Dedication

This volume is dedicated to two of my (Prof. Hindman's) mentors, one from his formative years and one from his CCNY years. Dr. Theodore B. Smith of Pasadena, California was one of my supervisors when I was an undergraduate student research assistant at Meteorology Research Inc., Altadena California in the early 1960's. I got the job by "hanging around" the American Meteorological Society (AMS) meeting's at UCLA where I met Ted and his colleagues. Because of my curiosity about cloud and considerable manual skills, they asked me to help them develop an airborne cloud and precipitation particle sampler that led to an acknowledgement of my work in the paper by Paul B. MacCready, Jr. and Clement J. Todd ("Continuous particle sampler." J. Appl. Meteor., 3, 450-460, 1964). At the time, I was developing a ground-based particle sampler that led to one of my AMS Macelwane papers ("Continuous sampler for settling particles." J. Rech. Atmos., 2, 29-35, 1964) an early form of which Ted reviewed. Clem Todd lobbied him "to go light" on the review. Ted acquiesced and the paper won only an "honorable mention"! The review occurred because Ted chose to room with me on a field project. I was flattered, he certainly had other rooming choices. This month, I was able to visit a recently retired Ted and his vivacious wife Jean in their home in Pasadena. He remains the quiet, thoughtful and wise person I remember as a youth but just a bit grayer. I attempt to use these fine qualities in my mentoring of students.

I consider my most recent mentor the late Professor Emeritus Willard J. Pierson, Jr. of the Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Department at CCNY (unfortunately, Bill died peacefully 7 June 2003; bummer!). I first met Bill the spring of 1988 during his AMS Certified Consulting Meteorologist oral examination; I was one of the examiners! I had no idea he was at CCNY when I accepted the job as associate professor in the fall of 1988. He quickly became one of my mentors, helping me find my way around complicated and bewildering NYC. He also became one of my colleagues. My most cherished memories are his almost daily visits to my office as he shuffled his way to the nearby stairwell for a "smoke". He would inform me of his latest research, most recent mistakes he discovered in the literature and, most importantly, gave me citations from Science that helped me in my teaching and research (he was my "eyes" to the overwhelming stream of weekly Science magazines). I just hope that I remain as intellectually alert as Bill if I'm permitted to reach his 81 years.

Cover photograph

Comparative size of three types of snow crystals: capped column (left), dendritic stellar (center) and needle (right). Form Noel Hennelly's paper in this volume