

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

Tuesday, October 9, 2007, 12:00-12:30 p.m. EDT

- Telecon Participants: Jim Block, Ken Carey, 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.
- Board Personnel Changes: Both J. Block and J. Dutton will be rotating off our board in January 2008. K. Carey lauded Jim's and Jan's support for board activities and hope to formally recognize both of them at our board meeting in January in New Orleans. K. Carey is excited that the two new board members, Kyle Beatty, instrumental in our mentor program, and Bob Rose, a meteorologist with the Lower Colorado River Authority, will be joining our board in January 2008.
- Review of September Meeting Summary: We briefly reviewed the summary of our September meeting. No additional feedback was discussed.
- Web Page Updates: Our web page has been updated with the September board and mentoring subcommittee meeting minutes. In addition, we just posted references to enhance our mentor program. 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**

No tangible progress to report, although J. Block continues to monitor and support AMS activities in this area. 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) 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 continue to meet monthly to prepare for a restart of the mentoring program. J. Block reported that we now have received 16 mentee applications. 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 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. (Jim)

**(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**

J. Paul Dallavalle was confirmed as the 2007 award winner, per our board recommendation. K. Carey will update the web site listing of award winners.

**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 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. 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. We are actively working to implement the goals we established.

- **2008 BPSM Objectives:** Ken requested that, between now and our next board meeting, each board member send at least one objective that we as a board should taker on in 2008

**ACTION:** By Fri, Nov 9, send to Ken one or more objectives that our board should pursue in 2008. (All)

- **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 continue to participate 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 October 17.

- **Other Business:**

(1) 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 it's 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. Our TOR was approved.

(2) K. Strebe is serving as a co-chair for the 7<sup>th</sup> AMS Student Conference. E. Noble has continued to serve as 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 7<sup>th</sup> Student Conference planning, and let the board know how we can help provide and support private sector participation. (Kathy/Erik)

(3) 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 received it from the AMS

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

- Upcoming Board Meetings:

(1) BOGM/BPSM/WAF Town Hall Meeting: Wed, Oct 17, 11 am (EDT)

(2) Mentoring subcommittee conference call: Thu, Oct 25, noon (EDT)

(3) Board conference call: Tue, Nov 13, 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)