



AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS RELEASE

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94th AMS Annual Meeting Highlights and Opportunities for Media

December 17, 2013, Boston, MA – The American Meteorological Society’s (AMS) 94th Annual Meeting is fast approaching with events running from February 2 – 6, 2014, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. This year’s theme, “Extreme Weather – Climate and the Built Environment: New Perspectives, opportunities, and Tools” will explore the relationships between scientific inquiry, technological advances, societal implications, and public awareness. AMS is planning more than thirty programs and events of interest for the media throughout the week. Some of the special events at this year’s meeting include:

Adapting to the New Normal: Building, Sustaining, and Improving our Weather and Climate Hazard Resilience with **FEMA Administrator W. Craig Fugate** and **Nobel Laureate Donald Wuebbels**. Wuebbels will present the principal findings of the recent major international IPCC assessment report with Fugate presenting a strategic vision to prepare for the impacts of climate change. Monday night. Monday night.

The 14th Presidential Forum: Extreme Weather, Climate, and the Built Environment: New Perspectives, Opportunities and Tools. At the Monday morning plenary session, attendees will hear perspectives on the consequences of weather and climate extremes from high-ranking representatives of business, governments, and communities in a lively, McLaughlin-style panel. On Tuesday, the Forum will host an International Panel Discussion—Climate Services to Support Risk-Informed Decision Making for Building Resilience to Weather Extremes in a Changing Climate. **Monday, 9:00-10:30, Thomas Murphy Ballroom; Tuesday, 3:30-5:30, Room C107.**

Superstorm Sandy Symposium: Superstorm Sandy represents a real-world manifestation of this year’s meeting theme from multiple viewpoints including observations, prediction, climate, response, and communications. The symposium will focus on three complementary elements of what will likely be one of the costliest and deadliest storms of the 21st century: 1) prediction and preparedness; 2) response and recovery; and, particularly, 3) new perspectives, opportunities, tools, and imperatives for the future built environment. **Thursday, 8:30-5:00, Georgia Ballroom 2.**

WeatherFest. WeatherFest is a fun, interactive science and weather fair designed to promote the fields of meteorology, oceanography, and the related sciences to Atlanta area residents, families, students, and teachers. Here, you’ll have a chance to see school children test their broadcast skills in front of a weather green-screen. WeatherFest is AMS’s only public event that features science exhibits, including hands-on experiments, as well as educational and career information. **Sunday, 12:00–4:00 p.m.**

Meet the President. During his tenure as AMS President, one of Marshall J. Shepherd's goals has been to make AMS leadership as accessible as possible to members. He invites you to ask questions, share thoughts and concerns, or just say hello. Dr. Julie Winkler, president of the Association of American Geographers, will be participating in one of the sessions to share exciting news about ongoing partnerships between AMS and AAG. **Tuesday 3:00–3:30 p.m.; Wednesday 10:00–10:30 a.m.; Thursday 3:00–3:30 p.m.** (Press Briefing Room)

Official media representatives and public information officers are encouraged to register in advance by sending credentials to Rachel S. Thomas-Medwid (rthomas@ametsoc.org). Press registration includes a press badge that allows access to all conferences, special programs, and exhibits.

For more information, visit the Annual Meeting Web site (<http://annual.ametsoc.org/2014>). For updates and news on the Annual Meeting check in on the AMS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ametsoc>), The Front Page (<http://blog.ametsoc.org>), and Twitter @ametsoc.