

Air-Sea Interaction STAC Committee Meeting Minutes<sup>1</sup>  
August 21, 2007, 12:00-1:30 p.m.  
Lloyd Center Idaho Room, Portland, Oregon

Committee Members in Attendance: Todd Sikora (Chair), Ed Andreas, Simon de Szoeke, Ralph Foster, and Dan Vimont

Also in Attendance: Michael Alexander (past Chair) and Judith Ziemnik (AMS Meetings Coordinator)

“It is the purpose of this Committee to promote the increase and exchange of knowledge and understanding in the field of air–sea interactions [ASI], broadly interpreted. A major focus on the Committee is the sponsorship of a biennial research conference on this subject, at which participation by meteorologists, oceanographers, and scientists in related fields is encouraged. The Committee is especially charged with making efforts to reduce disciplinary barriers, which tend to restrict the flow of information between workers in different specialties. This is done by assuring that there will be opportunities for meteorologists, oceanographers, and others to share information and opinions through joint meetings and via the written word, especially before and after field programs of national and international scope. The Committee’s activities will encourage the application of new technology to the experimental and theoretical techniques employed by the variety of scientific disciplines involved in ocean–atmosphere studies.

To achieve these goals, the functions of the Committee are to:

- a. sponsor scientific meetings, symposia, seminars, and workshops
- b. prepare and support the preparation of papers, reviews, surveys, or proceedings for publication by the Society
- c. collaborate with other committees of the Society and provide a communications channel with other societies and organizations, both national and international
- d. represent the Society, upon request of the Council, in matters relating to air–sea interactions”

Taken from:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/stacpges/CommitteeDisplay/CommitteeDisplay.aspx?CC=SEAATMOS>

1. Todd Sikora recognized the work of several Committee members:
  - a. Ed Andreas, Ralph Foster, Dan Vimont, and Judith Ziemnik for their efforts in organizing the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference on Air-Sea Interaction

---

<sup>1</sup> These minutes were prepared by Todd Sikora. The minutes are augmented by Conference statistics compiled on 23 August 2007 and by an email from Ralph Foster dated 26 August 2007

- b. Will Perrie for his participation on the AMS Hurricane Research and Forecasting Statement writing team
  - c. Axel Timmermann for his efforts in organizing an ASI co-sponsored session at the 19th Conference on Climate Variability and Change
  - d. Michael Alexander for his efforts in organizing an ASI co-sponsored session at the CMOS-CGU-AMS Congress 2007 and for serving on the Congress planning committee
2. Ed Andreas presented a summary covering the organization of 15<sup>th</sup> Conference on Air-Sea Interaction, which was held jointly with the 14th Conference on Middle Atmosphere. The ASI Conference Program web page is [http://ams.confex.com/ams/15isa14m/techprogram/programexpanded\\_420.htm](http://ams.confex.com/ams/15isa14m/techprogram/programexpanded_420.htm). The Conference Program and addendum show that 56 oral presentations and 16 poster presentations were hosted solely by the Conference, although two scheduled speakers were no-shows. These numbers do not include including those presentations withdrawn in advance of the Conference (8 oral withdraws and 1 poster withdraw). In addition, joint sessions with the Middle Atmosphere Conference hosted 7 oral presentations and 6 poster presentations.
- a. The total number of presentations hosted or co-hosted by the Conference is in line with past ASI specialty meetings not held in conjunction with the AMS Annual Meeting. None-the-less, several Committee members expressed their opinion that attendance at the Conference was smaller than normal. At least two possibilities were suggested to explain this perception. One is that August was a bad month to hold the Conference due to vacation plans. Another was that the Conference program segregated large-scale, more climatically-oriented research from small-scale processes-oriented research. This allowed people to "parachute in" for the parts of the meeting that interested them most, and thus save travel funds.
    - i. This potential problem was exacerbated by the withdrawn presentations and 2 no-show presentations. The Committee expressed a desire for AMS leadership to emphasize that not manning a scheduled presentation, whether oral or poster, is unprofessional. Attendees make travel plans on the basis of the published schedule, and the AMS rents poster boards to accommodate the number of expected posters. Hence, no-shows disappoint attendees and cost the AMS money; such behavior should be discouraged. For example, the AMS could implement a policy of identifying chronic no-show authors and choose to deny those authors presentations at future meetings.
    - ii. Ralph Foster stressed that for future Conferences, every effort should be made to replace withdrawn presentations with substitutes. In terms of the oral session schedules in general, the Session Chair and Program

Coordinators should make every effort hold to the printed schedule, even if there is a gap due to a no-show.

- b. Ralph Foster coordinated the Conference student awards. The following is a summary of those awards:

Best Oral: 1.4, Observations of large-scale ocean-atmosphere interaction in the Southern Hemisphere. Laura M. Ciasto, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; and D. W. J. Thompson.

Second Place Oral: 11.6, The effects of rainfall on the ocean surface at low wind speed. Emily L. Harrison, University of Delaware, Lewes, DE; and F. Veron.

Best Poster: P1.13, Using QuikSCAT-derived surface winds and a GCM to improve predicted wind speed variability and ocean surface fluxes. Scott Capps, University of California, Irvine, Irvine, CA; and C. S. Zender.

Second Place Poster: P1.14 Satellite estimate of specific humidity over the ocean using microwave radiometry. Abdou Aziz Mbengue, CETP, Vélizy Villacoublay, France; and D. Bourras and S. Janicot.

First place winners each received \$100 and a certificate; second place winners received \$75 and a certificate. In addition, each student presenting at the Conference received either an AMS Glossary of Meteorology or Z. Sorbjan's Hands-on Meteorology.

- i. Ralph Foster suggested that future student award coordinators meet before the beginning of the conference to discuss award ground rules (e.g., standardization of expectations, distribution of judging materials....)

3. Summary of Air-Sea Interaction STAC Committee's presence at other 2007 meetings.

- a. Todd Sikora reported that the Committee co-hosted an oral session at the 19th Conference on Climate Variability and Change, 15-18 January 2007, San Antonio, TX. The session was held 17 January 2007 and contained 10 oral presentations. The details of the session can be viewed at [http://ams.confex.com/ams/87ANNUAL/techprogram/session\\_19802.htm](http://ams.confex.com/ams/87ANNUAL/techprogram/session_19802.htm)
- b. Michael Alexander reported that the Committee co-hosted an oral session at the CMOS-CGU-AMS Congress 2007, 28 May - June 1 2007, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. The session was held 31 May 2007 and contained 6 oral presentations. The details of the session can be viewed at [https://www1.cmos.ca/abstracts/review/session\\_details.asp?session\\_id=2081](https://www1.cmos.ca/abstracts/review/session_details.asp?session_id=2081)

4. Ed Andreas reported that the Committee has been invited to participate in a session at the 88<sup>th</sup> AMS Annual Meeting that is intended to provide a forum for STAC Committees to share and compare experiences related to the transitions from research to applications, with an emphasis on actual and potential societal benefits. The session is entitled "Enhancing the Connectivity between Research and Applications for the Benefit of Society" and will be held on the morning Thursday, 24 January, 2008. Ed Andreas will be representing the ASI STAC Committee on stage and Todd Sikora will help in the preparation of the presentation. The other STAC Committees who will be represented at this session are Severe Local Storms, Atmospheric Electricity, Radar Meteorology, Hydrology, and Agricultural and Forest Meteorology. Each STAC Committee will be provided with an 8 minute speaking slot to be followed by group discussion. The ASI STAC Committee discussed potential topics Ed Andreas could present at the session. Those include CBLAST High, ENSO prediction, small-scale atmosphere-ocean coupling, and satellite techniques (e.g., QuikSCAT and TRMM).
5. Todd Sikora reported that the distribution of three-year term membership on the Committee is not even. Thus, we have implemented a more evenly distributed membership tenure to better preserve corporate memory and continuity.
  - a. Axel Timmerman and Dan Vimont will be rotating off the Committee effective at the 2008 AMS Annual Meeting.
    - i. Axel Timmerman's replacement has been secured (Yuko Okumura).
    - ii. Dan Vimont's replacement has been secured (Ernesto Muñoz)
  - b. Ed Andreas was scheduled to rotate off the Committee effective at the 2008 AMS Annual Meeting. He has agreed to serve an additional year as a general member. He has also agreed to serve an additional two years as Committee Chair, beginning when Todd Sikora leaves the Committee effective at the 2009 AMS Annual Meeting.
  - c. Ralph Foster and Will Perrie were scheduled to rotate off the Committee effective at the 2009 AMS Annual Meeting. They have each agreed to serve an additional year as general members. They will rotate off the Committee effective at the 2010 AMS Annual Meeting. They both will be replaced by three-year members.
  - d. The end result is that the Committee membership will be reduced by one person to nine members. Three members will rotate off the Committee each year.
6. Todd Sikora reported that STAC Committees have been encouraged by AMS leadership to institute awards or lectureships. Todd Sikora distributed the AMS guidelines on awards and lectureships (<http://www.ametsoc.org/aboutams/organizationpdfs/awardguidelines.pdf>). The Committee expressed an interest in instituting an ASI award or lectureship. The

Committee recommended against partnering with other STAC Committees to form a joint award. Dan Vimont agreed take the lead on instituting an ASI award or lectureship. Todd Sikora and Ralph Foster agreed to assist.

7. Todd Sikora reported that if tradition holds, the next ASI conference will be held at the 2009 AMS Annual Meeting. That meeting will have an urban theme. The Committee recommended that ASI hold its next conference at the 2009 Annual Meeting
  - a. Possible ASI topics include:
    - i. Coastal mesoscale circulations
    - ii. Near-shore scatterometry
    - iii. Ocean and atmosphere pollutant transport
    - iv. Sea-level issues
    - v. Sea ice issues
    - vi. Ocean wave processes
    - vii. Basin-scale forcing of synoptic weather patterns
    - viii. Ocean wave, current, and temperature effects on the shoreline recreation industry
  - b. Will Perrie has volunteered to be Program Chair.
  - c. The Committee is seeking volunteers to be Program co-Chairs.
8. The Committee discussed the location of post-2009 ASI conferences. Simon de Szoek strongly encouraged the Committee to consider the 2012 Ocean Science Meeting as a potential venue. The Committee agreed with this suggestion but recognized that Ocean Sciences is a joint AGU/ASLO meeting; participation by our Committee will thus require negotiations with them. Given the three-year gap between the 2009 AMS Annual Meeting and the 2012 Ocean Science Meeting, the Committee suggests that ASI offer to co-host joint sessions at appropriate AMS conferences during the intervening period.