

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

Susana Martinez
Governor

John Bemis
Cabinet Secretary

Brett F. Woods, Ph.D.
Deputy Cabinet Secretary

Fernando Martinez, Director
Mining and Minerals Division



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 1, 2013

Media Contact: Jim Winchester 505-231-8800 E-mail: Jim.Winchester@state.nm.us

New Mexico Earth Science Achievement Awards Ceremony Announced

*Writer John Fleck And Geophysicist Tien Grauch
To Be Honored for Science Contributions In New Mexico*

Santa Fe, NM -- The 2013 New Mexico Earth Science Achievement Awards will be presented on February 4 to John Fleck, for outstanding contributions advancing the role of earth science in areas of public service and public policy in New Mexico, and to V.J.S. (Tien) Grauch, for outstanding contributions advancing the role of earth science in areas of applied science and education in New Mexico. These awards, co-sponsored by Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) in Santa Fe and the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, a division of New Mexico Tech in Socorro, were initiated in 2003 to honor those often unrecognized champions of earth science issues vital to the future of New Mexico. Selections were made following a statewide nomination process.

The presentation will occur at noon in the rotunda of the state capitol building on Monday, February 4, during the legislative session, in conjunction with Earth Science Day. Several agencies will be staffing tables and displays in the west wing of the Roundhouse from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on that day. The presentations will be made by John Bemis, the cabinet secretary for the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, and by L. Greer Price, state geologist and director of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. The public is invited to visit the Roundhouse throughout the day and to attend the ceremony.

John Fleck has been a staff writer at the *Albuquerque Journal* since 1990. His focus has been on science and public policy questions that arise out of current research. Most recently his focus has been on weather, climate, drought, and New Mexico's water supplies, where he examines not only the science behind the issue but the complex interplay of politics and policy.

Tien Grauch is a research geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey (in Denver). Her research interests include the integration and 3D modeling of geologic and geophysical data, specifically with an eye toward understanding the complex geologic framework of rift basins. Her work in the Rio Grande rift of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado has been ground breaking and seminal. Her studies have been directed at understanding the geologic controls on groundwater resources in those areas where basin aquifers are under stress, with an obvious benefit to the people of New Mexico.

EMNRD provides resource protection, recreation and resource development services to the public and other state agencies. The New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources is a non-regulatory research and service division of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro. For 85 years, the bureau has served as the geological survey for the state of New Mexico. Nominations for next year's awards are welcome from the general public and may be made directly to the director of the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources.

For More Information, Contact:

Fernando Martinez, Director
Mining and Minerals Division
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 476-3435