

**EARTHSTOCK WEEK PLENARY LECTURE
AND LIVING WORLD LECTURE**

**FRIDAY APRIL 20, 2018, 7:30 P.M.
CHARLES WANG CENTER THEATER**

**DR. PAUL B. SHEPSON, PURDUE UNIVERSITY and
INCOMING DEAN, SCHOOL OF MARINE AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY**

Embrace the Change!

SUMMARY:

A growing global population, continuing industrialization, and continuing reliance on fossil fuels are combining to create a number of threats to natural ecosystems and to sustainability of human processes. These impacts will affect where we live, how we feed ourselves, and other important measures of quality of life. While the solutions to climate change are rather daunting, there are a multitude of reasons for optimism, and associated opportunities. Indeed, there are great opportunities for personal leadership, for business development, contributions to the economy, to sustainable development, and to quality of life. Technical developments are enabling the identification of a wide array of viable paths to carbon-free energy production and transportation systems. We have the tools needed to change the world, to rebuild healthier cities, and to better protect ourselves from natural and human-derived hazards, and to build resilience to rapid change. But equally exciting is the fact that New York and Stony Brook University can lead in many ways, and in this talk I will encourage us all to do that! We can be the change we want to see in the world, and making it happen will be exciting!



PAUL B. SHEPSON, BRIEF BIOGRAPHY:

Paul Shepson was born and raised in Elmira, N.Y., a child of the Finger Lakes. He is an atmospheric chemist, and is currently serving as Director of the Division of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences at the National Science Foundation, on leave from Purdue University, where he is Jonathan Amy Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences. He was also the founding Director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center. Professor Shepson's research focuses on exchange of gases between the surface and the atmosphere in a variety of environments and involves building unusual platforms including tethered balloons, ice-tethered buoys, and his group's aircraft, the Airborne Laboratory for Atmospheric Research. He is passionate about understanding and communicating about climate change and its impacts and related

constructive problem solving. We are fortunate that he will soon come to Stony Brook as Dean of the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences.