

## **Board for Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM) Conference Call Summary**

Tuesday, September 11, 2007, 12:00-12:45 p.m. EDT

- Telecon Participants: Jim Block, Ken Carey, Rip Coleman, Jan Dutton, Steve Harned, Erik Noble, Kathy Strebe and John Toohey-Morales
- Opening Remarks: Board chair K. Carey thanked each of the board members for their selfless contributions, participation and support, and affirmed their positive impact on our constituents in the private sector, AMS, and for students interested in the private sector.
- Review of June Meeting Summary: We briefly reviewed the summary of our June meeting, and agreed that it was comprehensive and accurate.
- Web Page Updates: Our web page has been updated with the June board and mentoring subcommittee meeting minutes. In addition, two testimonials from students in the mentoring program were posted on both our board site but also a link on the main AMS web site. K. Carey asked board members to continue to critically review our web site, and let him know if they thought any changes need to be considered.
- 2007 BPSM Objectives: We discussed our board objectives for this year:

**(1) Raise awareness of the benefits of working in the private sector**  
**BPSM LEAD: Each Board Member**

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.

**(2) Support and enhance the AMS Corporate Directory as a career development resource**  
**BPSM LEAD: J. Block**

J. Block is working collaboratively with the CCM Board Chair (J. Hasling)

to expand private sector offerings in the AMS Corporate Directory. J. Block indicated that the Corporate Directory will appear on the AMS web site soon. The CCM directory will be merged with the AMS Corporate Directory by the Fall 2007. J. Block reported no new news since over last board meeting.

**ACTION:** Advise the board of the status and progress of this effort at our next telecon (Jim)

**(3) Establish the private sector mentor program and support growth of the professional network of private sector mentors and students**

**BPSM LEAD: K. Carey**

K. Carey, J. Block, B. Thomas and K. Strebe have been meeting monthly to prepare for a restart of the mentoring program. Notes on the mentoring subcommittee progress are also posted on our web site.

**ACTION:** Report on the mentoring program's next steps based on the Oct 4 subcommittee meeting. (Kathy)

**(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**

We are waiting on the AMS Executive Council for approval for our nominee for the award results to be announced. Rip provided feedback on this year's award process, expressing concern about the role and influence of the Applied Climatology committee.

**ACTION:** Provide the board a written assessment of this year's award selection process, and present recommendations to improve the 2008 award selection process. (Rip)

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

**BPSM LEAD: S. Harned**

Since the CCM is the "highest level of accreditation for meteorologists in our profession", we want to promote the CCM certification. S. Harned has made contact with S. Marsh of the CCM Board on marketing options and opportunities that seem to be paying off as interest in CCM certification has grown. S. Harned has invited and S. Marsh agreed to make a presentation or staff a booth promoting CCM certification at the NWA Annual Meeting in

Reno in October 2007.

**ACTION:** Continue to work with the CCM Board, and report progress at our next meeting. (Steve)

S. Harned is also serving as the BPSM liaison for the planning for the First Colloquium on Industrial Meteorology and Certified Consulting Meteorologists. S. Harned is working with G. Mulvey, chair of this colloquium, and will be chairing a session at this colloquium. K. Carey has recommended that John Toohey-Morales be considered as a panelist at the severe/tropical weather portion off this colloquium.

**ACTION:** Continue to work with the colloquium organizers, and report progress at our next meeting. (Steve)

**(6) Develop an implementation plan to meet the new AMS strategic goals.**

**BPSM LEAD: J. Dutton, E. Noble**

Our board successfully created and submitted an implementation plan to meet the new AMS strategic goals.

- **THM Collaboration with the BOGM:**

The AMS Board for Operational Government Meteorologists (BOGM), BPSM and Weather Analysis and Forecasting (WAF) committee are collaborating on a Town Hall Meeting (THM) at the 2008 AMS Annual Meeting. The topic is, "Joining Researchers, Forecasters, and Users to Tackle Challenges in Tropical Cyclone Prediction". R. Coleman and K. Carey are serving as board liaisons for this initiative.

K. Carey and R. Coleman participated in the conference calls with BOGM, WAF and AMS staff members over the summer. We discussed THM format, topics and proposed speakers. The next team meeting is scheduled for September 17.

- **Other Business:**

(1) J. Block and J. Dutton will be rotating off the BPSM in January 2008. Ken has submitted the resumes of Kyle Beatty (Willis Re) and Bob Rose (Lower Colorado River Authority) to take the place of Jim and Jan,

respectively. We are waiting for approval of these two new board members and expect to hear an announcement in early October.

**ACTION:** After receiving notification of any new board members, make contact with them to welcome them to the BPSM. (Ken)

(2) Our board has grown commensurate with its growing activities, influence and impact. With the addition of E. Noble, our student board member, our board is now officially over its agreed upon limit of 6 board members. K. Carey and E. Noble developed and coordinated with the committee a draft TOR. After receiving and incorporating board feedback, K. Carey submitted the TOR to John Toohey-Morales, the AMS Commissioner on Professional Affairs.

**ACTION:** Follow-up with the AMS to ensure TOR approval (Ken)

(3) K. Strebe is now serving as a co-chair for the 7<sup>th</sup> AMS Student Conference. E. Noble has continued to serve as our student liaison to the conference planning committee. This is a great opportunity to promote the private sector to potential future employees. In addition, by launching the BPSM mentorship program, students became more aware of the private sector. We plan to continue to raise awareness of the BPSM mentorship program at the January 2008 student conference. K. Carey has offered to make a presentation on mentoring at the student conference.

**ACTION:** Continue to support the 7<sup>th</sup> Student Conference planning, and let the board know how we can help provide and support private sector participation. (Kathy/Erik)

- Upcoming Board Meetings:

(1) BOGM/BPSM/WAF Town Hall Meeting: Tue, Sep 25, 11 am (EDT)

(2) Mentoring subcommittee conference call: Thu, Oct 4, noon (EDT)

(3) Board conference call: Tue, Oct 9, noon (EDT)