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For Immediate Release

American Meteorological Society holds 3rd Annual Climate Studies Diversity Project Workshop

May 19, 2014, Silver Spring, MD – The American Meteorological Society's (AMS) Education Program and Second Nature welcome 23 professors and instructors of minority-serving institutions (MSIs) from across the country for a week-long workshop focused on climate change and sustainability related topics. Participants will hear presentations from highly regarded climate scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Pennsylvania State University, and NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The workshop also includes field trips to NASA Goddard, NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction and the Beltsville Climate Center. Participating faculty will learn how to offer the *AMS Climate Studies* course at their post-secondary institution and receive training to become leaders in climate education. They will also be invited to the January 2015 AMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ to report on their course implementation progress.

The Climate Studies Diversity Project is an initiative by AMS and Second Nature, the supporting organization of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), to introduce the *AMS Climate Studies* course at 100 MSIs over a five-year period. AMS has made this climate studies course available for implementation at post-secondary institutions since 2010 to support a general public understanding of this vitally important field. Since the Climate Studies Diversity Project began in 2012, faculty members at 52 MSIs have already participated. A faculty member from last year's cohort stated, "This climate studies workshop was by far the most useful and professionally valuable conference I have ever attended." Beth Mills, Associate Director of the AMS Education Program remarked, "This workshop is an incredibly important part of bringing climate science education to minority students nationwide." Program funding is provided through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Opportunities for Enhancing Diversity in the Geosciences Award #1107968.

ABOUT AMS
Founded in 1919, AMS promotes the development and dissemination of information and education on the atmospheric and related sciences, technologies, applications, and services. Headquartered in Boston, with a second office in Washington DC, AMS has a membership of more than 14,000 professionals, researchers, scientists, educators, students, and weather enthusiasts. AMS publishes eleven atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic journals, both in print and online to provide its mission of promoting and disseminating the most advanced scientific research, representing the latest information on global water, weather, and climate.

Each year, AMS sponsors an annual meeting that includes approximately 30 conferences/symposia as well as an additional 8-12 specialty meetings throughout the year. AMS also publishes more than 2,000 peer-reviewed scientific articles, as well as trade books and textbooks, provides the latest scientific research through a series of Capitol Hill briefings, and advances Earth Science literacy through educational initiatives for K-12 teachers and undergraduate institutions nationwide.

ABOUT Second Nature
Second Nature works to create a healthy, just, and sustainable society beginning with the transformation of higher education. Second Nature is the supporting organization of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), a partnership among more than 670 colleges and universities in every state and the District of Columbia who have committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare students through research and education to solve the challenges of the 21st century.

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