

2011 Fellow

American Association for the Advancement of Science



Ed Brook

Professor,
Geology and Geophysics

Edward Brook, a professor of geosciences in the newly expanded College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences, has been elected as fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The organization annually elects fellows whose “efforts on behalf of the advancement of science or its applications are scientifically or socially distinguished.”

Brook is a leading international expert on the study of ice cores to look at the Earth’s climatic history, in particular the use of trace gases trapped in ancient ice cores to better understand past climate changes and shed light on what may occur in the future. He frequently publishes in *Science*, *Nature* and other top journals and is on the advisory board of the U.S. Ice Drilling Program. He is the lead principal investigator on a major program funded by the National Science Foundation to promote international collaboration and education in ice core sciences.

AAAS notes that Brook is being honored for his “distinguished contributions to the reconstruction and interpretation of climatically important gases in ice cores.”

In 2011, Brook was a principal investigator on the West Antarctic Ice Sheet Divide Ice Core project, funded by National Science Foundation, when it completed the longest ice core drilled by U.S. scientists, a 10,928-foot column with some ice up to 60,000 years old, which will give experts some of the best data they’ve ever obtained to answer key questions about past climate changes. That year, Brook was also named one of 21 Google Science Communication Fellows in the United States, an initiative focused on improving national communication about climate change.

Brook will be honored at a forum on Feb. 18 in Vancouver, B.C., during the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Air bubbles in polar ice core sample. Air trapped in ice provides information about the composition of the atmosphere in the past, from recent times to almost the last one million years. Photo credit: Thomas Bauska, Oregon State University.

“I like working in polar science and ice core research because it involves so many aspects of science, research in fascinating extreme environments, and a fantastic group of international scientists. It is an honor to just be able to do this work at all, and to have talented students and colleagues to do it with.” — Edward Brook