

AMS Short Course on Climate Change Science June 21, 2009, Portland, Oregon

The AMS Short course on Climate Change Science will be held on 21 June 2009 preceding the AMS 37th Conference on Broadcast Meteorology in Portland, Oregon. Preliminary programs, registration, hotel, and general information will be posted on the AMS Web site (<http://ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/200937broadcast.html>).

As station scientists, broadcast meteorologists are among the general public's principal and most trusted sources of science information concerning life in their communities. With continuing confusion among much of the public over the differences between weather and climate, meteorologists and weathercasters need responsible and authoritative sources of timely information concerning climate change, a high-visibility issue across the country given increasing concerns about energy and economic issues and given growing likelihood of national and international initiatives.

Recent attitude/opinion surveys of broadcast meteorologists (by Kris Wilson of Emory University and others) show an increasing level of interest and substantial uncertainties among those sampled concerning climate change. Questions from off-air public audiences in community presentations arise frequently, and broadcast staffs increasingly will turn to station meteorologists and weathercasters as in-house science experts on issues related to climate change. Meteorologists need access to the most responsible and reliable scientific information on this timely issue.

The course will be structured to help broadcast meteorologists and weathercasters adequately prepare for on- and off-air communications and presentations regarding climate change, as questions on the issue increasingly arise.

The interactive course format will be designed to accommodate substantial dialogue among participating meteorologists and climatologists, and expert presenters from both communities will be among the formal presenters. The program will consist of the following presentations:

- I. Weather and Climate Models in Practice: Similarities, Differences, Strengths, Limitations.
- II. Severe Weather and Hurricanes: The Relationship to Climate Change.
- III. Addressing Certainty and Uncertainty of Climate Change.
- IV. What Role for the Sun and solar radiation in warming? What Role for Greenhouse Gases?
- V. Most Reliable Sources of Ongoing Climate Information.

The organizer of the AMS Short Course on Climate Change Science is Bud Ward, Editor of *The Yale Forum on Climate Change & The Media*, (<http://climatemediaforum.yale.edu>) and co-project manager of a series of National Science Foundation-funded climate science workshops for journalists and climatologists. Mr. Ward has assembled a team of expert climatologists and broadcast meteorologists to lead specific discussions throughout the Short Course.

This AMS short course is fully sponsored by the Grantham Foundation through a grant to the Yale Project on Climate Change, Yale University.

The course is limited to 68 attendees on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration by the 11 May 2009 pre-registration deadline will be \$25/person and \$35/person thereafter until 15 June

2009 (to close once the 68 attendee cap is reached). There will be no on-site registration for this course and no refunds. Please note that this course falls on Father's Day.

Light breakfast items and a deli luncheon will be provided during the short course. Computers, laptops, and internet access will not be available or required for this course.

For additional information, please contact Bud Ward at wardbud@gmail.com (tel: 703/307-0150).