

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

Tuesday, October 7, 2008, 12:00-12:30 p.m. EDT

- Conference Call Participants: Kyle Beatty, Ken Carey, Rip Coleman, Gary Rasmussen, Bob Rose, Kathy Strebe, and Bruce Thomas
- 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. He opened by asking each participant if we were serving the AMS and our constituents in the most effective manner possible. Specifically, he sought feedback on areas where we could do better, and areas where we should pursue. Overall, the board felt we were focusing on the right initiatives. K. Carey invited soon-to-be new board member Michael Mogil to our conference call; unfortunately, Mike was unable to join us.
- Review of Board and Mentoring Subcommittee Meeting Summaries: We briefly reviewed the summary of our September 9 BPSM and September 22 mentoring 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 June and August conference call, and, most recently, our board member profiles. 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:** Request from each mentor that they develop and submit profile like the ones the board members have developed. (K. Carey/K. Beatty)

**ACTION:** Provide K. Carey mentoring program testimonials from students, most importantly from those students who have moved into jobs in the private sector. (K. Beatty/K. Strebe)

- 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. 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:** Develop an e-mail to all regular and student AMS Local Chapters to raise the level of awareness about private sector activities, and to encourage private sector local chapter members to speak about their important work. (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**

No new progress was reported at this conference call. S. Harned is still working with C. Kazarosian, the Director IT Systems for the AMS, to demonstrate and evaluate of a prototype new CCM directory. This is supposed to happen later this month. A directory that also includes AMS corporate members should follow. S. Harned indicated that he would like to continue to work on this even after he departs the board in January 2009.

**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**

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. Beatty is working hard to attract mentors. K. Carey drafted and, with AMS's help, published an e-mail requesting students and mentors join our program. K. Carey also provided an update on an exciting proposal to partner with the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program at OU (directed by Daphne La Due) to connect professionals in the private sector with students. K. Carey and G. Rasmussen participated in a conference call with Steve Root, President of the Commercial Weather Services Association, and seem poised to help organize a joint event in Phoenix.

Feedback received from mentors included they would try, wherever possible, to pair mentors and students topically and geographically. In fact, they recommended we

emphasize personal, face-to-face meetings, if at all possible. This will continue to be a challenge, especially since recruiting new mentors will continue to be a challenge.

The BPSM mentoring subcommittee will get together again on October 24 to review applications received so far, and begin an expedited process to pair students and mentors.

**ACTIONS:**

- Kathy:
  1. Contact mentors to rejoin the mentoring program, and request they provide individual profiles.
  2. Schedule the next committee conference call for Oct
  
- Kyle:
  1. Contact mentors to rejoin the mentoring program, and request they provide individual profiles
  2. Set up process the pair new student with mentors
  
- Ken:
  1. Follow up on a possible partnership with the CWSA
  2. Hand out brochures at the upcoming NWA student conference

**(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 found out that our board nominee (Robert Baron) did, in fact, earn 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:**

- (1) Provide an assessment of our award solicitation and evaluation process. (R. Coleman)
- (2) Post R. Baron's picture and short write-up in November 2008 after the winner has been notified. (K. Carey)

**(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. Although CCM applications have slowed, the CCM board and AMS are very pleased with the number of applications received for 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**

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)

- Upcoming Board Meetings:
  - Our next mentoring subcommittee conference call will be Fri, Oct 24, 2:30 p.m.
  - Our next board meeting will be a conference call on Tue, Nov 4, noon (EDT).