



Partners in Prevention

Volume 19, Issue 2, February 2017

National Weatherperson of the Year Award Presented at Surprise Visit

Friday, Feb. 3, turned out to not be just another day at the office for National Hurricane Center Director Dr. Richard Knabb. The accomplished meteorologist, and passionate advocate for hurricane resilience, received a surprise visit from FLASH President and CEO Leslie Chapman-Henderson and a delegation including two former Directors who presented him with the *2017 National Weatherperson of the Year (NWP) Award*.

Former Director (and 2015 NWP of the Year Winner) Max Mayfield and former Director Bill Read joined the ceremony with remarks about Dr. Knabb's success as a meteorologist, researcher, risk communicator, scientist, and leader. Dr. Knabb's wife, Rhonda, and son, Parker, looked on as Leslie shared tribute letters from the presidents of his alma maters—Purdue University, Florida State University, and the University of Hawaii. Jim Cantore of *The Weather Channel* rounded out the surprise with a [short video presentation](#) as a former colleague and fan of Dr. Knabb. (Jim was named NWP of the Year in 2014, the program's inaugural year.)

Within minutes of the presentation, Dr. Knabb began receiving congratulations on Twitter and Facebook including a [video tribute](#) from the 2016 NWP of the Year, Alex Garcia. A news release also was sent nationwide to the news media, social media outlets, and industry networks. To add your congratulations on Facebook [click here](#). To read more about Dr. Knabb and the NWP Award, [click here](#).