

Annual Report December 2004

The Interaction of the Sea and Atmosphere committee was involved in a number of activities over the past year, including hosting a specialty meeting, planning for our next meeting and developing a web page.

The 13th Conference on Interaction of the Sea and Atmosphere, was held in conjunction with the 16th Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence on the 9-13 August 2004, in Portland, Maine. There were approximately 90 attendees from around the US and abroad who presented talks and posters on a broad range of topics, including: in situ and satellite measurements of the air-sea interface; surface fluxes; El Nino; air-sea interaction in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans; and surface waves. There were also two joint sessions entitled "at the shore - where the land, sea and air meet" and "turbulent transfer phenomena across the air-sea interface and surface layer gas fluxes". Of the 43 student presentations in the two conferences, the top five were given awards. We also arranged two ice breakers during the evening poster viewing and organized a cruise and lobster bake. Most attendees considered Portland an enjoyable place to hold a meeting.

We began planning for the next ISA conference that will be held at the 86th Annual Meeting in January-February 2006 in Atlanta. Niklas Schneider and Todd Sikora will co-chair the conference and a Call for Papers was submitted to the AMS in November. Special sessions are planned for recent field experiments such as CBLAST, for scatterometry and space-based fluxes, for the role of air-sea interaction in monsoon variability and predictability, for air-sea interactions in tropical cyclones and intraseasonal oscillations and on air-sea fluxes of CO₂ and the implication for climate change, which will be held in conjunction with the first forum mentioned above. Joint sessions are planned with the 14th Conference on Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography. We are also discussing sponsoring a short course on coastal air-sea interaction.

We have developed a test version of an ISA web site that we plan to make operational shortly. The site, <http://www.gfdl.fsu.edu/ISA/>, was primarily developed by committee member Carol Anne Clayson and has a number of features including links to our members, mission, call for papers and future conferences. We also plan to enable scientists to post research items of interest on the site.

Finally, we have petitioned AMS to change our name from "The Interaction of the Sea and Atmosphere" to "The Air-Sea Interaction" Committee. We feel the latter is more commonly used throughout the AMS community. (AMS has granted our name change in January of 2005).