

Response to CSI Welcomes Chris Anderson as Assistant Director

I am very excited to join the staff at Iowa State in support of the Climate Science Institute. I have deep Midwestern roots that include a family farm in southwest Minnesota. I feel very much at ease in the mixture of farm families, university folks, and folks with small town sensibilities that populate Ames.

I also see a great opportunity at ISU to bring climate information into practical use. The science of climate variability and climate change is entering a period in which the research goals will become more focused on using climate information for resource management, policy decisions, and industry profitability. I feel fortunate that Iowa State is supportive of efforts to study both the physical processes of climate variability and climate change and the intersection between climate information and its strategic use for management of resources and investments.

My areas of expertise fit well within an environment that promotes basic and applied research. My scientific pursuits will continue to focus on how climate variability and climate change relate to regional water cycles (especially over the central United States) and to high-impact weather events, like tornadoes and floods. I am open to discussions of how climate information can be used in any realm. I am particularly impressed by the potential to improve management decisions with climate information in the following realms: engineering, agricultural production and engineering, ecosystem management and monitoring, and weather risk management.