



# Climate and Weather Enterprise Commission Report

## Activities of the Board on Enterprise Communication in 2007

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After becoming fully staffed in 2006, the AMS Board of Enterprise Communication (BEC) underwent significant new growth in 2007. The BEC had a leading role in pursuing two new topics on behalf of the AMS. The following summary highlights these efforts. An update of these activities will be provided to the Steering Committee of the Climate and Weather Enterprise Commission (George Frederick, Commissioner) at the AMS Annual Meeting (1 pm Saturday Jan 19) in New Orleans. A follow-up summary will also be provided at the meeting of the BEC in San Antonio (8-930 am on Monday Jan 21).

### **Chair-Elect Position**

The Commission adopted a new protocol for maintaining continuity and corporate knowledge of each individual Committee. A Chair-elect is selected during the last year of the existing Chairperson's tenure. Then, as the Chair-elect assumes the position of Chair, the previous Chair becomes the Past Chair for one year. The cycle repeats itself thereafter. For the BEC, Matt Parker has served as the initial Chair, and BEC member, Veronica Johnson, will assume Chair-Elect duties at the AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans. (In reality, Veronica has already enthusiastically accepted the Chair-Elect duties immediately.)

### **Membership Summary**

The BEC consists of 12 positions in 2007 as opposed to 10 positions in 2006. The two new positions come from the co-chairs of the new Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty in Forecasts (ACUF). In addition, there was some turnover amongst the ranks. Replacements became necessary with a member from academia and for the co-chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Services (ACCS). The table below summarizes the BEC membership in 2007.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Affiliation and location</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Academic</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Private</b>
Matt Parker, CCM & Chair	SRNL, Aiken, SC	2009			X
Veronica Johnson, Chair-Elect	NBC4 in Washington, DC	2011			X
Rebecca Morss	NCAR Boulder, CO	2009	X		
Gina Eosco (grad student)	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY	2010	X		
Ron Jones	NOAA, Washington, DC	2009		X	
Tom Bellinger, CCM	BWXT Y-12, Oak Ridge, TN	2009			X
Jay Titlow	Weather Flow, Inc., Poquoson, VA	2009			X
Ed O'Lenic*	NOAA, Washington, DC	2009		X	
Todd Anderson*	Dominion Energy Clearinghouse, Richmond, VA	2010			X
John Gaynor**	NOAA, Washington, DC	2010		X	
Paul Hirschberg***	NOAA, Silver Spring, MD	2011		X	
Elliot Abrams, CCM****	AccuWeather, State College, PA	2011			X
	<b>*ACCS = Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Services</b>				
	<b>**Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the AMS Annual Community Meeting</b>				
	<b>***Co-Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty in Forecasts</b>				

## **Existing Committees under the BEC**

### Ad Hoc Planning Committee on Climate Services (ACCS)

The Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Services (ACCS) was convened in 2006 and held a “Town Hall Meeting on Climate Services—What Will the Future Bring?” event at the AMS Annual Meeting in San Antonio. From this event, valuable input was provided to the ACCS. For example, with regards to communications with members of this community, it was suggested that AMS Local Chapters be used, at least in part, to disseminate new information. The underlying reason for using a more localized approach was that many practitioners of climate information are small businesses that cannot afford to travel to “yet another meeting” to keep up-to-date. Regional Climate Centers, State Climatologists, and even NWS WFOs can possibly also be used to communicate locally or regionally as well. Other topics such as a climate services centric NOAA SBIR program, product accuracy verification, and expected financial resource shortfalls were also discussed at the Town Hall meeting. Using this information, a draft overview presentation was developed to highlight the goals of all ACCS activities.

Several conference calls were held with the ACCS members during the year. As the draft presentation took shape the members come to the conclusion that it was time to investigate the process to become a permanent AMS committee. Towards the end of the calendar year (2007), the ACCS co-chairs were developing a set of Terms of Reference that will be reviewed by the AMS Council for acceptance.

The membership of the ACCS as of late 2007 is shown below.

<b>Board on Enterprise Communication</b>					
<b>Ad Hoc Committee on Climate Services</b>					
					Mar-07
<b>Member</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Academic</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Private</b>
Ed O'Lenic*	NOAA, Washington, DC	2009		X	
Todd Anderson*	Dominion Energy Clearinghouse	2010			X
Bob Cohen	Aerospace & Marine International Corp.	2009			X
Rob Doornbos	Baron Services, Inc.	2009			X
John Dutton	Weather Ventures, Ltd.	2009			X
Holly Hartmann	University of Arizona	2009	X		
Ken Hubbard	High Plains Regional Climate Center	2009		X	
Kelly Redmond	Western Regional Climate Center	2009		X	
Caitlin Simpson	NOAA	2009		X	
Peter Steurer	NOAA	2009		X	
George Taylor	Oregon State University	2009	X		
Open	private sector	2011			X
	* = Co-Chair and BEC member				

### Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the AMS Annual Community Meeting

This committee was created, ostensibly, to facilitate planning of AMS Annual Summer Community Meetings (normally held in Boulder, CO at UCAR's Center Green facility), but it has truly evolved into much more! In 2007, as planning of a possible summer meeting was developing, the goal to pursue an AMS Statement on community priorities was discussed extensively. After much discussion with the CWEC and AMS hierarchy, it was decided to forego this year's summer meeting in hopes of putting the AMS Statement on the fast track. Four of the six planning committee members volunteered for the Statement work as a direct result of the discussions help by the planning committee. So, although a summer meeting was not held in 2007, much important work was done by the planning committee. Of course, the prospects for a 2008 summer meeting will be investigated as the next year evolves.

The membership of the planning committee is shown below. This committee became fully staffed in 2007 (one remaining open slot was filled).

<b>Board on Enterprise Communication</b>					
<b>Ad Hoc Planning Committee for the AMS Annual Community Meeting</b>					
					May-07
<b>Member</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Academic</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Private</b>
John Gaynor**	NOAA, Washington, DC	2010		X	
Linda Miller*	UCAR	2010	X		
Jim Giraytys	James Madison University	2010	X		
Elliot Abrams, CCM	Accu-Weather	2010			X
Kathy Lucas	Sonalysts, Inc.	2010			X
Steve Tracton	Retired government	2011		X	
	** Co-Chair and BEC member				
	* Co-Chair				

## New Committees under the BEC

### Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty in Forecasts (ACUF)

The Ad Hoc Committee on Uncertainty in Forecasts (ACUF) was created in 2007 at the request of NOAA in conjunction with the recently released National Research Council's report entitled, "Completing the Forecast: Characterizing and Communicating Uncertainty for Better Decisions Using Weather and Climate Forecasts". The AMS has offered to facilitate the creation of this new committee to further delve into the recommendations in the report. A call for members by the AMS was well-received with over 50 volunteers from the academic, government, and private sectors as well as the social sciences. Co-chairs were selected by NOAA (Paul Hirschberg) and the BEC (Elliot Abrams, CCM) to manage this rather extensive group. Subgroups with their own co-chairs will tackle subtopics developed from the aforementioned recommendations. The ACUF has drafted a charter and posted this and all communications on the CWEC webpage. A Town Hall Meeting is planned for New Orleans to present the charter for comment and to receive feedback from the audience. Rather than provide a list of all of the members of the ACUF, I've shown a table (below) of the subgroup topics and their respective subgroups with co-chairs shown in bold. Several individuals (Gaynor, Eosco, Morss, and Tracton) are members of the BEC or its subcommittees.

<b>Subgroup 1:</b> Needs, opportunities, and benefits of providing hydrometeorological forecast uncertainty products and services to the Nation.	<b>Subgroup 2:</b> Enterprise goals for forecast uncertainty information, products, and services.	<b>Subgroup 3:</b> A description of what is needed to meet the goals and reach the vision.	<b>Subgroup 4:</b> Suggested roles and responsibilities of Enterprise partners, including coordination and governance mechanisms.	<b>Subgroup 5:</b> Enterprise-wide roadmap.
<b>Anderson, Lee</b>	Brown, Barbara	<b>Biddle, Matthew</b>	Bright, David	Ahiquist, Jon
Bickford, Dan	Elfring, Chris	Dulong, Tom	Brooks, Gordon	Browning, Peter
Demuth, Julie	Fishei, Greg	<b>Gaynor, John</b>	Eosco, Gina	Collins, Dan C
Deo, Jayant	<b>Hamill, Tom</b>	Heppner, Paul O. G.	Ferree, John	Doswell, Chuck
Du, Jun	Hayes, Pat	Holmes, Eddie	Hansen, Jim	Erickson, Mary
Glahn, Bob	<b>Lawson, Carlie</b>	Myrick, Dave	Hoffman, Ross	Fishei, Greg
Martin, Jenifer	Maier, Chris	Roncoli, Carla	Nutter, Paul	Morss, Rebecca
<b>Morrow, Betty</b>	Meisner, Bernard	Shaake, John	O'Hair, Dan	Smith, Leonard
Satterfield, Dan	Novak, Dave	Stewart, Alan	<b>Philips, Brenda</b>	<b>Stuart, Neil</b>
Schultz, Paul	Sandgathe, Scott	Stillman, Dan	<b>Sokich, John</b>	<b>Tracton, Steve</b>
Toth, Zolton	Weeks, Robyn			Woods, Bernadette
Westergard, Dick				

The plans for the ACUF are very aggressive. The goal is to provide an "Enterprise Implementation Plan for Forecast Uncertainty" based on the vision of "an Enterprise-wide vision, goal(s), and roadmap for providing hydrometeorological forecast uncertainty information to the Nation, building off the recommendations of the (NRC report)". The year 2008 will be mainly devoted to drafting this Plan with 2009 used for review and revisions. The ideal would be to complete this effort by September of 2009. It should be noted that the ACUF has hit the ground running and is off to a most impressive start!

## **AMS Statement on community priorities**

Although not strictly a BEC initiative, this task, as mentioned in the Ad Hoc Planning Committee section, has heavy involvement by BEC members or subcommittee members as co-chair (Parker), writers (Eosco) and reviewers (Gaynor, Johnson, Tracton, Giraytys, Dutton, Abrams). Much of the impetus of this effort stemmed from results from the first two AMS Summer Community Meetings and subsequent work done by the Ad Hoc Planning Committee as described previously. This effort is being done in conjunction with the AMS Policy Program headed by Bill Hooke who is the co-chair of the Statement committee. It is hoped to have a rough draft available for AMS Council review in time for the meeting in New Orleans.

## **Planned Activities for New Orleans**

Besides the ACUF's Town Hall meeting discussed above, the BEC will be holding its committee meeting on Monday from 0800-0930 (Hilton Riverside Hotel, Bridge Room) and the ACCS will be holding their meeting immediately after at 0930-1000 in the same room on Monday. The ACUF will be holding its meeting on Wednesday from 1630-1730 (Hilton Riverside Hotel, Rosedown Room)

## **New Initiatives for 2008**

The AMS has created several templates for committee web pages. Veronica Johnson will be leading the effort to create a BEC webpage on the AMS website. Additionally, the BEC will be reviewing new opportunities to facilitate communications within the climate and weather enterprise as appropriate. As always, the BEC will be ready to take new initiatives much as it has done in 2006 and 2007 with the creation of new ad hoc committees that address shorter-term, relatively high profile topics of pressing interest to the climate and weather enterprise.

(End)