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Wang received her B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. from Peking University, National Research Center for Marine Environment Forecasts in Beijing, China, and Columbia University, respectively. All are in atmospheric science. After graduation in 1997, she worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Colorado in Boulder. During 1999-2014, she worked at Earth Observing Laboratory (EOL) at National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder first as an Associate Scientist and then as a Scientist I, II and III. At NCAR, she led and managed the Sounding Data Analysis Team and various research and instrument development projects at EOL. Wang was one of NCAR/EOL team members of the 2011 CO-LABS Governor's Award for High-Impact Research for the "Innovation and Transformation of Dropsonde System Technology and Delivery Systems". At NCAR, her papers were nominated three times for the UCAR Best Publication Award. She was also actively involved in K-12 and general public E&O activities, such as launching weather balloons at K-12 schools. She joined the SUNY Albany in 2012.

Wang's research interests include climate variability and change, meteorological instrumentation, weather and climate observations and networks, and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) meteorology. She is an internationally known expert on atmospheric sounding technology, measurements and data, and weather and climate applications of ground-based GNSS observations. She has published 63 peer-reviewed journal articles. She is also very active in US national and international community, including member of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) Working Group on GCOS Reference Upper-Air Network (GRUAN) since 2006 (co-chair of GRUAN task team on ground-based GPS precipitable water observations until June 2018, after that co-chair of the Working Group to GRUAN), editor of Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology and Journal of Meteorological Research, member of AMS committee on measurements and AMS Board on Data Stewardship and member of National Research Council Panel on lower troposphere temperature trends.