Minutes of the 17 & 18 September 2008
Meeting of the Council
of the American Meteorological Society
Boston, MA

Participants: AMS President Walter Dabberdt; President-Elect Tom Karl; Past-Presidents Rick Anthes and Franco Einaudi; AMS Executive Director Keith Seitter; and Secretary-Treasurer Richard Rosen. *Councilors:* Jennifer Alexander, Mary Altalo, Richard Carbone, Richard Clark, Ken Crawford, Jim Hurrell, Amanda Lynch, Frank Nutter, Steve Rutledge, Joe Schaefer, Dian Seidel, J. Marshall Shepherd, and Tim Spangler. *Commissioners:* STAC Commissioner Roger Wakimoto; Publications Commissioner David Jorgensen; Planning Commissioner Robert Serafin; Professional Affairs Commissioner John Toohey-Morales; Education and Human Resources Commissioner Julie Winkler; Weather and Climate Enterprise Commissioner Elbert Friday. *AMS Staff*: William Hooke, Joyce Annese, Barry Mohan, Claudia Gorski, Stephanie Armstrong, and Ken Heideman. Stephanie Kenitzer served as the official recorder. Councilors Ray Ban and Bill Proenza were absent.

[The numbering in the following sections follows the Agenda numbering, but the items are listed in the order the issues were discussed at the meeting.]

0.0 Agenda

President Dabberdt called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 17 September 2008, and welcomed all. Participants introduced themselves, and Secretary-Treasurer Rosen announced a quorum of voting members was present. President Dabberdt reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Council Minutes

The Council reviewed and approved the minutes from the January 2008 Council meeting.

1.4 Council Mail Ballots

The Council reaffirmed the nine e-mail ballots of 2008 and approved the membership list that was provisionally approved by e-mail ballot on 11 March and 9 June.

2.1.2 Future Named Symposia

During his summary of the STAC Commission activities to date, Commissioner Wakimoto sought Council approval of two named symposia in honor of Joachim Kuettner and Warren Washington for the 2010 Annual Meeting. The Council approved this request and then discussed the number of named symposia that might be expected at future Annual Meetings.

2.1 Scientific and Technological Activities Commission

STAC Commissioner Roger Wakimoto noted that the Commission is reviewing the terms of reference for all committees and asked the Council to approve changes to the terms of reference for the STAC Committees provided in the report except the Atmospheric Electricity Committee, which will be resubmitted at the January 2009 Council meeting. The Council discussed and approved the changes.

Commissioner Wakimoto thanked Council for supporting the changes in fee structure for members and non-members attending the AMS Annual and specialty meetings in 2009 and the one-day student registration rates. The Commissioner asked the Council to consider a Data Stewardship Committee. The Executive Committee recommended an ad-hoc committee be formed and populated with representatives from other STAC committees and boards and other parts of AMS, especially IIPS. The ad-hoc committee would exist for 2-3 years and then recommend next steps. The Council supported the EC's recommendation.

The Council discussed and approved the proposed replacement of the Biometeorology & Aerobiology Committee with a Board on Atmospheric Biogeosciences that would be populated by members from related STAC committees. This action prompted a review of earlier discussions about the structure of the entire STAC Commission.

Commissioner Wakimoto forwarded a request from the Mesoscale Committee about offering a named Student Award with a cash prize using the Program Chair fund. Council recommended not naming the award at this time but allowing the Committee to give the award under a different title.

2.2 Publications Commission

Publications Commissioner Jorgensen reported on activities to date including the efforts to improve publication delays. The Council discussed and approved three new editor positions for *Weather, Climate, and Society*. The Council also discussed and approved the following requests from the Commission: an additional editor position for *Journal of Climate*, a special collection of JPO named in honor of Joseph Pedlosky, Peter Chu as Co-Chief Editor of *JTECH-O*, Mike Spall as Chief Editor of *JPO*, and two additional Editor's Awards beyond the current one award per journal (to be awarded by the Publications Commissioner as appropriate and not dedicated to any particular journal).

2.1.1 New STAC Commissioner

The Council discussed and approved extending Commissioner Wakimoto's term until January 2010. The Council also discussed and approved three candidates for the new STAC Commissioner starting in January 2010. The Council authorized the Executive Director to contact the candidates in the order presented.

2.3 Professional Affairs Commission

Commissioner Toohey-Morales summarized activities of the Professional Affairs Commission to date. No actions were required from the Council.

[Weather and Climate Enterprise Commissioner Friday joined the meeting at 11 a.m.]

2.5 Planning Commission

Planning Commissioner Serafin gave a brief report and asked the Council to approve four replacements for the Commission. The Council voted to approve the four nominations. There was discussion about private sector representation on the Council. Also discussed was a proposed Code of Ethics, and the Council encouraged the Planning Commission to study the ethics issue further and provide a recommendation on next steps.

2.6 Weather and Climate Enterprise Commission

Commissioner Friday provided a short report about Commission activities. The Council approved appointing Len Pietrafesa as the Future Commissioner for the WCEC.

3.1 Community Priorities Statement

The Council reviewed an updated Community Priorities Statement, offered several editorial comments, and suggested the statement be reviewed by an AMS editor. The Council discussed and approved the statement with editorial comments noted in the discussions. There was further discussion about the distribution of AMS statements and a broad review of the AMS statement process.

3.2 Geoengineering Policy Statement

Dr. Seitter updated the Council on the proposed AMS/AGU policy statement on geoengineering. The Council discussed and approved starting the process for an AMS policy statement on geoengineering. Dian Seidel will serve as the Council representative for the statement and will start the process of selecting a writing team and developing a précis.

3.3 Statement on the Need for More Science on Global Change

The Council discussed and approved exploring the desirability of an AMS statement on the need for more science on climate variability and change taking the current AMS statements into consideration. Tom Karl, Jim Hurrell, Tim Spengler, and Mary Altalo volunteered to help write the précis and drafting team. Ken Crawford offered to be an independent reviewer.

[Lunch break at 12:30 – 1:15 p.m.; a BAMS online demonstration was provided by staff; Councilor Altalo left the meeting]

6.0 Proposed AMS Fellows

The Council discussed and approved J. Marshall Shepherd as a Fellow. [Councilor Shepherd was not present for the discussion/vote.] Council discussed and approved the entire slate of candidates for Fellows as presented by the Fellows Committee:

Peter G. Black
S. Edward Boselly III
Carl Bullock
Mary Cairns
James A. Carton
Clara Deser
Delain Edman
James Giraytys
Ronald L. Holle
Ronald N. Keener
Steven E. Koch
John A. Lasley
M. Susan Lozier
David B. Parsons
Mohan K. Ramamurthy
Kelly T. Redmond
Rita D. Roberts
Wendy Schreiber-Abshire
J. Marshall Shepherd
David J. Stensrud
David W. Titley
Christopher S. Velden
Bin Wang
Andrew Weaver
C. David Whiteman
William R. Young
Xiaolei Zou

Council discussed and voted to require at least one of the nomination letters for future candidates for Fellow to be from an individual outside their home institution.

3.4 Statement on Weather Modification

Commissioner Wakimoto updated the Council on the status of the Statement on Weather Modification and noted that an updated proposal and drafting team will be forthcoming.

4.1 Status of 2008 Budget

Executive Director Seitter presented the 2008 budget and projections for the remainder of the year. There was extensive discussion about the investment income and budgets for individual programs.

4.2 2009 Proposed Budget

Executive Director Seitter presented the proposed 2009 budget with a new format recommended by the EC. The Council reviewed the budget with questions and discussion on various topics related to meeting costs, page charges, community activities, print journal costs and issues, education textbooks, policy program expenses, and investments. The Council discussed and voted to accept the 2009 budget as proposed.

5.0 Awards

The Council discussed and voted to accept the slate of award nominations with the exception of the Science Journalism Award, which the Council voted to not award this year. The Council discussed and voted to provide the Science Journalism Award committee with feedback on this year's nomination.

5.2 Adding WCE Commissioner as Voting Member of the AOC

Because the Weather and Climate Enterprise Commission recommends an AMS award, the Council voted to add the Weather and Climate Enterprise Commissioner as a voting member of the Awards Oversight Committee.

6.0 Additional AMS Fellow

President Dabberdt reminded the Council that by virtue of being selected as the recipient of the 2009 Rossby Award, that individual also becomes a 2009 Fellow.

7.0 Honorary Members

The Council discussed and voted to approve as Honorary Members Guri Marchuk and John Zillman.

[Council had gone into Executive Session at 4:50 p.m. to discuss the selection of Honorary Members. Council then adjourned at 5:20 p.m.]

[The Council meeting resumed at 8:30 a.m. on 18 September]

8.0 Fellows, Awards, and Nominating Committees for 2009

The Council discussed and approved two members for the Fellows Committee for terms ending January 2012.

18.0 Other Matters: New Members

The Council considered and approved a list of new Full Members of the Society. The Council requested a demographic analysis of the new members and discussed the need for an organized membership campaign, which will be addressed by the new Membership Committee.

2.4 Education and Human Resources Commission

Commissioner Winkler reported on Commission activities in 2008 along with new and proposed initiatives.

The Council considered the request for an AMS Award for the winner of the National Forecasting Contest, run by the University of Oklahoma. The Council supported an EC recommendation that the Society obtain further information from the University of Oklahoma about the proposal. The Council recommended that Councilors Crawford and Schaefer investigate AMS involvement in this endeavor, perhaps through the WAF STAC committee, but that in any case the award should be treated consistently with other AMS student awards. The Council discussed a proposal for an AMS statement on teaching science and encouraged a more detailed proposal from the Commission for future consideration. The Council discussed and voted to move the WeatherFest Committee, currently a committee of the Executive Committee, to the BOPE. The Council discussed the need for a long-term funding strategy for WeatherFest so that its future is made more secure, and the Council encouraged the BOPE to develop a plan. The Council discussed providing informal support for the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender community at AMS Annual Meetings.

2.4.1 New Education and Human Resources Commissioner

The Council discussed and approved Gene Takle as the new EHR Commissioner.

16.5 Policy Program

Director Hooke gave an overview of the AMS Policy Program outlining current Policy Program and related development activities.

13.3 Online Compendium

Executive Director Seitter provided an overview of the proposal to partner with the Encyclopedia of Earth. There was extensive discussion about time and resources needed to launch this venture and the general purpose and value of this venture. The Council voted to form a Working Group that would fully explore all issues related to this proposal, including the pros/cons, audience, AMS structure, costs, benefits, scope, and purpose, and provide a report by the January 2009 Council meeting.

11.0 Selection of Fifth Councilor

The Council discussed the challenge of sector balance in the annual election process and prepared a list of possible candidates to be considered for the position of Fifth Councilor. A final recommendation will be made after the election and will be voted on via e-mail ballot.

15.1 Presidential Forum at 2009 Annual Meeting

President Dabberdt discussed the plans for the 2009 Presidential Forum. The theme of the Forum will be the quadruple convergence of population changes, urbanization, climate change, and coastal impacts on cities. A four-person panel will be moderated by Rosina Bierbaum; panelists/speakers include: Jack Hayes, Susan Avery, Kai Lee, and Julian Hunt.

13.2 International Society Forum

President Dabberdt noted on the order of ten international meteorological societies thus far have accepted an invitation from AMS to participate in a planning forum for future collaboration at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

15.4 2010 Annual Meeting

President-Elect Karl discussed the theme of "Weather, Climate, and Society: Demands on Science and Services" for the 2010 Annual Meeting and plans for the Presidential Forum. The Council provided several recommendations to consider for joint sessions and conference/symposia.

18.0 Other Matters

President-Elect Karl discussed a possible survey of AMS members about their perspectives on Society activities to use as guidance for future planning. The Council supported this initiative with careful planning. There was an additional suggestion to host a Community Meeting at the Annual Meeting to gather member input on Society priorities.

15.1 2009 Annual Meeting

Director of Meetings Gorski gave an update of the 2009 Annual Meeting. She noted there are 1790 abstracts submitted to date; the Phoenix Convention Center has not yet been completed but construction is ahead of schedule; and the building is a green building, and attendees will have the option to purchase carbon offsets/credits for their travel to the meeting.

[Lunch break at 12:15-1:00 p.m.]

9.0 Organizational Procedures

Secretary-Treasurer Rosen noted the need for a technical correction to the Organizational Procedures of the Society to make it fully consistent with the AMS Constitution.

14.2 Development Activities

Executive Director Seitter noted the AMS has been successful in obtaining external funding and encouraged the Council to review the details in the meeting materials. There was discussion about the amount of staff time dedicated to fund raising and the need for additional staff support. Executive Director Seitter noted the majority of donations to the Society support the scholarship/fellowship program and all donations to the scholarship/fellowship program are applied directly to those programs with no donated funds used to cover administrative fees.

There was further discussion about the 100th Annual Meeting of the Society in January 2020. The meeting will be held in Boston, and there will be numerous activities planned to celebrate the occasion.

16.2 K-13 Educational Initiatives

Executive Director Seitter highlighted the AMS Education Program and noted the plans of the program's new director Jim Brey to build upon its successful funding model, with agency support and additional funding through licensing fees for online courses and text book sale. He also remarked that the teacher training workshops are extremely valuable and beneficial to the Society and the teachers. Council asked to receive a list of books that the AMS Education Program publishes.

16.1 Publications

The Council asked for clarification of the "Post-Proof-Production Program" (4P) noted in the meeting materials. Executive Director Seitter explained that the Society is streamlining copy and technical editing in the publication process to improve efficiency.

18.0 Close of Meeting

President Dabberdt thanked Council members for their considerable efforts and wisdom. He accepted a motion to adjourn, which was immediately approved.

[The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.]