

Board for Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM) Conference Call Summary

Tuesday, November 13, 2007, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. EST

- Telecon Participants: Ken Carey, Gary Rasmussen, Bob Rose, 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. He also welcomed Bob Rose to our board, after which Bob and the board members exchanged brief introductions
- Review of October BPSM and Subcommittee Meeting Summaries: We briefly reviewed the summaries of our October 13 BPSM and Oct 25 mentoring subcommittee meeting. No additional feedback was discussed. Both of these are already posted on our BPSM web site
- Discussion on the BPSM Web Page Direction: In addition to the October board and mentoring subcommittee meeting minute updates, K. Carey has added pictures of mentoring activities and the recently announced winner of the Award for Outstanding Applied Climatology. K. Carey is looking for pictures of those people in private sector (for-profit/not-for profit sector, CCMs, etc.). 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.

ACTION: Provide to Ken pictures of private sector people in action (e.g., on-air broadcasting, providing forecasting services for clients, mentoring activities, a CCM providing legal testimony, etc.) (All)

- Proposed BPSM Objective for 2008: We discussed our proposed board objectives for next year. K. Carey requested each board member consider taking a lead role in one of these important activities

ACTION: By the our next board meeting on December 11, each board member should let K. Carey know where you would like to volunteer your expertise and support, as the lead person for board activities in this area, as well as identifying where you can support other board activities and objectives. (All)

(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: TBD

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 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

No tangible progress to report and little progress is expected until after the AMS Annual Meeting and February 2008. S. Harned has expressed a willingness to take over for J. Block in this area beginning in January 2008. Private sector offerings will expand in the near future through our joint efforts and support from the AMS. J. Block will check with the AMS on near-long-term milestones on this effort.

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

(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

K. Carey, J. Block, B. Thomas and K. Strebe continue to meet monthly to prepare for a restart of the mentoring program. J. Block reported that we now have received 35 mentee applications. Notes on the mentoring subcommittee progress are also posted on our web site. The major focus is currently to agree on the mentor-mentee pairings and associated documents, balancing the areas of interest along with an eye to a regional closeness. Based on the feedback K. Beatty has received from the advisors/counselors at OU/PSU, he prioritized the interest category. K. Beatty feels he hit 80-85% success on the matching to interests.

The goal is to send out the introductory emails by Dec 1; first to the mentors, to see if they will accept the assigned student, then to the student, telling them who their mentor will be, etc.

ACTION: Report on the mentoring program's next steps based on the most recent subcommittee meeting. (Kathy)

ACTION: Ensure a select group of mentors and students are invited to our board meeting in New Orleans. Coordinate hand off of responsibilities for contacting mentor program members. (Kyle)

(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: TBD

J. Paul Dallavalle was confirmed as the 2008 award winner, per our board recommendation. K. Carey has updated the board web site listing of award winners, and posted a new section with Paul's photo and a short article.

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: TBD

Since the CCM is the "highest level of accreditation for meteorologists in our profession", we want to promote the CCM certification. S. Harned has invited S. Marsh 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, working with G. Mulvey, chair of this colloquium, and will be chairing a session at this colloquium. The 1st Industrial Meteorologist/CCM conference has come together nicely and will occur between 9:00 a.m. and Noon on Wednesday, Jan 23rd. S. Harned will be chairing the session addressing Industrial Meteorologists in Forensic Meteorology and will be joined on the panel by CCMs Jan Null, Golden

Gate Weather Services and Steve Wistar, AccuWeather, Inc. Professional Affairs Commissioner John Toohey-Morales will also participate on the severe weather panel.

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

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

BPSM LEAD: TBD

Our board successfully created and submitted an implementation plan to meet the new AMS strategic goals. We now need to actively work to implement the goals we established.

- **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 is continuing to participate in the conference calls with BOGM, WAF and AMS staff members over the summer. We are close to acquiring a sponsor and need to coordinate the THM details with the guest speakers. The next team meeting is scheduled for November 28.

- **Other Business:**

(1) K. Strebe is serving as a co-chair for the 7th AMS Student Conference. E. Noble has continued to serve as out 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 will be speaking as part of the “Conversations with Professionals” and will be discussing mentoring at the student conference.

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

(2) Our board meeting in New Orleans is set for Wednesday, January 23, 2008, 10:30 a.m. – noon (CST). This meeting will include lunch. K. Carey will provide the room location

as soon as he receives it from the AMS

ACTION: Provide the location for our board meeting in New Orleans.
(Ken)

- Upcoming Board Meetings:

(1) Mentoring subcommittee conference call: Thu, Nov 15, noon (EST)

(2) BOGM/BPSM/WAF Town Hall Meeting: Wed, Nov 28, 11 am (EST)(Tentative)

(3) Mentoring subcommittee conference call: Fri, Dec 7, noon (EST)

(4) Board conference call: Tue, Dec 11, noon (EST)

(5) Board meeting in New Orleans: Wed, Jan 23, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (CST) (Room TBD)