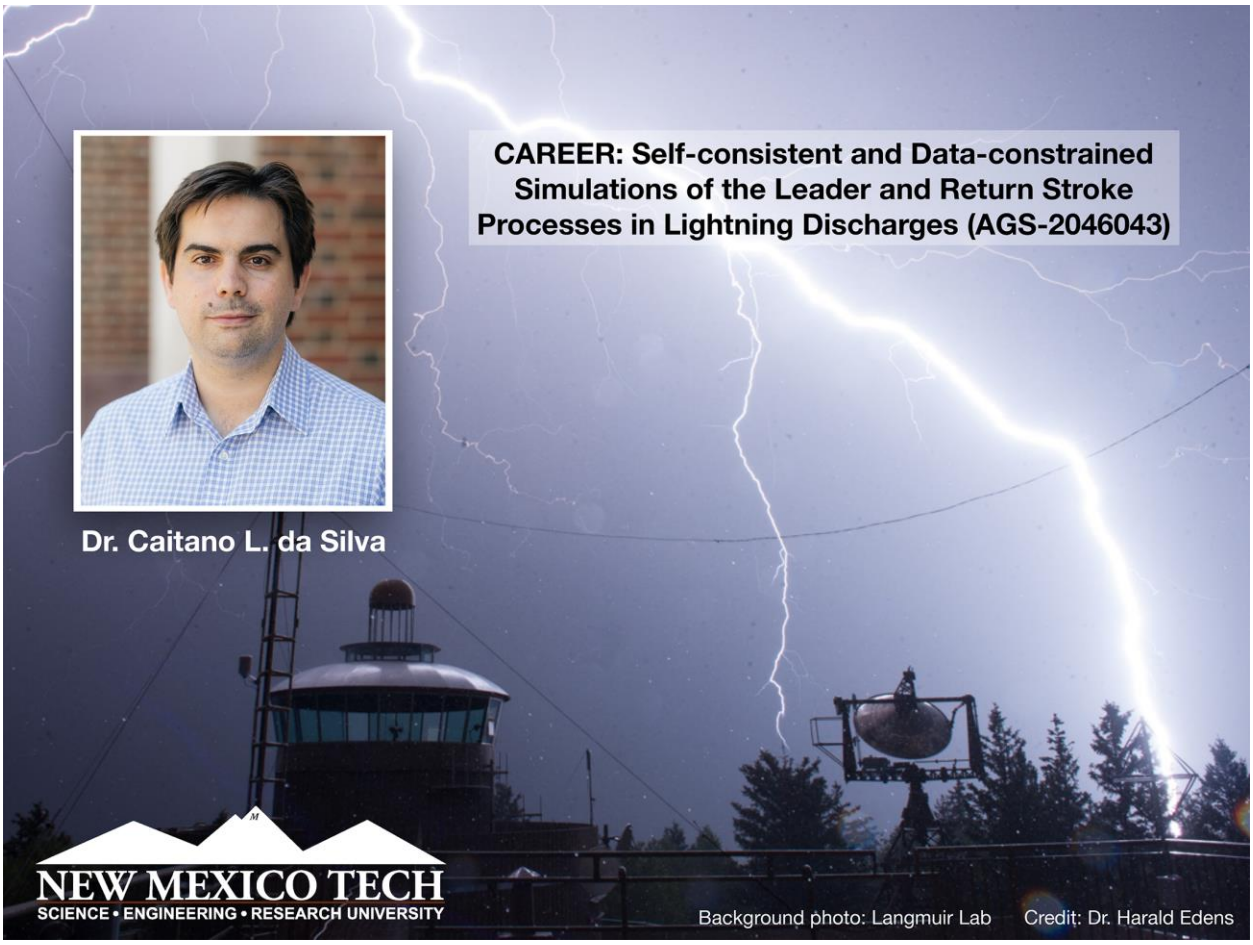

da Silva wins CAREER award to study lightning

Dr. Caitano L. da Silva, an assistant professor of physics at New Mexico Tech (NMT), has received the competitive NSF CAREER award. The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) award is the NSF's most prestigious award given to junior faculty with the potential to serve as academic role models in research, education, their integration, and to lead advances in the mission of their department, organization, and research field.

The award is in the amount of $523,000 in research funds to support undergraduate and graduate student research at NMT. With the funds provided by NSF, Dr. da Silva plans to advance the current understanding of lightning physics by combining novel computational simulation tools with the wealth of data collected every Summer at NMT's Langmuir Laboratory for Atmospheric Research. The project also has the objective of teaching the science of lightning and thunderstorms to students at different levels, from high-school, to college, to graduate level.

More info about the project can be found in the NSF website:
https://nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2046043