

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

Tuesday, November 4, 2008, 12:00-1:00 p.m. EST

- Conference Call Participants: Kyle Beatty, Ken Carey, Steve Harned, Gary Rasmussen, Bob Rose, Kathy Strebe, and John Toohey-Morales
- Opening Remarks: Board chair K. Carey welcomed each board member, and thanked each of them for their service and support to the AMS and our constituents.
- Review of Board and Mentoring Subcommittee Meeting Summaries: We briefly reviewed the summary of our October 7 BPSM subcommittee conference calls. No additional feedback was discussed and the summary was approved as written
- Discussion on the BPSM Web Pages: Our board web page has been updated with the October BPSM and September 22 mentoring subcommittee conference calls. The AMS still needs to add Bob Baron's private sector profile, and the 2009 award announcement. K. Carey asked board members to continue to critically review our web site, and provide constructive feedback at their earliest opportunity.

ACTION: Provide comments and feedback to K. Carey to improve and enhance the BPSM web site. (All)

ACTION: Provide K. Carey your personal profile write-up. (E. Noble)

ACTION: Gently remind mentors that we would like to add their profiles to our board web page. (All)

- Goals and Objectives for 2008: We discussed our board objectives for this year.

(1) Raise awareness of the benefits of working in the private sector by publishing periodic articles on our web site highlighting private sector individuals
BPSM LEAD: B. Rose

K. Carey requested that each board member continue to consider how we can educate and promote to our colleagues and those we interact in our spheres of influence the value of the work and of working in the private sector is, over and above what we should be able to accomplish through our other board initiatives. We have developed profiles for members of our Board, and sent our e-mails to the private sector community and AMS local chapters about our initiative to promote the important work in the private sector. K. Carey requested the board consider how we might work with AMS local chapters to promote our board activities in support of private sector meteorologists.

ACTION: In addition to the developing an e-mail to all regular and student AMS Local Chapters raising the level of awareness about private sector activities, and encouraging private sector local chapter members to speak about their important work, add to the draft e-mail a request a request for students and mentors to consider applying for our board mentorship program (B. Rose)

(2) Support the professional development of private sector members, to include working with the AMS to enhance the AMS Corporate and CCM Directories as career development resources, using survey to identify other means of support for private sector individuals, and reaching out to AMS local chapters to raise their awareness of resources available to members of the private sector

BPSM LEAD: S. Harned

Since no new progress was reported at this conference call, K. Carey requested that S. Harned set up a call with John Toohey-Morales where we would propose that the AMS Council get involved in supporting our board efforts to develop and published a merged AMS Corporate and CCM Directory.

ACTIONS:

- Lead a discussion with John Toohey-Morales about getting support from the Council on the creation of these directories
- Advise the board of the status and progress of this effort at our next telecon (S. Harned)

(3) Expand the private sector mentor program and support growth of the professional network of private sector mentors and students, to include program promotion such as publication of testimonials and marketing information

BPSM LEAD: K. Beatty

The mentorship subcommittee has been busy! K. Beatty worked with the AMS to create and finalize an on-line application process for both students and mentors. K. Carey and G. Rasmussen participated in a conference call with Steve Root, President of the Commercial Weather Services Association, and are waiting to move forward and progress towards co-hosting a joint event in Phoenix.

We now have 16 students that have applied, with 16 mentors. We are currently pairing the students with the mentors so that, wherever possible, mentors and students topically and geographically. We intend on announcing the pairing to mentors first, then to the students, in the next 10 days.

ACTIONS:

- Tweak the wording of the emails we are to send out to both the mentors and the students we paired them with, and send to Kyle by COB Nov 6. Ken, Kathy
- Based on Ken's and Kathy's suggestions, finalize the master email for both mentor and student, and send to all of us. Kyle

- Update the latest matrix of the pairings of mentor and student, based on changes made during our call and some possible last-minute applicants, and email to all of us. Kyle
- Send all of us the instructions, log-ins, passwords, etc. to get into the database so we can grab the mentor and student applications and attach them to the emails we send out to our assigned mentors and their students. Also confirm the list of mentors/students that each of us is assigned to (whom we will send the notifications to). Kyle
- Each of us will send to our assigned mentors the master notification email with their assigned student's application attached, asking them to respond an acceptance by around Nov 15.
- Once the mentor has responded back to us about committing to their student, each of us then emails the mentor's student (with the mentor's application attached), sending a courtesy copy to the mentor, the notification that the student has been assigned the aforementioned mentor, and that the mentor will be initiating contact (via email or phone) with the student by Thanksgiving. All of us
- Follow-up with each of our mentors no later than Christmas to see if they've begun/made contact/have any questions/etc. All of us
- If we find it necessary to have another call, we can do so at any time, or wait until after the regular BPSM call on Tue, Dec 2, like we did today.

(4) Support the AMS awards process by promoting and encouraging nominations from the private sector for the Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advance of Applied Meteorology

BPSM LEAD: R. Coleman

K. Carey has provided a picture and accompanying short write-up to the AMS for posting on the AMS web site on behalf of Bob Baron who earned selection as the winner of the 2009 Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advance of Applied Meteorology. R. Coleman indicated that he has already started pursuing potential applicants for next year's award, and requested each board member try to encourage and solicit award nominations. In addition, we need to articulate a process to incorporate and appropriately weight input and award nominees from the Applied Climatology STAC Committee.

ACTIONS: Provide an assessment of our award solicitation and evaluation process. (R. Coleman)

(5) Encourage private sector members to complete CCM certification.

BPSM LEAD: S. Harned

S. Harned has agreed to continue to lead board efforts board efforts to support and promote the CCM certification.

ACTION: Continue to work with the CCM Board, and report progress at our next meeting. Contact the CCM Board to explore and identify opportunities for collaboration. (Steve)

(6) Follow-through on the proposed implementation plan to meet the AMS strategic goals.

BPSM LEAD: E. Noble

No new progress was reported on this conference call. Our board successfully created and submitted an implementation plan to meet the new AMS strategic goals. E. Noble has led board efforts to track progress and update our implementation plan. He also leveraged this plan to put together a mid-year progress report on board activities that was provided to the AMS Commissioner on Professional Affairs to inform the AMS Executive Council on our progress to meet the AMS strategic goals. It is time to measure our progress on this effort.

ACTION: Provide the Board an update on Board progress to meet the AMS strategic goals. (E. Noble)

- Goals and Objectives for 2009: We did not discuss our proposed board objectives for 2009, so K. Carey agreed to send them out separately, and request feedback and comments before our December conference call.

ACTION: Request feedback on the proposed 2009 board objectives. (K. Carey)

- Upcoming Board Meetings:
 - Our next board meeting will be a conference call on Tue, Dec 2, noon (EST).
 - We will also have a board meeting in Phoenix in conjunction with the 89th AMS Annual Meeting on Wed, Jan 14, 10:30 a.m.-noon (MST).