

Board for Private Sector Meteorologists (BPSM) Conference Call Summary

Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 12:00-12:25 p.m. EDT

- Conference Call Participants: Ken Carey, Erik Noble, Gary Rasmussen, Bob Rose, and Kathy Strebe
- 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, and affirmed their positive impact on our constituents in the private sector, AMS, and for the mentoring of students interested in the private sector. K. Carey congratulated K. Strebe as the incoming chair! She will begin her term as chair at the end of our business meeting at the 2009 AMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix.
- Review of April 2008 BPSM Meeting Summary: We briefly reviewed the summary of our April 8 BPSM meeting in New Orleans. 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 April 8 board meeting summary. 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: Update the mentoring program web page section with additional program testimonials. (K. Carey)

- Goals and Objectives for 2008: We discussed our board objectives for next 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. K. Carey has sent out e-mails to the private sector community and AMS local chapters about our initiative to promote the important work in the private sector. B. Rose has developed a draft article and is close to integrating board comments on that draft.

ACTIONS: CB. Rose to provide the board an article incorporating feedback from the board on the draft article as well as one or two pictures of you in action working in

television and for the LCRA. This new draft will incorporate 5-6 common questions into the “expose” in a style that would easily allow replication by other mentors so that we could rapidly build a database, possibly by topic, of other private sector mentors. One example is incorporating 5-6 common questions into the “expose”. (B. Rose)

ACTION: By our June meeting develop a short for publication on our BPSM site, following the style agreed to by the BPSM, on your “career” in the private sector. (B. Thomas)

(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

There has been little progress on this over the last 6-8 months. After K. Carey asked S. Harned to discuss the (lack of) progress with the AMS (Corinne Kazarosian), S. Harned reported that this initiative is simply not near the top of their priorities but that a new programmer would be working this. The AMS hopes to have, by early summer, a template ready for review for implementation later in the summer. G. Rasmussen suggested the AMS start with the AMS corporate database, and that a link be created to this database to start, that links be established to both the CCM and corporate directories, and that we work with the AMS to build on this.

ACTION: 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

B. Mardirosian and K. Beatty have had some discussions with the programmer that built the online awards website. K. Beatty and K. Strebe will arrange a sub-committee meeting in late May / early June to discuss next steps with B. Mardirosian, as well as, the additional next steps outlined below.

Since last week was finals week at most universities, our '07/08 mentor program has officially been "completed". I am continuing to informally mentor my student, as I expect many of our mentors are.

Key other next steps for us to discuss as a subcommittee are:

- follow-ups with mentors (and students as possible) on the '07/08 program -- positives? opportunities for improvement?

- thank-you notes to mentors for their contributions to the program & encourage their participation next year
- revision of student and mentor applications (hopefully to be put online w/ the help of Brian's team)
- recruiting of additional mentors for the '08/09 program

One new student application came in from a woman at Michigan State University.

The BPSM mentoring subcommittee will get together on a call in early June to discuss recent progress and next steps.

ACTION: K. Beatty and K. Strebe will coordinate the next mentoring subcommittee conference call.

(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

The award needs to be promoted and nominations encouraged from every board member. In addition, we need to articulate a process to incorporate and appropriately weight input and award nominees from the Applied Climatology STAC Committee.

ACTIONS:

- (1) Coordinate and publish a process of award selection that includes appropriate input from the Applied Climatology STAC committee. (Rip)
- (2) By 23 May set up a conference call to discuss and agree on our recommendations
- (3) By 29 May develop a letter for K. Carey's signature with our recommended award nominee (Rip)

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

BPSM LEAD: S. Harned

S. Harned has agreed to continue to lead board efforts to support and promote the CCM certification. So far, our and other efforts seems to be paying off as the CCM board has received a record number of applicants for the CCM certification.

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

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

BPSM LEAD: E. Noble

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. E. Noble agreed to draft an e-mail indicating the BPSM is interested in reaching out nationally and internationally to develop a dialogue with other private sector organizations.

ACTIONS:

- (1) Incorporate feedback on the draft 2008 implementation plan and provide the board an update on planning to meet the goals we set out in order to help implement the AMS strategic goals. Track and report on progress towards meeting these actions. (Erik)
 - (2) Draft a one-paragraph e-mail for Ken's review's indicating a desire to reach out to those international organizations interested in a dialogue on private sector issues. (Erik)
- Upcoming Board Meeting:
 - Our next mentoring subcommittee will meet on Tue, June 3, 1:00 p.m. (EDT)
 - Our next board meeting will be a conference call on Tue, June 17, noon (EDT).