

Graduate Seminar:

November 15th, 2012

Time: 3:30 PM

Location: INSCC 110

Presenter: Dr. Tim Garrett, University of Utah, Department of Atmospheric Sciences

Title: Photographing Snowflakes in Freefall at Alta

Abstract: Of course, Utah is known for the spectacular quality of its snow. Yet the mainstream media has promoted the biased view that Utah snowflakes are flawless images of beauty and perfection. Is this true? Cale Fallgatter in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences has built a new instrument, the Multi-Angle Snowflake Camera (MASC) that is providing for the first time a fair and balanced perspective on what Utah snowflakes really look like. This talk demonstrate the MASC and outline recent photography of snowflakes in freefall, modes of hydrometeor growth that are being observed, and some intriguing possibilities for how we might simplify parameterizations of snowflake fallspeed in weather models.