AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

Summer/Fall 2020 Volume 10 Issue 1

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

Thanks to all that took the time to respond to the recent survey regarding the 101st AMS Annual Meeting. An overwhelming majority of you noted, at this time, you are not comfortable traveling to New Orleans for in-person sessions. Given this, we are moving all oral and poster sessions, panel discussions, and exhibits to a virtual format. We will also plan on having virtual networking opportunities and short courses available.

We will continue to monitor the situation around COVID-19 and are looking into the options for a smaller, in-person meeting in New Orleans for those that would still like to gather, if it will be safe to do so. We are also considering encouraging our local chapters to host socially distant gatherings during the week of the 101st Annual Meeting. We will share more details as they become available.

The theme of the 101st Annual Meeting is **"Strengthening Engagement with Communities through our Science and Services."** We are looking forward to leading the AMS into its next century by being adaptable and innovative. We feel the virtual platform will allow us to attract many new attendees and organizations and allow for a level of inclusiveness that is much higher than we have been able to have in the past.

AMS has extended our abstract deadline to 24 August 2020 to allow authors more time to react to this change. As we continue to share details on the planning over the next few months, know that we are working to keep everyone engaged and are confident that we will be able to organize a successful meeting and allow participants to share their science and connect with one another.

We are excited to have the opportunity to plan a much more inclusive meeting than past years and expect to have more details to share later this summer. As the planning continues, we will continue to update the 2021 AMS Annual Meeting FAQ's that are posted on the Annual Meeting website.

Please reach out with any questions and be sure to send any suggestions along to meetings@ametsoc.org.

We thank you all for your support of AMS!
Mary Glackin, AMS 2020 President
Tanja Fransen and Nate Johnson, AMS 101st Meeting Co-Chairs
Keith Seitter, Executive Director
Claudia Gorski, Director of Meetings, and the AMS Meetings Staff



THRIVING EARTH EXCHANGE

A CHANCE TO HELP A LOCAL COMMUNITY AND APPLY YOUR SCIENTIFIC SKILLS

Community Environmental Issues. Many communities struggle to address environmental issues facing their community, including things like reducing flooding, monitoring air pollution, improving environmental justice, and preparing for climate change. These issues may be local, but also have much broader and even national and international scientific and societal implications. Would you like to work with a community to combine local expertise and your scientific insight to tackle these kinds of issues? If so, you should consider participating in a Thriving Earth Exchange project. It's a chance to apply your science in a real-world situation, learn to work on a project with many different needs and people, and make a significant difference in a project's outcomes.

Thriving Earth Exchange. The Thriving Earth Exchange is a multi-member collaborative launched by AGU. The mission of the Thriving Earth Exchange is to strengthen and enhance collaboration among communities, scientists, and partner organizations so that communities can build healthy, resilient, thriving, just, and ecologically responsible futures. To date, the Thriving Earth Exchange has supported over 100 community projects to address a diverse range of local science needs and advance community priorities. Many of these projects involve significant aspects of weather and climate. Recognizing the benefits this will bring to membership and the potential for the advancement of community science, AMS is pleased to announce it is now part of the Thriving Earth Exchange collaborative. Together with another new partner, the Association for Science and Technology Centers (ASTC), AMS and AGU are announcing a new cohort of Thriving Earth Exchange projects that will broaden the program's capacities and bring their member's collective expertise and experiences to support community science.

Overview and Applications. Thriving Earth Exchange projects are driven by the priorities of Community Leaders, the skills of Community Science Fellows, and the expertise of Community Scientists. Together this team guides community science projects through the process of scoping problems, creating partnerships, designing solutions, and publishing results. All AMS members are encouraged to bring their unique skills and insights to become part of this new AMS-ASTC-AGU

cohort by suggesting a community project, applying to be a community science fellow, or volunteering to be a scientist on a project. Applications are being collected for community projects and community science fellows until 6 November 2020. You can apply and learn more about the application and project process at https://bit.ly/AMSCommSci. You can sign up to be a volunteer scientist at any time at https://thrivingearthexchange.org/scientist-network/

Community Science Fellows. Community Science Fellows receive training in the Thriving Earth Exchange community science process, mentorship from Thriving Earth Exchange staff, connectivity to a growing network of Community Science Fellows, and the opportunity to serve as leaders in the community science movement. The skills that Community Science Fellows hone prepare them to manage diverse teams, work across disciplinary boundaries, and connect science to action. Selected Community Science Fellows will be required to participate in a 2-day training workshop on January 28-29. There is no cost to Community Science Fellows to participate; travel and lodging will be provided, with expenses reimbursable. Please note: this training will be online if COVID-19 restrictions do not allow for an in-person meeting.

While it is often beneficial for Community Science Fellows to be located near the communities they support, it is not required. Currently Community Science Fellows must reside within the United States or a U.S. Territory. Preferred qualities for Community Science Fellows include:

- Enthusiasm for community science, which may include
  - Experience working with diverse stakeholders and projects
  - A passion for elevating community-led action and local priorities
  - A strong desire to support community-led engagement with a variety of audiences, including policy makers and the media
  - Evidence of consistent and long-term volunteer work or community engagement
- Humility, an ability to listen, and strong communication skills. Examples of this might be:
  - Leadership experience in multidisciplinary/culturally sensitive environments
  - Undergraduate degree or a minimum of 3 years experience working in a science-related or informal STEM-learning field;
- A formal science background is not required but some interest/familiarity is necessary

Communities. Communities and community groups of all kinds are invited to partner with the Thriving Earth Exchange to design and launch a project that unites community and science to advance community priorities. Individuals representing communities that have been historically marginalized and/or underserved are especially encouraged to apply. Communities selected for this cohort will work collaboratively with a Community Science Fellow and AMS/ASTC/AGU scientists. This program is free of charge for communities and projects do not come with funding. Projects are supported by specially trained staff and Community Science Fellows, and typically conclude within 6-12 months.

Community Scientists. Community scientists are recruited by the Community Science Fellows based on the scientific needs of a project. Interested scientists can join the Community Scientist network and be considered for a variety of projects.

Looking at the rich experiences gained, and the impactful projects that past Community Science Fellows and Community Scientists have participated in, we certainly hope you will consider this opportunity to work with the Thriving Earth Exchange. We have each been given the privilege of a scientific education and these are opportunities to help us give back to society in an exceptionally interesting and powerful way.

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

TEXAS A&M

On March 14th, the Texas A&M Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (TAMSCAMS) visited San Antonio for our annual spring trip. Every spring and fall, we take a trip to a local city so members can learn what different meteorological careers are available. We visited the NWS office of Austin/San Antonio where we learned how daily operations are conducted and what each member of the office does. Then, we visited KSAT 12 where an Aggie, Sarah Spivey, taught us the ins and outs of broadcast meteorology. It was a fun and educational day that ended with spending time with friends on the river walk.



BLUE RIDGE

The Blue Ridge Chapter of the AMS has transitioned to be completely online this spring and summer as COVID-19 continues to impact the country. Our first online meeting featured guest speaker Tony Rice with NASA JPL. He gave a great presentation about space weather and the weather on Mars and told us what he does with NASA, as well as answered all the questions our members had!

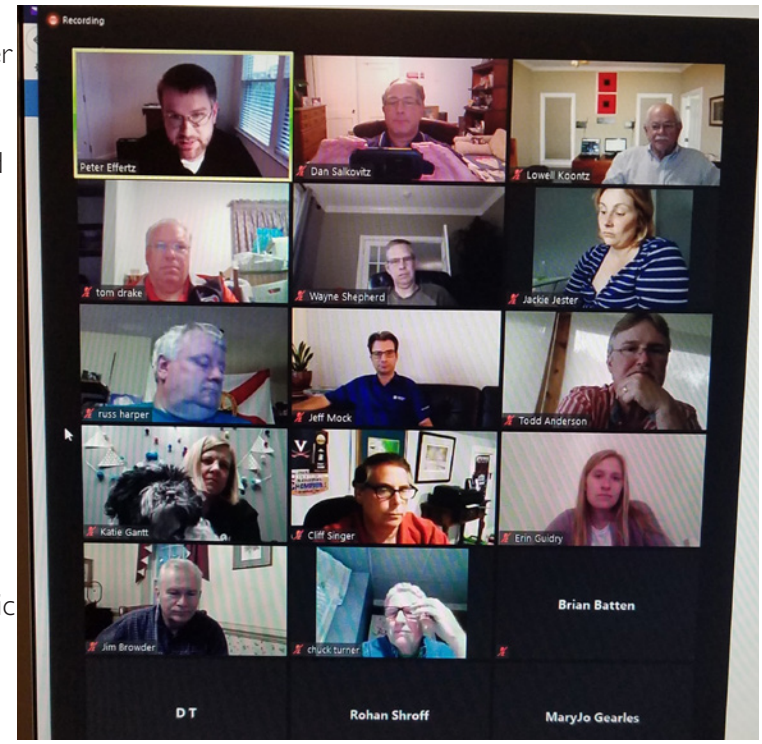


The chapter's next online meeting occurred in late April where we held an Alumni Round-Table Event featuring meteorology alumni from Virginia Tech along with other local meteorologists. This was an amazing event hosted by Jamie Marrow with the NWS that allowed members of the chapter to hear about what kind of meteorology jobs our alumni have gotten. They each took turns explaining what they do and how they got there, as well as answering many questions that our members had. This was a great opportunity for members to get a perspective on how many jobs in the meteorology field there are as well as hear from those that were in the same footsteps as we are in now!

The Blue Ridge Chapter of the AMS is excited for members to return to Virginia Tech this fall, however, many if not all our meetings will be held virtually in order to ensure the safety of our members and obey the social distancing guidelines that Virginia Tech has in place. We are exploring our options for socially distanced club events and are excited to see what the new school year will bring!

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

The Central Virginia Chapter held a virtual meeting on June 16. 2020. Chapter members were pleased to welcome a canine virtual attendee to the meeting from Richmond, Virginia Animal Care and Control.



Dr. Brian Batten, from Dewberry, a nationwide firm of planning, design, and construction professionals, spoke about "Planning and Mitigation of Sea Level Rise in Virginia Beach, Virginia". Virginia Beach is an area at high risk due to sea level rise. Dr. Batten spoke about their long-term resilience study of sea level rise and recurrent flooding, noting how climate risk can affect the area's economic credit rating. Specific phases of the study included Impact Assessment, Adaptation Research, Strategy Development, and Implementation. Various sea-level rise planning scenarios were considered including observed sea level rise acceleration and subsequent hazards and risk assessment. Dr. Batten discussed multiple layers of adaptation and various flood reduction strategies.





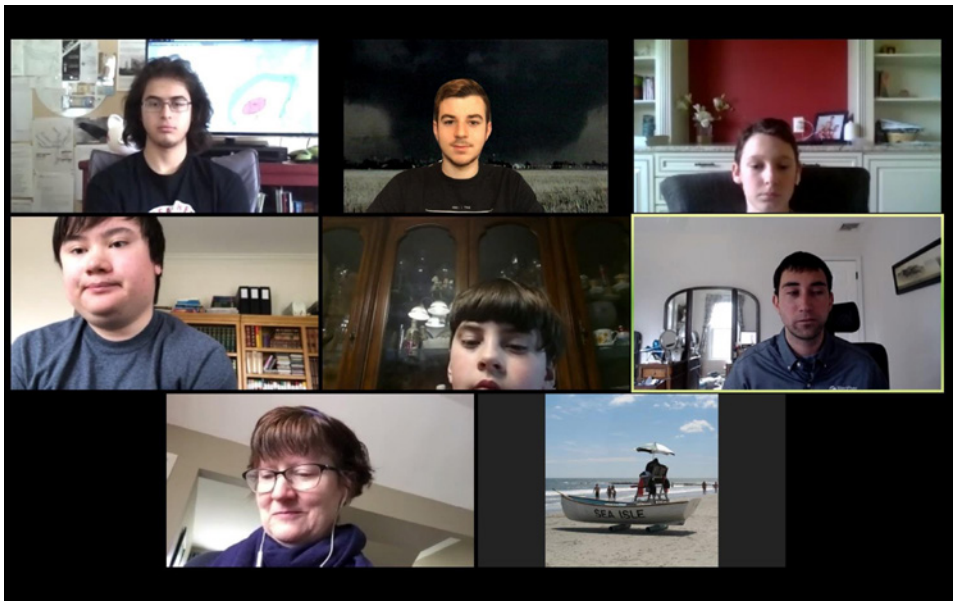
METRO ATLANTA

During difficult times across the metro Atlanta area and the nation-at-large, science and expertise are as important as ever. The Metro Atlanta chapter of the American Meteorological Society and National Weather Association has launched a virtual webinar series to encourage the sharing of scientific knowledge and to create educational resources that are free for all to use, even in spite of the chapter not being able to meet up in person due to COVID-19 concerns. Under the leadership of chapter president Sid King and fellow officers Steve Gregg, Brad Rubin, and Sara Tonks, five virtual presentations have been conducted in this series so far, with each presentation covering a topic of the speaker's expertise. These webinars have furthermore been recorded and shared over the chapter's Facebook and Twitter accounts. Recordings can be found on the Metro Atlanta AMS/NWA YouTube account at this link.

GREATER NYC/NJ/PHILLY

Ethan Diamond
Ben Tomfohrde
1 July 2020

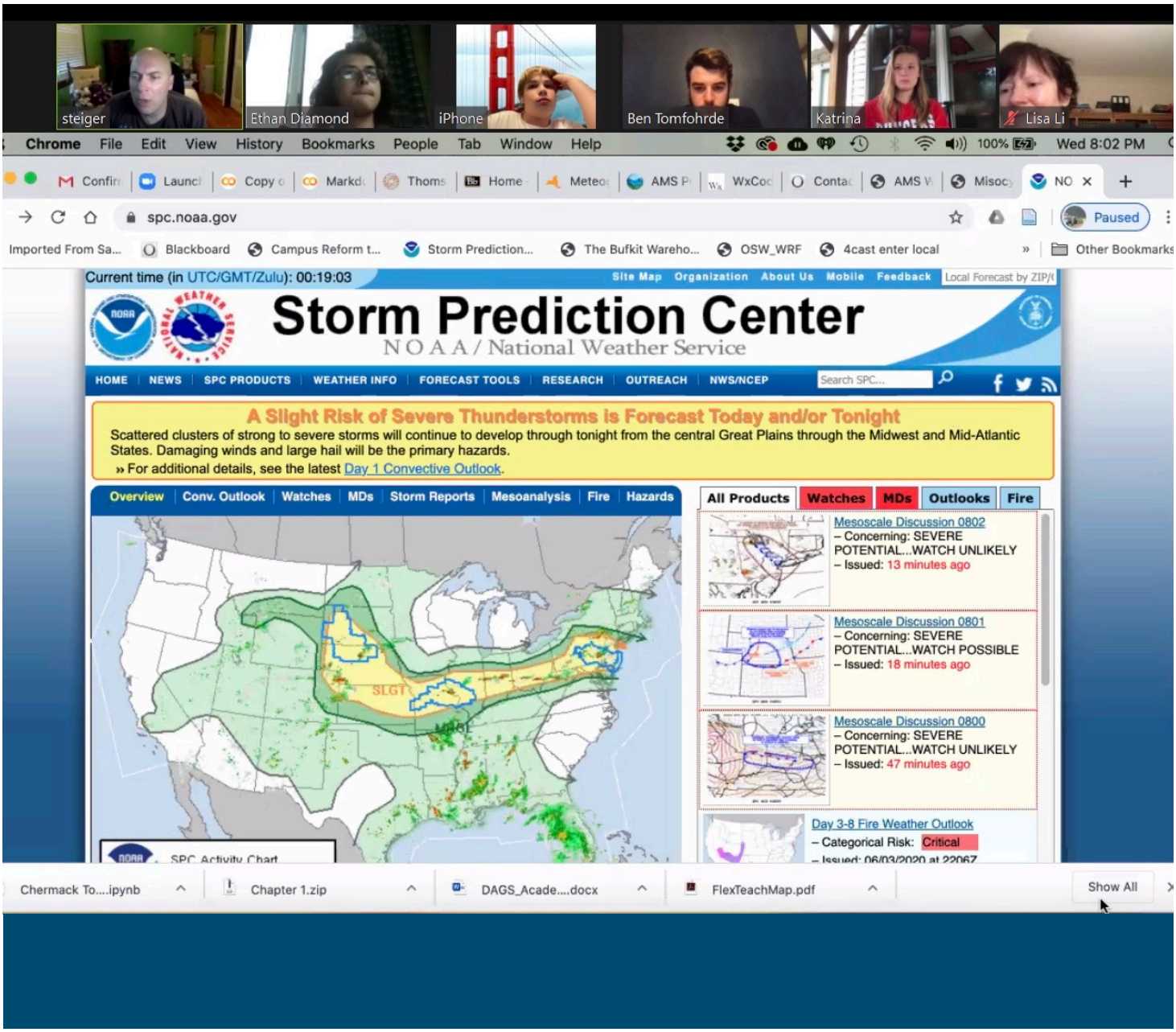
The Greater NYC/NJ/Philly AMS Pre-College Chapter has been making the most of social distancing by holding events virtually. Our first program was a talk with the private forecasting and weather related services provider, WeatherWorks, in Hackettstown, NJ on April 10th. Originally, we planned an office tour but made the switch to zoom. In this call we received an interesting presentation by Rob Reale, Senior Meteorologist and Director of Meteorological Services. In his talk, Mr. Reale described his job at WeatherWorks and how it differs from the National Weather Service as a private facility. He was generous with his time and gave us valuable college advice.



The next event that we hosted was on June 3rd with Dr. Scott Steiger, Meteorology Professor, Head of the SUNY Oswego "Chasers" and Director of the Lake Effect Prediction and Research Center. Dr. Steiger shared information about Oswego's meteorology and storm chasing programs. In addition, he showed the group some amazing photos of storms he and his students chased in the Plains over the last several years.

This event took place on a day a derecho hit, causing widespread damage and power outages earlier. Some of our members could not attend the presentation because of power outages. We started the call with one of our members under a severe thunderstorm warning due to a second round of severe storms. By the middle of the meeting, a tornado warning had been issued and the same member had to take shelter. It was an exciting time to be discussing severe weather!

During these past few months our social media has allowed us to post, share and discuss weather events within our area and across the nation on our Instagram and Facebook. Our passion for weather has kept us together and engaged during this difficult time.



UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN VERMONT AT LYNDON

Even though we have not been on campus for a few months, the NVU-Lyndon chapter has been keeping busy. There have been many changes to our academic calendar, so we have been arranging our event calendar in order provide access to all our events in the fall semester for our students. We have been adapting well in these strange times and we are looking forward to what this upcoming school year holds for our chapter!



UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO AT MAYAGUEZ

The members from the Local Student Chapter of Puerto Rico participated in the past April in an online event, joining forces with the Center for Students of Meteorology from the National Agrarian University La Molina in Perú (CEM-UNALM), through a virtual meeting in which the organizations had the opportunity to discuss the importance of science, especially meteorology, in people's daily lives. Also, members of both organizations were able to present their views on meteorology and mention some of their favorite areas of meteorology. The students were also given the opportunity to talk about their experience with the atmospheric sciences in their country.

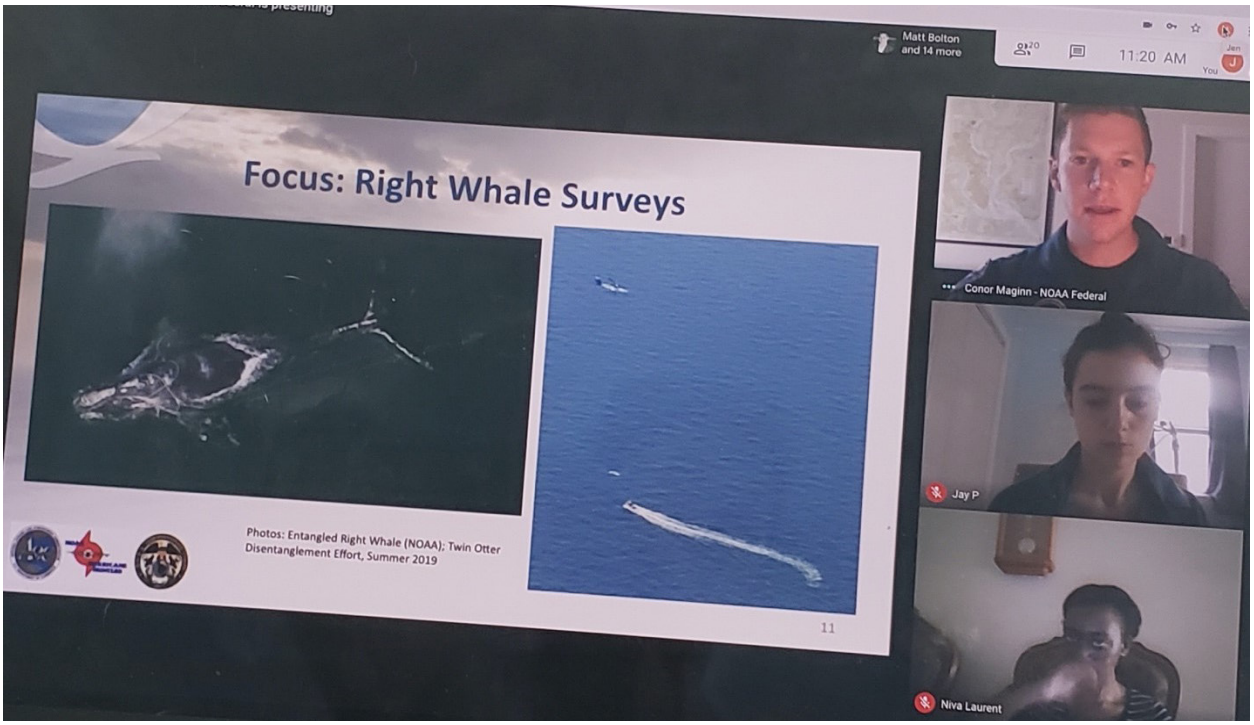
Among the topics discussed were the possible weaknesses in the communications provided to the public and how they could work on this and improve it. Despite being students with origins from different countries in América, the consensus was the necessity to bring education and reliable information of meteorology both in Spanish and English, to achieve a more informed and prepared society. Students from various disciplines such as physics, geology, engineering, and chemistry were part of the discussion, making this meeting diverse and with the common goal of being able to share how all the branches of science come together and form an essential part of what we know as meteorology.

WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA

On May 28th, the WCFLAMS meeting originally scheduled as a visit to NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center (AOC) in Lakeland, FL, was conducted online due to the ongoing threat of Covid-19. The virtual tour was moderated by AMS Chapter President Matt Bolton and member-at-large Dr. Jennifer Collins. The presenter, Lt. Conor Maginn, gave the attendees a virtual "tour" of the AOC and described in some detail the missions of the different aircraft housed there.



Lt Maginn explained how NOAA's fleet of nine manned aircraft is operated, managed, and maintained by NOAA's Aircraft Operations Center as part of NOAA's Office of Marine and Aviation Operations. The flagship of the AOC is the Lockheed WP-3D Orion. This flying laboratory is designed to go into the heart of a hurricane – through the eyewall and into the eye. Lt Maginn ended his presentation with a fascinating clip from inside the Orion as it flew through Hurricane Irma's eyewall, allowing the attendees a glimpse of the "stadium effect" usually only visible to hurricane hunters.





WCCO-TV Chief Meteorologist Chris Shaffer and Mike Augustyniak talk to us about broadcast meteorology and answer questions at the studios in downtown Minneapolis, Minnesota

TWIN CITIES

The Twin Cities Meteorological Society AMS local chapter remains active despite an increasingly difficult audience to motivate for both attendance and participation in this market. We offer some very value-added meeting events during our chapter year. A typical year consists of exploring a wide variety of places and topics that include research, case studies and projects happening in the industry. Each presenter we have is given an item with an AMS logo on it as a thank you and reminder of our organization.

As a sampling, here are a few meetings we held last year. First, the Twin Cities had an unprecedented and historic black fly hatch on the Minnesota River last year due to prolonged flooding. The president of the North American Black Fly Association and staff member at Metropolitan Mosquito Control District, John Walz, gave us an inside look at how they collect data, comparisons, a tour and followed that with some open dialog. We are also lucky to have DTN Weather in our backyards here, a company that does a lot of forecasting for entities around the world. They also acquired the popular weather radar app, RadarScope. We were invited to host a meeting on site and DTN flew in the original developer, Mike Wolfenbarger, to speak to our group about the app from its beginning and its future, as he still works as a lead programmer for the app. The last example of a typical meeting I will share is the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. With a current grant from the federal government and a current ongoing project, we received a presentation on preliminary results of an urban air sensor network studying effects of small, local urban area pollution sources and patterns.

Besides our ever-changing typical meetings, there are a few things we have developed in the last 4-5 years that we have made a strong staple for our club. One thing that has been popular is the inclusion of a social period in some fashion which is typically held at a bar/restaurant establishment nearby to where we will have our meeting. Sometimes that is the location of our meeting. Being a bunch of science/weather nerds, it is good to get together and just chat about things with one another as our

families and some of our friends cannot relate or don't hold any interest in relating to.
The second item we have developed and continue is an annual partnership event with Saint Cloud State University's AMS Student Chapter. We pair students with an experienced mentor in a relevant field of study to give 5-minute presentations on a topic of their combined choice. Students start working with their mentors in advance and develop their best presentation. It gives students the opportunity to network with someone in the field, which has led to jobs for some of them. It also gives them a chance to see what the field is like outside of an academic setting and helps build professional skills in presenting data without the pressures of formal scientific audience. After the presentations are done, students are given feedback on their performance. We also provide a basic meal and refreshments at this event for everyone.



Senior Climatologist, Kenny Blumenfeld , of the Minnesota State Climate Office, shows and talks about the array of meteorological equipment used, past and present, at the University of Minnesota data collection site in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Another item we are trying to keep a stong hold on is coordinating and sending judges out to elementary and high school science fairs. It is something where we believe that it is important as an organization but has been difficult to motivate members to step up to the plate. We have appointed a dedicated person to the task of being the coordinator to help ease people's reservations about it and to make the process easier for them to complete. In addition to helping judge the science fairs, the club provides a small prize to a student at each fair that we believe is the best project completed in relation to the field of meteorology. In the past, that has been weather radios. We are looking into better options that help build more scientific skills or interest in the future though, such as a CoCoRaHS approved rain gauge where the student could participate and gather data.

The Winter Weather Contest we annually hold is a bit of fun that is mainly curated by our very helpful tech person, Chris Bovitz. The way the contest works is, when you pay your dues and fill out your membership form, there is a section of questions for your guesses at 4 categories: Coldest Temperature, Most Snowfall in a Single Storm, Total Snowfall Depth, and Lake Minnetonka Ice Out. Of the 4 categories, 3 of them win you a $20 gift card and one of them just gets you bragging rights at our last meeting when we find out who is the closest guess to each. It is a good bit of morale banter for us hearty Minnesotians to get through the sometimes cold winters.

Lastly, with COVID-19 now in the picture for some time and on the suggestion of some members that have moved away from the area but still want to be involved, we will be starting into a trial year where

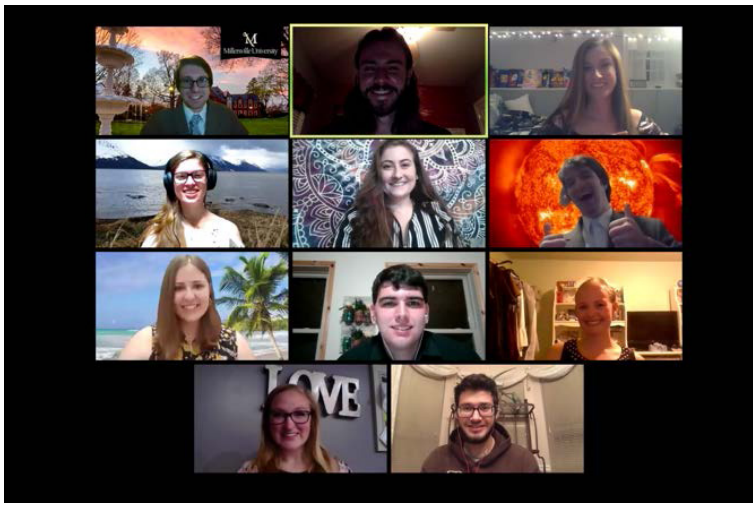
we offer 50% of our meetings 100% virtual. This allows us to retain some members who have moved to other areas and gain others that may find the distance to the meetings a burden. It also allows us to tap into people from all over the world for presenters, increasing our palate of information. After dealing with restrictions by COVID-19 over the last 6 months or so, this happened at a time for this to be a natural transition and fit for the times.

I fear though, with the ever-increasing technological world, the days of what I consider more meaningful interpersonal relationships and data exchange, such as our club, are going to be ever-decreasing in enthusiastic members who are willing to participate and show up. People are busy with a lot of things and their time spread thin. I think it will be important to continue to adapt and grow as much as possible to keep people coming in. What we do in collaborating I think sometimes seems simple but the networking of scientists and like-minded individuals that want to further their knowledge is important. It is important that we steer away from impersonal methods and get back to in-person relations with one another at meaningful gatherings such as ours.

Jarrod Schoenecker, Twin Cities Meteorological Society President.

MILLERSVILLE

Much of the activity on campus during this past Spring Semester here at Millersville University ended quite abruptly with the onset of COVID-19. However, the Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society at Millersville University has remained busy.



Towards the end of May, MU-AMS welcomed in their new officers with much enthusiasm. A new officer position was added as well, that being the Public Relations officer. The seven new officers of MU-AMS are extremely excited to get to work and put together creative ideas for the upcoming semester.

Speaking of the Fall 2020 Semester, MU-AMS is already planning for their Met-Mentor program. With the unusual semester ahead for many students, MU-AMS wants to make the transition for freshmen as enjoyable and relaxed as possible. Like past years, incoming freshmen are going to be paired with current students in Millersville University's meteorology program to help guide them when needed. Along with that, MU-AMS is planning to hold several socially distanced events for the incoming freshmen.

Given the current situation due to COVID-19, MU-AMS has been resilient and has held several meetings to stay in contact and keep up to date on activities that will be held in the near future. Many aspects of the upcoming semester are uncertain at the moment, but MU-AMS is hopeful that their community will be able to reconnect and continue growing.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL

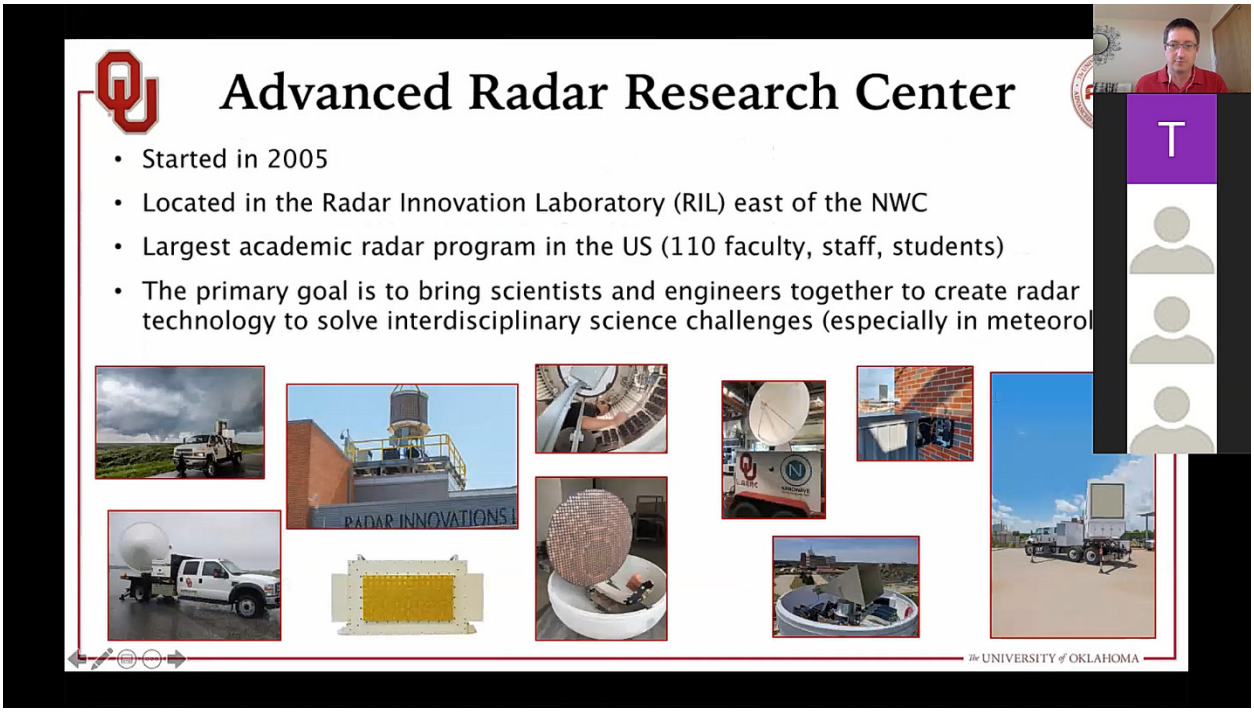
The UMass Lowell AMS Local Student Chapter is looking forward to a bizarre yet exciting fall 2020 semester! Along with many other universities, UMass Lowell has moved to a mostly remote format, forcing all club interactions to be done through virtual platforms such as Zoom. Unfortunately, this eliminates the possibility of in-person events for the fall, such as the well-recieved Skywarn spotter training session we held in conjunction with the Boston/Norton office of the National Weather Service on Thursday, March 5, just before the COVID-19 shutdowns.

To improve the community experience for our members, monthly virtual meetings will now coincide with our brand new, four-part Meteorology Speaker Series. At these seminars, public and private sector meteorologists from Boston 25 News, the National Hurricane Center, NASA, and Cheniere will talk about the work they do in their respective fields and the paths that they took to get there. These presentations will allow students to learn about the variety of ways in which they can use a meteorology degree and prepare our future graduates for the job market.

Continuing on this same theme, our local chapter is working with UMass Lowell's Society of Environmental Scientists student club to hold our department's first-ever Career Night later in the fall, featuring professionals working in the fields of atmospheric science, environmental science, and geology. This event aims to increase awareness of our department and programs while providing students with invaluable information on the paths they could take to reach their career goals.

In addition to these two brand-new initiatives, we plan to gauge interest in biweekly virtual game nights to increase member connections in this new isolated format. Despite the many unforeseen format changes, we are looking forward to our most ambitious UMass Lowell AMS Local Chapter semester yet!





UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

The University of Oklahoma's Student Chapter of AMS & NWA made the most of the end of the spring semester with a remote talk via Zoom by Dr. David Bodine of ARRC. Dr. Bodine is a research scientist whose specialties include tornado debris signatures and how we can use them to understand the evolution and life cycle of tornadoes. Outside of the virtual classroom, we also posted all our chapter meetings of the past year to our YouTube channel for our members and the public to view at their leisure while quarantined. Additionally, we helped fight hunger in the local community during the COVID-19 pandemic by campaigning to raise awareness of donating to the OU Food Pantry and made a $300 donation to help those in need!

FROM AMS HEADQUARTERS



THE AMS WEATHER BAND

From radar frequency bands, to snow bands, to precipitation bands, there's a number of bands related to weather...and now there's one more: the AMS Weather Band, launching this fall, a global community of enthusiasts committed to advancing our shared understanding and appreciation of weather. Learn more and get involved at https://amsweatherband.org.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR



There are many common non-meteorological industries in the private sector where meteorology graduates find employment. Industries include energy, insurance, weather data/forecasting, commodities trading, supply chain management, and others. Check out the new section of the AMS Career Resources site on Preparing Students for Employment in the Private Sector and learn more about the courses and skills recommended for positions in these industries.

ANNUAL MEETING FAQS

Which elements of the 101st Annual Meeting will be held virtually?

- All Oral and Poster Sessions for our Conferences and Symposia
- Core Science Keynotes
- Lectures
- Named Sessions
- Presidential Forum and Presidential Sessions
- Oral Presentations
- Panel Discussions
- Networking Opportunities
- Poster Presentations (Traditional and ePoster)
- Town Hall Meetings and Side Panels
- Short Courses and Workshops
- Exhibits
- AMS Committee and Board Meetings
- Select Events
- Awards Ceremony

Which elements of the 101st Annual Meeting will be held in person?
We realize that face to face interactions are a vital part of our usual Annual Meetings. We will continue to monitor the situation around Covid-19 and are looking into the options for a smaller, in-person meeting in New Orleans for those that would still like to gather, if it will be safe to do so. We are also considering encouraging our local chapters to host socially distant gatherings during the week of the 101st Annual Meeting. We will share more details as they become available.

How do I submit an abstract to present at the 101st Annual Meeting?
View the call for papers for the Conferences and Symposia that will take place during the Annual Meeting and submit an abstract by 24 August 2020. Accepted authors will be notified in early November. Please note that the $95 abstract submission fee is separate from the registration fee. All presenters must register for the 101st Annual Meeting. Registration will open in mid September.

I have already submitted an abstract to the 101st Annual Meeting - what do I do?
If you would like organizers to consider your abstract for the new virtual format - do nothing! We will automatically consider your abstract and will notify you of acceptance in early November.
If you would like to make a change to your submission (title, author list, presenter designation, preferred presentation format, abstract text) based on the new virtual format, you can make changes in presenter's corner until 24 August 2020.

If you are not able or not willing to present in the new virtual format, please withdraw your abstract in presenter's corner by 24 August 2020 to receive a refund on your abstract submission fee.

I have not presented virtually before - will there be training for presenters before the 101st Annual Meeting?

We recognize that presenting virtually is new for many of us. We will be posting information and tips for presenters, moderators, session chairs, program chairs, and student volunteers in November and will be holding virtual training sessions starting in December.

For more on the annual meeting, visit https://annual.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/2021/



Photo by Max LaRochelle

AMS Local Chapter Affairs

This newsletter is constructed by members of the American Meteorological Society's Local Chapter Affairs Committee in conjunction with AMS Headquarters. The LCAC meets at every AMS Annual Meeting to help foster the growth of the local chapters.

E-mail the committee at: **amschaps@ametsoc.org**

Committee Leadership

Kristofer Tuftedal, Chair
Kevin Thiel, Chair-Elect
Tiernan Doyle, AMS Liaison

Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter

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The next newsletter will be published in November If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events or submit a write-up on a specific activity that was successful, please e-mail Tiernan Doyle no later than October 20th. To view prior newsletters, **click here**.