

# AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

Spring/Summer 2022

Volume 12 Issue 1

## CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

As the CMU Student Chapter of the AMS finished out the academic year, we have been reflecting on all the things we have done as a club for our members and our community this past semester.

To begin the semester, four of our members traveled to Houston, Texas to attend the AMS Student Conference. We were proud to support Treasurer Nathan Makowski as he presented his research findings from his 2021 summer REU with UNC-Asheville. We were grateful to make new connections with students and professionals from all over the country and look forward to attending next year. Throughout the school year, our members have been sending video forecasts to the students of Bingham Farms Elementary School in the Metro Detroit area. This has allowed us to increase our outreach across the state of Michigan and expose young students to meteorology. Recently, 18 of our members returned from the Great Lakes Meteorology Conference hosted by Valparaiso University. We were able to learn from a wide array of meteorologists, and network with students in the Great Lakes Region.

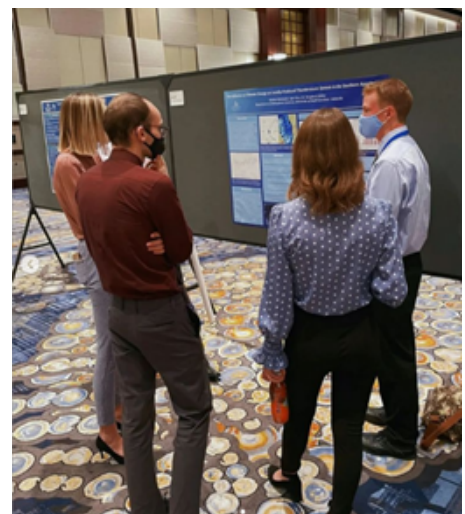
April is going to be a very busy month for our student chapter from fundraisers and club activities to community outreach opportunities and planning for the 2022/2023 school year. We are in the process of creating an ozone-sensitive garden on campus to study the effects of surface ozone on different plant species. This project was brought forth by student Brian Rakoczy who built a similar garden with the University of Michigan 2021 PICASSO REU. On Earth Day, we will be participating in a community clean-up alongside CMU's Student Chapter of the AIPG and the Community of Future Environmental Scientists. After two years, our annual Earth and Atmospheric Sciences banquet will be once again held in person where we recognize students who have been awarded internships and scholarships and congratulate graduating seniors who have accepted jobs and graduate school offers.

To follow the happenings of our student chapter, follow @cmuweather on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.



**18 of our members at the Great Lakes Meteorology Conference in Valparaiso, Indiana.**

**Three of our members including President Amber Twardy and Secretary Paige Elliott listening to a presentation by Treasurer Nathan Makowski at the AMS Student Conference in Houston, Texas.**



## GREATER ST. LOUIS

The Greater St. Louis Chapter of the AMS returned to in-person meetings on February 8th, 2022, hosting a joint meeting with the Mizzou Student Chapter and Saint Louis University Student Chapter of the AMS at the University of Missouri-Columbia. 30 members of our chapter attended virtually or in-person, with 60 total participants.

The meeting continues the long-standing tradition of the three chapters traveling to central Missouri to have a joint meeting, and it was a perfect way to welcome our members back to in-person proceedings. After a social hour consisting of pizza and great conversation, three members of the Greater St. Louis Chapter (Mark Britt - NWS St. Louis, Ben Herzog - NWS St. Louis, and Alex Elmore - NWS St. Louis) gave a presentation on the December 10th Tornado Outbreak in the St. Louis region. The presentation was followed by a panel discussion on the event including those listed above, Fred Glass (NWS St. Louis), Steve Templeton (KMOV), Scott Connell (KSDK, chapter Secretary), and Chris Higgins (KTVI). The discussion was facilitated by Matt Beitscher (NWS St. Louis, chapter President).

The event not only served as a welcomed return to in-person meetings for our chapter, but strengthened ties between the chapters. Plans are in the works for the Mizzou Student Chapter to visit St. Louis in the fall.

## HIGH PLAINS

The NWA/AMS High Plains Chapter held a virtual meeting over Google Meet on Tuesday, February 9th and began around 300PM. There were a total of 17 chapter members that were able to attend. The meeting started off with discussion about the next High Plains Conference and if it should be held virtually, in person, or forgo until next year. After many minutes of discussion it was decided that we would wait until next year to see if we can do the conference in person. It was also decided to not have one virtually this year. Instead of having a conference, most attendees were in favor of trying to do an in person meeting later in the year. The next topic discussed was a treasury report by Merl Heinlein. As of January 1st there was \$7144.34 in the General Fund and \$2323.00 in the Jim Johnson Scholarship Fund. A check will be sent out shortly to the winner of last year's Scholarship. Another topic brought up during the meeting was for elections of officers. If anyone is interested in becoming an officer please e-mail one of the current officers for which position you are interested in. In addition, Jeremy's workload has continued to increase and will need to step down as president in the next few months. The Jim Johnson Scholarship was briefly mentioned during the meeting and one person from each office is needed to be part of the selection committee. If anyone is interested in helping with the selection process please let one of the officers know. Last, dues will need to be collected within the next few months. There was talk of setting up a PayPal account as another method of submitting dues and other payments. The meeting then came to an end around 335PM. The next High Plains chapter meeting is expected to be in the next month or two and hopefully in person this summer.

## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



**Meteorologists are not often thought of for their artistic creativity, but our recent Play-Doh crafting contest allowed students to show off their skills! Throughout many different categories like, nature, weather, and food, students demonstrated their creative abilities. Many different creative designs were crafted for each category. Our chapter strives to provide opportunities for our students to relax, have fun, and show off their non-meteorology talents!**



**With some of the recent devastation that happened in Winterset, IA, our students had the opportunity to give back to the community. Helping our community as we're able is one of the most important components of our chapter's mission. Several of our students were able to pay it forward and help some of those whose lives were dramatically altered by the EF-4 tornado that struck Winterset. We are very proud of our students that were able to help, and we will continuously look for more ways we can give back to the community in the future.**



## MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

Millersville University's AMS Chapter has had an amazing 2021-2022 school year thus far! As a chapter, we have been keeping busy all through the spring semester! Hard to believe that we are already one month away from wrapping up the semester! A handful of our students attended the student conference of the 102nd Annual AMS Meeting in Houston. What a blast it was to see our very own students present their research to other students from across the country! Not only are we proud of our students, but we are proud of our very own Dr. Richard Clark for being elected as this year's AMS President! Congratulations Dr. Clark! We look forward to the 103rd Annual Meeting theme, "Data: Driving Science. Informing Decisions. Enriching Humanity." After the AMS Meeting, some of us had the opportunity to attend this year's Northeastern Storm Conference (NESC) in Burlington, Vermont. From topics involving climate change to NOAA research projects using aircraft, the trip to NESC was definitely one for the books! Just recently, Millersville University was offered the opportunity to work with NASA on their IMPACTS project, which stands for the Investigation of Microphysics and Precipitation for Atlantic-Coast Threatening Storms. The purpose is to identify the key processes, as well as improve remote sensing and the forecasting of snowfall. Our students had the opportunity to launch weather balloons and analyze data gathered during each IOP mission this past winter season. 102nd Annual AMS Meeting- Student Conference Millersville's student chapter was offered a grant to create videos for next year's AMS Meeting. Be sure to catch those videos, as we will be featuring many other local chapters from across the country! As we approach the end of this semester, we have two major events that will be taking place. One of those events, which will be coming up here very shortly is our Public Weather Awareness Day (PWAD)! PWAD is designed to inform the public about how the weather works and the importance of the weather. PWAD will also allow other organizations such as vendors from NOAA, National Hurricane Center, NWS, and other public/private sector meteorology organizations to speak on those same points and how their professions help keep the public informed about the weather. Each year PWAD held at Millersville has an assigned theme. This year's theme, we will be focusing on Extreme Weather! We are super excited to hold this event for the public and our students! Lastly, we will be holding our MU-AMS 23rd Annual Russell L. DeSouza Banquet. This banquet is held annually to honor the memory of one of Millersville's first meteorologists Russell L. DeSouza. This will also cap off an eventful year within the MU-AMS chapter with social interaction, a fully catered meal, a salute to our outgoing seniors, as well as the announcement of next year's officers.

## NORTH FLORIDA



**Our Science and Outreach Coordinator, Megan Tollefsen (in foreground), seen taking a picture of the members who participated in the Lake Ella cleanup in Tallahassee. Also pictured in the background are, from left to right, President Jordan Tweedie, Secretary Robert Szot, chapter members Becca Darish and Alex Boreham, Vice President Laura Helock, and chapter members Jason Korver and Jonathan Marcus.**

The first event for the North Florida Chapter this semester was a virtual Student/Alumni gathering to replace the in-person meetup planned during the AMS Conference. While we were not able to have the in-person experience, our chapter was able to make the best of the situation and garner an impressive turnout for the meeting! A few weeks later, we held our February General Body Meeting, where State Meteorologist Amy Godsey spoke to another high-turnout meeting. We also welcomed broadcast meteorologist Zach Covey to our March GBM. Both speakers were well-received and had the opportunity to share valuable advice to budding emergency managers and broadcast meteorologists within our chapter.

As for activities outside our GBMs, the North Florida Chapter stayed busy this semester. Our cleanup of Lake Ella in Midtown Tallahassee, organized with the support of Keep Tallahassee Beautiful, was also a success. Eight members of our chapter showed up to collect over ten pounds of trash from the lake shore and keep our city clean! We also held another tailgate for a Florida State basketball game and a Skywarn Spotter training with the help of NWS Tallahassee.

We are looking forward to ending this year on a strong note, with more activities planned (including a chapter outdoors meetup and our end-of-year banquet). This school year has been a success for the North Florida Chapter's return to in-person activities, and we look forward to seeing our chapter continue to grow!

## NORTHWEST INDIANA





On March 26th, the NW Indiana Chapter brought back the Great Lakes Meteorology Conference (GLMC) to Valparaiso University. This event brought speakers from various aspects of the meteorology field such as the National Weather Service, Space Weather Prediction Center, U.S. Air Force, Academia, Emergency Management, Broadcast, Data Science, and research from undergraduate students and professors. Students from Northern Illinois University, Purdue University, and Central Michigan University joined us for this conference. Besides speakers, the 18th GLMC had breakout sessions for different grade levels, poster sessions, and a case study sponsored by Valpo's Storm Intercept Team (VUSIT). We are grateful to have brought back this conference and look forward to the 19th conference on April 22nd, 2023!

## NVU-LYNDON

Hello AMS community! Things have been getting busy here at the NVU-Lyndon chapter of the AMS & NWA. We are back fully in-person and planning numerous activities in the coming months. We came back to the NVU-Lyndon campus at the end of August, and we had our first General Business Meeting (GBM) on September 2nd. In the past months, we have had a slew of activities including SKYWARN spotter training, a few alumni speakers, a hike, a carwash and a weather balloon launch that we to continue monthly!



## OREGON

The Oregon Chapter of the American Meteorological Society returned to in person meetings this month after a two year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Coincidentally, the March meeting in 2020 was the last meeting we had in person at Golden Valley Brewery. Fox-12 Oregon KPTV Chief Meteorologist Mark Nelsen presented his annual winter recap.





## SOUTH DAKOTA MINES

The South Dakota Mines Student Chapter of AMS has been busy over the past school year with lots of activities! Recently, we took a trip to a local broadcast news station for a tour and demonstration of what it is like to work as a broadcast meteorologist. We also had the privilege to host the head meteorologist from the NWS Rapid City, where he gave advice about applying to positions on USA Jobs and what he looks for in applications to NWS office positions. When we are not looking at soundings or radar loops, we like to be “out in the field” enjoying the weather on hikes. In late March, we even got to witness raw beauty of the aurora borealis! We look forward to more fun weather in the future, and we know that the beautiful Black Hills will not disappoint us!

## UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO AT MAYAGÜEZ

Our students in the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez Local Student Chapter had the pleasure to attend and present at the 21st AMS Student Meeting held in Houston, Texas. It was a great opportunity for our members to meet meteorologists from different backgrounds, learn about opportunities in this field, and motivate themselves to reach their goals. Also, in January, our directive had the chance to represent the UPRM Local Student Chapter in the “Community, Collaboration, and Commitment to Success: Stories from the 2021 Student Chapter Awardees” AMS Webinar.

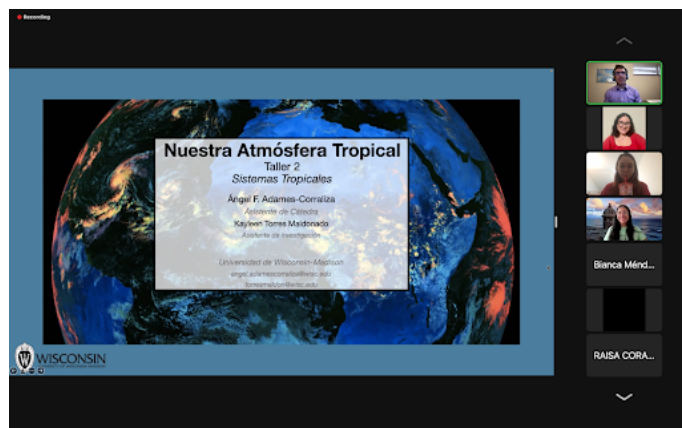
Despite the struggles the COVID-19 pandemic has posed, we have been able to seek opportunities that otherwise would have not presented themselves. Since this past March, former member, Dr. Ángel F. Adames-Corraliza, has been providing a series of workshops focused on Tropical Meteorology. Through these workshops, our members have learned about tropical convection, tropical systems, climate change in the tropics, and the importance of its study in Puerto Rico. Since Dr. Adames-Corraliza is an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the use of technology has been crucial in the development of this activity. We also had the opportunity to participate in workshops given by fellow students, for example, a LinkedIn Workshop and a Geology Workshop. Furthermore, our Vice-president, with help of our members, has been organizing our annual Weather Fest, where students from all around Puerto Rico have the opportunity to learn about Atmospheric Sciences and other STEM areas.

In an effort to impact our community, the Outreach committee has organized community service activities. In February, our members hosted a supply drive for the local children’s homeless shelter, “Hogar Albergue de Niños Jesús de Nazaret.” In addition to this initiative, “Mission of Love,” the UPRM Local Student Chapter organized a beach cleanup, which allowed our members to fraternize while serving our community.

Our chapter looks forward to organizing more in-person activities this year while ensuring the safety of our members!



**PROYECTO MISIÓN DE AMOR**  
HOGAR ALBERGUE PARA NIÑOS  
JESÚS DE NAZARET  
Para donaciones al flegón:  
info@hogarjesusnazaret.org



# LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Hello! My name is Adam Weiner and I am a Graduate Research Assistant at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH). I am proud to serve as the Chair of the Local Chapter Affairs Committee (LCAC) for 2022.

My extensive involvement with AMS chapters includes the roles of Historian, Treasurer, and President of the Millersville University AMS Student Chapter between 2017-2020. Presently, I am finishing up my term as President of the AMS student chapter at UAH. Throughout my experiences with AMS chapters, the opportunities for growth and development of members were paramount to the success of the chapter. Whether through community service, social activities, or presenting at local schools, having an active local chapter mutually benefits both the members and the local community.

Thus, the dedicated members of the LCAC and I are excited to be supporting all AMS chapters across the nation. We are here to provide guidance for local chapters and answer questions to help local chapters thrive throughout the year. So, feel free to reach out to us on social media (@AMSLCAC) or via email (amslocalchap@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

In addition to our annual responsibilities, we continue to focus our efforts on a few annual initiatives which are looking to build on the progress made last year. Further enhancement of our social media presence and chapter regions program are on tap as well as collaboration with multiple AMS Boards and Committees. The LCAC looks forward to a year of growth and development for both the committee and for local chapters as well. Thank you.

## News from AMS Headquarters

### AMS Summer Policy Colloquium

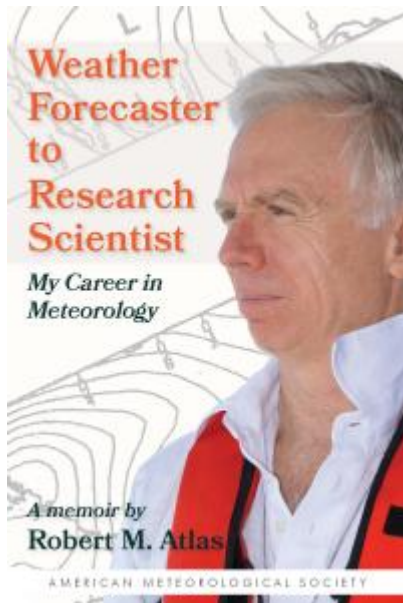
The American Meteorological Society Policy Program is pleased to announce the 2022 competition for support to attend the AMS Summer Policy Colloquium. The Colloquium will occur from June 5-10, 2022 in Washington, DC with additional virtual opportunities throughout the summer.

### Attention Junior Undergraduate Students!

The AMS specialty conference applications are now open!

Students can apply to experience an AMS conference for free! The grant covers air travel, hotel room, and conference registration fee. This program is open to senior undergraduate or graduate students who are current AMS members. Several AMS Specialty Conferences are available. View the information and apply here. Don't miss out on these great opportunities!!

## New from AMS Books



### Weather Forecaster to Research Scientist

Robert M. Atlas

As a young child, Robert M. Atlas would often look up at the sky, observe the clouds, and ask his parents questions about the weather. That early interest sparked a career in meteorology that spanned sixty years and took place during a period of rapid development in the field. Weather Forecaster to Research Scientist follows Dr. Atlas's decades-long career and his innovative research, which led to improvements in the understanding and prediction of extreme weather. An engaging account of a distinguished career, Dr. Atlas's memoir is an informative read for students, educators, weather forecasters, scientists, and weather enthusiasts alike.

Available now in paperback, with an eBook forthcoming. Visit the AMS Bookstore for more information and to order!

## Save the date!

Join us at one of our upcoming meetings!



### 2022 AMS Washington Forum

25-28 April 2022, Washington, DC



### 35th Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology

9-13 May 2022, New Orleans, LA



### 23rd Conference on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics

13-17 June 2022, Breckenridge, CO



### 49th Conference on Broadcast Meteorology/Sixth Conference on Weather Warnings and Communication

14-17 June 2022, Milwaukee, WI



### 20th Conference on Mountain Meteorology

27 June-1 July 2022, Park City, Utah



### 24th Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence

11-15 July 2022, Šibenik, Croatia



### Collective Madison Meeting

8-12 August 2022, Madison, WI



### 30th Conference on Severe Local Storms

24-28 October 2022, Santa Fe, NM

Learn more at  
[ametsoc.org/meetings](https://ametsoc.org/meetings)





The next newsletter will be published in June. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events or submit a write-up on a specific activity that was successful, please e-mail [ecallahan@ametsoc.org](mailto:ecallahan@ametsoc.org) no later than May 15th. To view prior newsletters, [click here](#).

**Local Chapter Mission**  
The AMS Local Chapter Affairs Committee serves as a link between local student and professional chapters and the national AMS. The committee exists in order to provide guidance and support in the mission of all local AMS

**Committee Leadership**  
Adam Weiner - Chair  
Sidney King - Chair-Elect

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**AMS Local Chapter Affairs**  
This newsletter is constructed by members of the American Meteorological Society's Local Chapter Affairs Committee in conjunction with AMS Headquarters. The LCAC meets at every AMS Annual Meeting to help foster the growth of the local chapters. E-mail the committee at: [amschaps@ametsoc.org](mailto:amschaps@ametsoc.org)