

Kenneth A. Blumenfeld (“Kenny”)

Ph.D., Department of Geography, University of Minnesota

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Short-term objectives: to identify and quantify risks from extreme convective weather events in urban areas; to develop methods for offsetting unequal access to critical weather information in the US.

Career objectives: to improve public resilience to weather and climate hazards through interdisciplinary research, collaboration, outreach, and education

TOPICAL INTERESTS

- Extreme climatic events; natural hazards; severe convective storms; extreme rainfall
- Societal impacts of extreme and hazardous weather; “meteorological justice”
- Statistics of weather and climate extremes

EDUCATION

Ph.D.: Geography; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN (2008)

Dissertation title: *Convective Weather Hazards in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area*

M.A.: Geography; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN (2005)

B.S.: Geography; University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (December 2001)

RECENT EMPLOYMENT

Spring 2009: Research Associate, Dept. of Geography; University of MN, Minneapolis, MN; contact: Glen Powell (612-625-8828, powel160@umn.edu)

Spring 2009 to present: Independent Contractor/Consultant for severe weather event workshop and training exercise; contact: Bill Anderson, Minneapolis Emergency Preparedness, (Bill.Anderson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

Fall 2008: Visiting Assistant Professor, Dept. of Geography; University of MN, Minneapolis, MN; contact: Glen Powell (612-625-8828), powel160@umn.edu

Spring 2008: Visiting Instructor, Dept. of Geography, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN; contact: Laura Kigin (651-696-6249, kigin@macalester.edu)

Fall 2002-Fall 2007: Graduate (Research and/or Teaching) Assistant, Dept. of Geography; University of MN, Minneapolis, MN; contact: Glen Powell (612-625-8828, powel160@umn.edu)

SELECT GRANTS AND AWARDS

2007-08: Ralph H. Brown Prize (best student publication), Dept. of Geography, University of MN.

2005: Graduate Research Partnership Program (GRPP), University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN;
summer 2005. Amount: ~\$5,900

2004: Best Student Poster, 14th Conference on Applied Climatology, Seattle WA, January 11-15, 2004

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Blumenfeld, K.A., 2009: High-impact convective weather events in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, MN.
Submitted to *Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology* (Jan. 2009)

Blumenfeld, K.A., 2009. Frequencies and return-periods of major convective weather events in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, MN. 105th Annual Meeting, *Association of American Geographers*. March 22-27, 2009; Las Vegas, NV

Blumenfeld, K.A., (in press): Spatial and temporal dimensions of extreme rainfall in Minnesota and the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, in *Midwest Climate Variability, Predictability and Change* (Sara Pryor, ed.), Indiana University Press.

Blumenfeld, K.A., 2008: Comments on “Low-level winds in tornadoes and potential catastrophic tornado impacts in urban areas.” *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 89, 1578-1579.

Blumenfeld, K.A., 2008. Have we misidentified 100-year rainfalls? 104th Annual Meeting, *Association of American Geographers*. April 15-19, 2008; Boston, MA.

Blumenfeld, K.A. 2007: Extreme snowfall distributions: the tails of two cities. 2nd *Upper Midwest Winter Storm Conference*. October 26-27, 2007; St. Cloud, MN.

OUTREACH, PUBLIC SERVICE, MEDIA

Select Invited Presentations

- Keynote Address: Governor’s Homeland Security and Emergency Management, annual conference, March 4, 2009
- National Weather Service/Broadcast Meteorologist Annual Severe Weather Orientation, Chanhassen NWSFO (Chanhassen, MN), May 13, 2008.
- GISSO (Geographic Information Science Student Organization), University of MN, April 30, 2008.
- Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter, April 24, 2008
- 2008 Minnesota SKYWARN Workshop, St. Paul, MN, April 5, 2008; also at 2007 SKYWARN training workshop, Buffalo, MN, April 14, 2007
- Metropolitan Emergency Managers’ Association (MEMA), Bloomington, MN, April 2, 2008.

Media Appearances and Interviews

- Panelist, *Jet Streaming* 2nd Annual Severe Weather Forum, Minnesota Public Radio, May 6, 2009
- Featured in *A Downtown Tornado? It Could Happen*, by Bill McAuliffe, Minneapolis Star Tribune, September 3, 2007.
- Featured in *September’s Song is Same Old Tune*, by Bill McAuliffe, Minneapolis Star Tribune, September
- Guest on Minnesota Public Radio’s *Jet Streaming* “podcast” May 29, 2007
- Guest on Minnesota Public Radio’s *Midday*, June 29, 2003, Monticello, MN