# Acquisition of AWIPS II EDEX Server and CAVE Client in a Synoptic Weather and Analysis Classroom

## Final Report (Z14-12728)

PI: Sen Chiao Meteorology and Climate Science San José State University

## I. Overview

The Department of Meteorology and Climate at San Jose State University received an Unidata Equipment Award in Spring 2014. This \$11,510 equipment award was to procure AWIPS II EDEX server and CAVE clients for teaching purposes.

## II. Equipment

The approval of equipment from the Unidata review panel was for purchasing one standalone server (EDEX) and five clients (CAVE) only. Other proposed accessories (monitors and a projector) were not declined. The equipment order was placed to Dell and received in Spring 2015. Moreover, Dell computer generously supported six monitors for this order. The following picture shows the setting of AWIPS II in our newly rearranged room (Duncan Hall Rm 615).



#### III. Impact on Education and Research

Although the AWIPS II system was installed and configured in the late spring semester of 2015, students in Weather Briefing (METR 170) and Synoptic Weather and Analysis and Forecasting (METR 171) were able to test flavors of AWIPS II. Users were overwhelmed by the capacity that AWIPS II provided. The overall recommendation was that the system was so much easier to use than IDV and other meteorological packages. It is believed that AWIPS II will continuously be employed in other courses (Aviation MET, Remote Sensing, and etc.) in the department. Some upcoming senior

students will be using AWIPS II for their senor thesis research.

## **IV. Impact on the Unidata Community**

Currently the PI is exploring the possibility of making EDEX to be accessed by other users beyond the campus. One current example is that researchers from NASA Ames need the real-time HRRR feed for their projects. The PI is collaborating with them to carry out this task. Outcomes of this effort will be available in the near future.

#### V. Lessons Learned

Since the IT group at SJSU had experiences setting up previous version of AWIPS II on old machines, they did not have too much troubles setting up the latest version of AWIPS II on new machines. Following the instructions on Unidata's website suggested by Mr. Michael James, the whole installation was smooth. The clients and server have been running since for several months without any problem. The only minor issue was a hardware problem from a machine.

### VI. Presentations related to this award

Although no formal conference presentations related to this award at this moment, it is anticipated that presentations in terms of using AWIPS II products will be given in the near future.