Global warming, Asian Aerosols and an imperfect model for AERONET growth

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In over three decades the AERONET program has grown in nonlinear ways driven by policies, politics, and technology. These global forces have dramatically shaped how scientists and the public view and understand the natural world. These large-scale forces have trickled down to shape the direction and success of AERONET at local and regional levels. In this talk Holben will discuss the influence of two global scale events on AERONET: the politics of global warming and the dramatic rise and awareness of Asian aerosols both of which have in unexpected ways dictated the direction at the inception of AERONET and continue today to exert influence on collaborating scientists, managers and technical staff. After highlighting a subset of key individuals involved in AERONET Asia, Lind will transition to the future activities planned for the program. This will include overview of the polarimetric measurements within the network, prospect for adding aerosol property inversions in UV (340 and 380 nm), update on the v4 data processing and much more.