Important Scientist Characteristics
★ For me, an analytical mind combined with amazement and wonder about our natural world, followed by concern for its well-being led to my desire to study ecology. By studying ecology, I strive to better understand the ecological challenges we face and contribute to some applied solutions.

Example of a simple research question I have tried to answer: What species of trees from northern Wisconsin might be most vulnerable (and least vulnerable) to climate change? What species might end up moving north due to a warming climate?

Technology or equipment used in research: My primary research tool has been the computer. I was among the first to use computer-based geographic information systems software (dating back to 1983) in solving real-world ecological problems.

Most Exciting Discovery
A long-term study to determine potential impacts of climate change in the eastern United States has been my most important work. Our team of Anantha Prasad, Stephen Matthews, Matthew Peters, and I have worked together well to advance this field.

When did you know you wanted to be a scientist? Being raised on a species-diverse North Dakota farm, I was intrigued by the natural world. My high school and college science courses encouraged that curiosity to learn more about my world.