Eugene Rasmusson Lectures

The Department of Atmospheric & Oceanic Science has launched annual lectures to honor Emeritus Research Professor Eugene M. Rasmusson who joined the department in May 1986. Gene is known for his seminal analysis of the atmospheric hydrologic cycle, an effort begun during his doctoral studies at MIT under Victor Starr. Gene is most well known for his observational description of ENSO. His characterization of the ocean-atmosphere state during various ENSO phases fostered theoretical and numerical modeling of this phenomenon.

Gene has been honored with the Starr lectureship at MIT, the Benton lectureship at Johns Hopkins, and the Robert Horton lectureship at the American Meteorological Society (AMS). Gene received the Jule Charney award from the AMS in 1989. Gene was a member of the National Academy of Engineering, and an associate of the National Academy of Sciences.

Gene's community leadership (as AMS President) and scientific leadership at the National Research Council and NOAA has advanced climate science. In 2007, AMS honored Gene with a named symposium.

Air Force Lt. Col. Eugene Martin Rasmusson passed away on 22 March 2015, and was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors on 22 July 2015.