a new position with the Washington State Department of Commerce to become the agency's internal emergency manager and will be leaving the NTHMP in mid-February.

John's leadership, shared experience, and solution-oriented creative ability to think outside the box with collaborative work, and through the wealth of accomplishments from the State of Washington, have been important in providing solutions of how to move the organization forward, even during challenging times.



John enacted the first community-up approach to tsunami vertical evacuation siting with strong community input through Project Safe Haven. This project assisted local leaders to build the first vertical evacuation structure in the United States at the Ocosta Elementary School in Westport, Washington.

John served as the MES co-chair from 2009-2013. He was actively involved in the TsunamiReady program and the guidelines update, Hazus Tsunami model methodology development, media guidebook development, tsunami vertical evacuation modeling, baseline surveying, Washington local and state tsunami workgroup, and continuously increasing the resilience of Washington to recover from earthquakes and tsunamis.

The mutual respect and capability brought to bear by John's participation in the NTHMP have ultimately assisted with moving the nation forward toward making coastal residents and visitors more prepared and safer from tsunamis.

He's been a commanding, collegial, and integral part of this organization and will be sorely missed. We wish him well, and look forward to engaging with him in his new role whenever possible.

Paula Dunbar of the National Centers for Environmental Information, formerly the NGDC has made outstanding contributions to the NTHMP over many years.

Paula and her USGS collaborator, **Dr. Craig Weaver**, developed, assembled, organized, wrote, proofed, and disseminated the *National Tsunami Hazard Assessment* first in 2008 and again with the Second Edition of this Assessment being made available at this meeting. Paula has done exceptional work in gathering data, verifying it, and ensuring only accurate and complete information was made available to us. Thank you, Paula, for your outstanding contributions!



Sue McLean, the Director of the National Centers for Environmental Information, formerly the NGDC. Sue will be retiring this year.

Mike Angove recognized Sue for her many years of steadfast support of the NOAA Tsunami Program and the NTHMP. She is a woman of vision and action. We all have benefited from her diligent work over the years, which has included supervision of building and collecting data for the historical archive of tsunami events; water level data archiving; digital elevation modeling, and much more. We are all indebted to you for your support. Thank you.



Additional recognition and thank-yous

Stephanie Ross of the USGS for working so diligently to recruit the large number of USGS professionals who joined the NTHMP/USGS Workshop on Monday and Tuesday, February 1 and 2. She did an admirable job herding cats, keeping the agenda updated, and collaborating with the Mapping & Modeling Subcommittee to ensure success of this workshop.

Kelly Stroker of our host agency, the National Centers for Environmental Information here in Boulder. Kelly has done a great deal of on-site logistical work ensuring that everything here will run smoothly. Thank you, Kelly, for your strong support and collaboration.