Dedication

“Hello, my name is Peter Hobbs and now about that theory of yours….” A thin man with thick glasses reached across the banquet table to shake my hand. I was a brand-new graduate student at the Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University and was at an American Meteorological Society meeting in Reno Nevada in the fall of 1965, one of a group of students being shepherded by Prof. Lewis Grant. Earlier in the meeting I had made a statement from the floor challenging Hobbs’ application of results from his student Jim Dye’s laboratory study of shattering of millimeter-sized droplets in the presence of CO2. Hobbs had challenged Tom Henderson’s ice nucleus counts using a portable counter cooled by Dry Ice that produced a cloud of micron-sized droplets. It seemed to me like comparing “apples and oranges”. My statement ended the discussion.

Thereafter, I followed Hobbs’ impressive and growing list of Ph. D. recipients at the University of Washington, Dye being his first, because I wanted to earn one. At the time he was the only one graduating students in a reasonable period. Accordingly, I studied with Peter between 1972 and 1974 and *in absentia* in 1975. The one thing he said when I had to return to my position at the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake California was “I will not hold you back”. Boy, did he keep his word! My dissertation chapters returned from all over the world with his trademark thoughtful, careful and thorough reviews. When it came time for my final exam in the fall of 1975, Bob Charlson, my prized committee member, was unexpectedly called out-of-town. So, Peter replaced him and I graduated on time!

Peter certainly “put his money where his mouth was” and, as a result, I greatly benefited from being his student. I hope I’m doing as well with my students.

Cover photograph

Manuel Lopez is shown removing snow samples from the collector on the roof of Storm Peak Laboratory. He has reloaded the collector with plastic bags to collect the next samples.