

General Description

The Director of Weather Operations is responsible for the research portfolio of the Mount Washington Observatory, the effective operations of the weather station on the summit of Mount Washington, and the MWOBS mesonet system. The Director assures this work is aligned with the mission, vision, and strategic plan of the Observatory. The MWOBS is a highly collaborative work environment. The Director must work well and lead well in teams of staff, volunteers and collaborating partners.

DRWO responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- The operation of the weather station on the summit of Mount Washington, including staffing, instrumentation, physical plant, forecast services, etc.
- Building and enhancing the organization's research plan in collaboration with staff and volunteers, and in alignment with the MWOBS strategic plan.
- Seeking and obtaining funding from a variety of sources to support research, both independent MWOBS research and collaborative research.
- Publication and presentation of MWOBS research.
- Oversight of research done by observers and interns.
- Oversight of the MWOBS mesonet and mesonet data usage.
- Collaboration with other staff, in particular the Director of Education, Director of Technology and Director of Finance and Administration, Director of Communications, Transportation Coordinator.
- Interaction with scientific, educational, and other professional communities, and with the membership and general public.
- Interaction with members of the summit community, including the State of New Hampshire, Appalachian Mountain Club, White Mountain National Forest, Cog Railway, Mount Washington Auto Road and Town Square Communications.

Specific Responsibilities and Activities

- 1) Provide a professional leadership role in serving the mission of the Observatory
- 2) Expand, enhance and execute a research plan for the Observatory, including both the weather station and the mesonet.
 - a. Identify and pursue independent research opportunities
 - b. Identify and pursue collaborative research opportunities
 - c. Identify and pursue hosted research and product testing
 - d. Understand and implement a process for strategically seeking research funding opportunities.
 - e. Assure regular publication of MWOBS research in professional journals and publications.
- 3) Oversee weather station staff and activities.
 - Hiring, training, supervision, evaluation and, if necessary, termination of the professional observer staff. Evaluation of staff to include input from the Director of Education and the Director of Technology. Assures all observer shifts are properly covered, and may substitute for observers when necessary, assuring shifts are properly covered.
 - Oversee MWOBS intern program, including selection, project identification and execution, final reports.
 - Assure preservation of archived weather data, photographs and negatives, and other items or data of historical significance housed on the summit.
 - Assure summit staff maintains ongoing photographic activity on and about the summit, particularly during unique weather events, continually improving and adding to a historical photograph collection.
 - Collaborate with Observatory staff in all areas including technology, education, communication, development, and finance. Collaborate on volunteer programs on the summit. Coordinate with transportation manager for all summit transportation needs.
 - Assure summit is appropriately and adequately supplied including food, equipment, specialized clothing, and other supplies and equipment as needed.
 - Regularly serves as a weather observer and works on the summit no less than one week every other month.
 - Oversee the responsible use of Observatory facilities and resources by Observatory departments, outside agencies and organizations.
 - Assure effective scheduling and coordination for use of the summit's physical and logistical resources, including transportation, beds, meals, instruments, computers, and summit staff time.

- Oversee, direct, and/or arrange for proper training of summit staff, including non-meteorology items like CPR and First Aid.
- 4) Oversee maintenance and calibration schedule of weather instrumentation and summit facilities to be kept in excellent condition. Lead upgrade efforts.
 - 5) Budget responsibility for the research portfolio and weather operations.
 - Budget Development
 - Revenue generation through grants, product testing, other funding sources.
 - Budget oversight and management.
 - 6) Represent and promote the Summit and the Observatory professionally in all relations with media, membership, public, scientific, and professional communities.
 - 7) Assure positive relationships with members of the summit community, including the State of New Hampshire, Appalachian Mountain Club, White Mountain National Forest, Cog Railway, Mount Washington Auto Road and Town Square Communications.
 - 8) Attend staff and board meetings and prepare reports as appropriate.
 - 9) Write articles for Windswept and other journals as appropriate
 - 10) Oversee Observatory participation in Search and Rescue operations where appropriate.
 - 11) Perform other related tasks as assigned

Qualifications

- Advanced degree in weather-related field, Masters required, PhD preferred.
- Demonstrated supervision, management, and leadership experience.
- Demonstrated success in obtaining research funding.
- Demonstrated experience in collaborative research efforts.
- METAR certification within three months of acceptance of the position.

Reporting

The Director of Weather Operations reports to the Executive Director