

Board for Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM)
Mentoring Subcommittee Conference Call Summary

Thursday, October 25, 2007, 12:00-12:30 p.m. EDT

- Telecon Participants: Kyle Beatty, Jim Block, and Kathy Strebe
- Summary: K. Strebe coordinated the call and identified the following key points:
 - Kyle agreed to take over the administration of the application process from Jim. Jim will send Kyle all his materials, documents, etc. along with main contacts (Heads & Chairs) information.
 - Currently have 19 mentors and 35 students.
 - We obviously want to keep an eye out for recruiting more mentors...especially women; so far we only have two female mentors (Dr. Larson and Kathy Strebe).
 - While we may ask current mentors if they'd be interested in taking on 2 mentees instead of 1, Kyle has a workable plan for the "extra/unmatched" students...for those that indicate they are still "underclassmen", we could send them a nice letter stating that while we couldn't match them up right away for this "session", they'd be on a list to receive a mentor if/when additional mentors come on board, plus they'd get priority to receive a mentor for next fall's session.
 - After we have done our matching-up of mentor/student, our goal is to have the following done by Thanksgiving: sending the email to each mentor identifying the student we gave them (asking if they are OK with that assignment, plus whether they would be interested in more than 1 student, etc.), then emailing the student notifying them of their mentor, contact information, welcome statement, etc. Jim has all these templates from the first time around.
 - By having this all done by late November gives more time for the students and mentors to get to know each other before the AMS Annual Meeting and perhaps plan to meet each other at the Meeting in New Orleans (Ken, do we want to consider inviting them to our Board meeting?)
 - For Kyle: at first glance, Colleen Coyle looks like a great match for me. She's attending GA Tech (just down the road from me) and has an interest in broadcast meteorology.
- Action Items:
 - Kyle: first attempt at matching mentors with students using Jim's spreadsheet (like he did last time around). Kyle will send that around to the rest of us for approval, suggestions, tweaks, etc. by the last week of Oct
 - All: consider how to provide feedback (toot our own horn) to mentors and contacts like the Heads & Chairs regarding our program's growing success.
- Next Meeting: Proposed for Nov 12, Nov 13, or Nov 14, noon (EDT)