

Committee to Improve Climate Change Communication (CICCC)

AMS Summer Community Meeting

Boulder, CO (and via telecon)

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

7:00am-7:45am MDT (9am EDT)

Room 3150, Center Green 1, Center Green Campus

Teleconference: 1-218-936-4141 (pass code: 4533970#)

AGENDA

Welcome

Update on CICCC working groups (Energy and Professional Affairs)

- Energy
 - Have developed a few ideas and recommend that we need to see what's going on in the broadcaster community to see what their successes are (i.e. George Mason University efforts)
- Professional Affairs
 - Group recommends setting up a Town Hall meeting with the board chairs within Professional Affairs
 - Statement on Climate Change being reviewed might be something to focus on – see if we could have discussions before that statement went out (reached out to Keith Seitter)
 - Statement review will stay on current schedule and so are looking at other possibilities for other options for a Town Hall
 - Question/discussion by attendees:
 - Veronica Johnson – do CICCC members know about the process of the review of the statement?
 - Sense that not enough people did not have an opportunity to participate in the process the first time and again this second time
 - Keith Seitter stated that CICCC will know when this second review will be available for public comment
 - ACTION – Send info to CICCC when it is available again for input/comment
 - John Christy – Recommend that a public forum be set up to express views/opinions when it is available (op-ed in BAMS or use the AMS blog) – for those that might have an alternate view
 - Also interacts with energy community – who view climate scientists as the enemy
 - Is there a CICCC website? (Bob Henson)
 - Working with Gary Rasmussen to get something up on the commission website as a start

- Proposal to establish a specific CIGCC website

Overview from AMS Washington Forum (April 2011)

- Gave an overview of agreed upon mission and vision
- Provided update on two established working groups
- Open discussion that was positive and suggestive for idea of who CIGCC might want to work with (i.e. GMU work)

AMS Annual Meeting Plans (January 2012 – New Orleans)

- CIGCC members see a need to do something (i.e. a forum) at AMS Annual
 - Caution on how to format it
- Rick Rosen asked when the Climate Change statement will be available for public comment?
 - Keith believes statement will be out for public comment in about a month (ready by Fall for comment – posting by January of final)

Opportunity with George Mason University

- Ed Maibach gave brief background on how GMU has been working with AMS, NOAA, NWA, State Climatologists, and others in the last couple years – focusing on the Broadcaster Community
 - Developing broadcaster resources, continuing education/professional development, explicit acknowledgement that there is conflict that is brought into the community on issue of climate change
 - Sara Cobb has been the expert from GMU focusing on the conflict aspect – to try and resolve
 - Held a conflict resolution session at 2011 AMS Broadcaster Conference
 - She has provided an initial proposal and set of ideas for working with CIGCC (client organization) as part of her seminar starting in Fall 2011
 - Possibility for a regional component to this for interaction with students in addition to AMS Annual Meeting activity
- Questions:
 - Veronica Johnson- Possibility that we need to have an MOU with GMU
 - Expertise is free but logistics would cost \$\$
 - Is there a possibility for a company to sponsor this?
 - Dian Siedel - Is the GMU program unique in conflict resolution? – do we need to open this up for other competitors?
 - Keith Seitter- AMS has already been working with GMU but not opposed to seeing if there are others out there who could do this
 - Sara Cobb is recognized as top expert in this area of conflict resolution

- Rick Rosen – Favors a 1-hour Town Hall at AMS Annual and likes GMU idea – but we still need to make sure the AMS statement on Climate Change is not forgotten as a background
- David Titley -happy to help in any way in New Orleans
- Jill Hasling – Proposes that the council keep the current statement as is before AMS Annual and then allow for open discussion of new one at AMS Annual so people feel they are being heard by AMS

Committee Participation and Next Steps

- Ray introduced Gene Bierly as wanting to volunteer to be a point person for CCCCC regarding this GMU opportunity
- Who in the broad CCCCC membership want to engage more fully now that we have some concrete ideas/elements for moving forward?
- ACTION – Circulate GMU proposal to entire committee
 - Engage with Gene Bierly and others
- Attention – Article in Science magazine about Climate in the classroom (Rick Rosen)
- Dian Siedel – Have there been any grassroots efforts going on since AMS Annual?
 - Perhaps that we try to tie various efforts to GMU
 - Come up with other ideas at AMS Annual
- CCCCC members meeting at AMS?
 - Following a Town Hall to wrap up ideas and identify next steps