**AMS LOCAL**

**CHAPTER AFFAIRS**

**Chapter Happenings**

**Ark-La-Tex**

The Ark-La-Tex Chapter of the American Meteorological Society held their third meeting of 2016 at the National Weather Service Office in Shreveport. Meteorologists with the Shreveport NWS office worked with and mentored several summer students this summer, with their internship highlighted with a final presentation based on past weather case studies. Julianna Glinskas, a junior Chemistry major from LeTourneau University in Longview, TX, gave a presentation on the 2015-16 Red River Flooding and analyzed the impacts and effects ENSO had on the river flooding across the Red River Basin. Robert Garrett, a sophomore from Jackson State University in Jackson, MS, gave a presentation that analyzed the historic rainfall and flooding on the Ark-La-Tex during March 2016. A question and answer session was held after each presentation. These presentations also showcased what they learned during their summer internship at the National Weather Service.

**Asheville**

It has been exciting times for the AMS Asheville Chapter for the last 3 months. It was a distinct pleasure to welcome author John Ross to speak to the Asheville Chapter on his book: *The Forecast for D-Day: And the Weatherman Behind Ike’s Greatest Gamble*. Mr. Ross detailed the effort behind gathering the meteorological maps, analysis, and forecast for D-Day and how the changing forecast ultimately decided when the attack on Normandy would commence. Mr. Ross also brought books with him for purchase—which SOLD OUT and the profit from the sales was donated to the Chapter! We sincerely thank him for his generosity.

The chapter also sponsored a minor league baseball game outing on-site at historic McCormick Field to see the Asheville Tourists! The weather was perfect for the event with plentiful sunshine and game time temperatures in the lower 80s. The event included food provided by the ballfield, drinks, and tickets to the game. We had over 40 persons attend the event and participate in this fun social gathering.

In August, the Asheville Chapter gathered at the nearby Collider, a new coworking and event space designed to bring together people from government, business, and
The students of the Iowa State University Chapter of the American Meteorological Society were recently presented with the exciting opportunity of dining with professors for the student/faculty dinner! At this event, held on September 28th, all of the faculty members from the department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences were invited to attend a dinner hosted by our student chapter with the goal of improving departmental relations.

In many departments, it is evident that a barrier exists between students and professors. This barrier, which stems from the intimidation factor associated with faculty, can often inhibit students from asking questions and thus prevents the crucial understanding necessary to success. In order to overcome this stigma, our chapter believes that it is essential to help students see professors in a different light. This is exactly what the student/faculty dinner seeks to achieve. With great food and lots of students in attendance (as this is one of our most highly attended events of the year), students don’t feel pressured by their conversations. This lends itself to improved student engagement and a more close-knit department.

Additionally, this event allows members to learn about the current research efforts that our faculty members are engaged in. Moreover, for those professors who now restrict themselves solely to teaching, our members still have the chance of listening to their stories and their path through meteorology. This is a fantastic opportunity to gain valuable insight into different career tracks that the students may have not considered previously.

All in all, this well-attended event was a great success and provided members with incredible connections as they begin their meteorology network.
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

The Millersville University Student Chapter of the AMS kicked off the academic year with its annual meteorology Met-Mentor Program. Designed to help incoming freshmen and transfers in the major adjust to Millersville’s meteorology department, the program pairs new students with upperclassmen and hosts a variety of social events. This year, students enjoyed an ice cream social before the start of classes, attended a Lancaster Barnstormers baseball game, gathered for a bonfire, and tested their skills in a forecasting competition and workshop, among other events. While the Met-Mentor Program is centered around a common interest in meteorology, many of the events are primarily of social nature, allowing underclassmen to network and form friendships with all ages within the department. It is a great way to interact with colleagues and build a community environment that promotes learning, teamwork, and cohesion with fellow student meteorologists. “My mentee from last year is now one of my best friends,” says junior Alyssa Cannistraci. “I was excited to meet all the new freshmen this year, and I want to be a role model for them, someone to trust and look up to. We’re trying to blend all the ages together; so we can foster a sense of unity from our common bond in the weather.” Millersville’s Met-Mentor Program enjoys great success, with nearly sixty members participating this year. Many mentors participate for multiple years and mentees return as mentors, further enhancing the learning community while forming lasting friendships.

NORTH FLORIDA

The North Florida Chapter tackles St. George Island on International Coastal Clean-up Day after Hurricane Hermine! This was our first community service event of the semester and we decided to take the road trip early in the morning to beat the rain. We found various items while cleaning the coast such as shoes, wood, and even cigarette butts. Skip and the other park rangers were thankful we assisted in the clean up because our job actually takes one park ranger at least two to three weeks! Learning about different types of fish and crabs was an amazing experience and we’ll be coming back to St. George Island in the spring semester.
NEW YORK CITY/LONG ISLAND

The New York City/Long Island Chapter working jointly with AMS Headquarters updated the wording of the American Meteorological Society’s “Certificate of Outstanding Achievement” to incorporate new opportunities for acknowledgement in addition to traditional science and technology fairs. The wording acknowledges that the Certificate of Outstanding Achievement is awarded to person(s) “for excellence in atmospheric or related sciences.” This spring our Chapter acknowledged the middle school student teams who placed first, second and third in the Meteorology - Everyday Weather at the New York Science State Olympiad Regional competitions. I encourage all AMS Local Chapters to utilize these certificates in new ways to honor the youth in our field, such as other competitions like Legos or weather forecasting contests.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SIXTH TRI-STATE WEATHER CONFERENCE

At least 185 participants were treated to excellent presentations and fine fellowship at the October 1st conference hosted by the Western Connecticut State University Weather Center in Danbury, CT. Meteorologists from private and public sectors, educators, authors, students and fans of weather from across the Northeast gathered under the sponsorship of the Western Connecticut Student and the NYC/LI Chapters of the AMS, as well as the NOAA/National Weather Service Upton and Taunton offices. Thanks to Dr. Gary Lessor (Chair), Mark Kramer (Co-Chair), and Craig Allen of WCBS for his capable role as Master of Ceremonies.

Dr. Louis Uccellini, Director of the National Weather Service, updated progress in forecasting capabilities at NWS. Dr. Uccellini reminisced about watching Long Island weather and dealing with recent major snowstorms and raised hopes for a future volume in the Northeast snowstorm series with Paul Kocin.

Jeffrey Tongue of the NWS Upton office described the dramatic improvements in the temporal resolution of data from observational systems and its value in numerical modeling. The future of extreme weather forecasting lies in sub-hourly resolution of radar, satellite and other critical data, as he illustrated in the August 13, 2014 Islip, NY flooding event. Gary Conte of the Upton office focused on effectively communicating the increasing risks of such extreme weather in a changing climate.

Hayden Frank of the NWS Taunton office provided insights into the outbreak of two severe weather events on the same day in August 2015, while Eleanor Vallier-Talbot of that office reprised 1991’s Hurricane Bob.

Additional informative talks featured storm chasing, communicating climate change, the uses of ensemble data in convective outbreaks, characterizing the ecology of Lake George, and the role of social media in NWS communications.

Dr. Robert Hart added to the buzz surrounding Hurricane Matthew with a discussion of hurricane drought, and Dr. Joseph D’Aleo capped the day with hints that the upcoming winter is likely to be colder and stormier than last winter.

Several poster sessions highlighted a variety of topics, such as CoCoRAHs and GOES-R satellite data.

For further details about the conference, including links to the previous conferences, visit here.
Fall/Winter 2016 Volume 6, Issue 2

OHIO UNIVERSITY

The Ohio University Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (OUCAMS) started October with a flurry of exciting events. On Monday October 3rd a group of members traveled to the local WFO in Charleston, West Virginia, to tour the office. The trip was organized by Adam Roser, a senior who completed a volunteership at the office over the previous summer, and Simone Lewis, an OHIO Alum! Members learned about the office’s IT demands, the instrumentation used by forecasters, and how warnings are issued through an AWIPS II simulation. The highlight of the trip was the chance for members to climb over 120 feet up and view the inside of the WSR-88D Radar!

Just a few days later, the chapter celebrated Homecoming Weekend at Ohio University with its annual Alumni Spaghetti Dinner, inviting members old and new to share great stories of the past and fantastic food as well. The next morning, the chapter walked in the OHIO Homecoming Parade, passing out candy and magnets to community members and students to promote the Atmospheric Lab and its forecast hotline on campus. Also featured in the parade was the chapter’s entry in the annual banner contest. Hours of hard work and careful preparation paid off, as the chapter was able to win second place, marking the 6th year in a row that our banner has placed!

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

On October 8th, 2016, the Rutgers University Meteorology Club took part in an outreach event at Bridgewater-Raritan High School’s STEAM Fair. The STEAM Fair was geared towards educating young children and their families about Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. The members of Rutgers Meteorology Club assisted in the science aspect of STEAM and informed the visitors to our table about different phenomena about the weather with our “Tornado in a Bottle” experiment, our tornado simulator, and weather trivia!

The most popular and crowd pleasing item we had was the tornado simulator: This item showed the dynamics of a tornado simply by air and water vapor. The members of the club went into more detail about how a tornado actually forms and how difficult they can be to predict.

The weather trivia was set up to test the visitors to the table’s weather knowledge. The categories included instruments, weather records, clouds, and weather safety.

The Rutgers Meteorology Club had a successful day at Bridgewater-Raritan High School’s STEAM Fair. We have more outreach opportunities planned for the fall, and hope to continue spreading the knowledge about the wonderful thing that is the weather!
**SOUTHEAST ARIZONA**

The Southeast Arizona Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (SEACAMS) had a tour to the local TV station KGUN 9 with the chief meteorologist Erin Christiansen at Tucson, Arizona on Monday, October 25th. In this tour, SEACAMS members took a behind-the-scenes look at the KGUN 9 broadcast facility, as well as an on-air (live) broadcast. Erin also explained how she gathers and posts current weather data and how she uses a subscription service to acquire weather information. SEACAMS members also used the camera and blank screen to try to make a TV weather broadcast like Erin.

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**WEST CENTRAL FLORIDA**

NOAA’s Aircraft Operations Center (NOAA Hurricane Hunters) hosted the West Coast Florida AMS Chapter and the Women in Aviation Tampa Chapter on Oct. 14 2016. The two organizations participated in a Q&A session with NOAA Meteorologist Ian Sears and NOAA pilots LTJG JC Clark and LT Loren Evory about flying through hurricanes and other NOAA aircraft missions. The visit concluded with tours of NOAA’s Lockheed WP-3D Orion, Gulfstream IV-SP, and DHC-6-300 Twin Otter aircraft.

NOAA provides a wide range of specialized airborne environmental data collection capabilities vital to understanding the Earth, conserving and managing coastal and marine resources, and protecting lives and property.

NOAA’s fleet of nine manned aircraft is operated, managed, and maintained by NOAA’s Aircraft Operations Center (AOC), part of NOAA’s Office of Marine and Aviation Operations. Located at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida, AOC serves as the main base for OMAO’s fleet and provides capable, mission-ready aircraft and professional crews to the scientific community. AOC is committed to the safe, efficient, and economical use of NOAA aircraft and has more than four decades of experience developing, coordinating, and successfully and safely conducting airborne environmental data gathering missions.

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**TEXAS A&M**

On Saturday, November 5th, the Texas A & M Department of Atmospheric Sciences celebrated the 60th anniversary of the Texas A&M AMS Student Chapter. Larry Peabody, Class of 1960, the first President of the Chapter, is shown cutting the first slice of the anniversary cake. Bill Read, Class of 1971 and former Director of the National Hurricane Center, is pictured in the background. The event was hosted and organized by Dr. Don Conlee, Class of 1994, Associate Professor in the Department.
SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA

Students from the AMS Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter work exceptionally hard on our colloquia series to bring in presenters from around the United States to inform the California University of PA students and public on different studies of earth science. Dr. Michael E. Mann, from Penn State University, came to California University of Pennsylvania on September 23rd, 2016 to give a talk on climate change and climate denial. The talk was free, open to the public and was also streamed via our club's social media accounts. In his presentation, he discussed how each political party perceives man made climate change and how they could potentially misinform the public through their own bias, leading to climate denial. The presentation was a tremendous success with a huge amount of people from around the area attending the talk. Our chapter finds it extremely fulfilling to have different professionals and experts from all over the country give talks on their specialized areas of study. Those who attend our colloquia series become more knowledgeable on the different areas of earth science and how it is related to the real world. There are many other presenters coming to CalU of PA that we look forward to hosting. All of these talks are open to the public.

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO MAYAGÜEZ

The chapter participated in a national activity called Ruta: Planeta Digital, which consisted of teaching people from around the country about the atmospheric disasters and phenomena and how to be prepared and safe for them, our oceans, how weather broadcast work, and other things that are relevant to the topic of our atmosphere.

During the last days of September and beginning of October the UPRM student chapter was involved in many activities to help our community. Together with Campus Verde, an organization from our campus, we worked to clean Las Golondrinas Beach in Isabela, during the International Coastal Cleanup Day. In addition to this we received a very special visit to our campus, a group of fifth graders from the school under the regime of the University of Rio Piedra's Campus (UHS). This group of students was very interested in meteorology topics; they have the first Meteorological Data Base in a school campus, in Puerto Rico. During their visit to our campus we gave them a workshop discussing principles of meteorology, how to correctly use weather maps, models, and other instruments to make an accurate forecast, career opportunities as a meteorologist, and how to make their own experiments with recycled materials. To this workshop we invited meteorologist who graduated from our campus, Alexis Orengo and Suheily Lopez, to talk to the students about their experiences as meteorology students and professionals.
**NEWS FROM AMS HEADQUARTERS**

**NEW SYSTEM FOR UPDATING CHAPTER OFFICER INFORMATION**

Chapter officers were recently sent an email regarding changes to the process for updating chapter officers in the online chapter directory. A glitch in the login screen was discovered and that has been corrected. Several officers had trouble logging in, but the system should be working correctly now. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Even though the information you need to provide is similar to the prior system, there are a few important changes.

1. All officers and faculty advisors affiliated with the chapter must have an AMS online account in order to be entered and have access to the chapter directory listing. You will no longer need to use your chapter account number for access. Officers that do not already have an online account should create one through the AMS website. Your online AMS account credentials will be used to login to your directory listing from this point forward. Updates to officer information will be reflected immediately in the online chapter directory.

2. If you are an outgoing officer and are updating your chapter directory listing, once you remove yourself as an officer, you will be logged out and will not be able to log back in. The best way to handle this situation is to make all required changes/additions and then delete your information as a final step.

3. If you are a new officer (meaning you have never served as an officer in the chapter before) and you have been tasked with updating your chapter directory listing, you will need to email Kelly Savoie to request access to your chapter account.

Please visit the [AMS Website](http://www.ametsoc.org) for more detailed information on the new system and to access your chapter directory listing. The direct link to the login page is [apps.ametsoc.org/chapters](http://apps.ametsoc.org/chapters). Contact Kelly Savoie if you are still having trouble getting into the system.

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**2017 AMS MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The American Meteorological Society is pleased to announce the 2017 AMS Minority Scholarships. Now entering its twenty-fourth year, the scholarship is intended to help support college education for minority students traditionally underrepresented in the sciences, especially Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, and Native Hawaiian students, who intend to pursue careers in the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. The two-year scholarships, funded through donations made by members to the AMS Annual Giving Program, are for $3000 during the freshman year and $3000 during the sophomore year (sophomore year funding depends on successful completion of the freshman academic year). Minority students who will be entering their freshman year of college in the fall of 2017 are eligible to apply.

Thanks to your assistance, we have had a successful twenty-three years. Since the inception of the program, we have awarded the scholarships to over one hundred outstanding students. I hope that all of you will assist us again in distributing information about this valuable program. The AMS website includes a link to the information and application, which is available in PDF printable format. Feel free to print and make several copies for distribution. We are providing a direct link to the scholarship and fellowship page for your convenience. We have also asked AMS CBMs/Sealholders and teachers, associated with the AMS K-13 programs, to help with circulating information about the minority scholarship program.

Thank you for your time and support. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Fernandez by email or by calling 617-226-3907.
WEBINAR – “HARNESSING THE POWER OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE”

The Board for Private Sector Meteorologists invites you to participate via Webex in an upcoming Webinar that will explore the topic of “Harnessing the Power of Social Media in Atmospheric Science.” Our group of panelists includes leading scientists in both the private sector and academia, who will share their ideas and experiences on various aspects of using social media in a career search, in the workplace, and in research endeavors. All students and professionals are welcome to participate in what will certainly be a lively and interesting discussion on this increasingly important form of communication, information sharing, and career building.

Please reference the webinar information below, and send your questions in advance to Kimberly Roberts. We will also allow time for a 20-30 minute Q&A session at the end of the Webinar:

**Harnessing the Power of Social Media in Atmospheric Science**

Wednesday, November 16, 2016
6:30 pm | Eastern Standard Time (New York, GMT-05:00) | 1 hr 15 mins

Meeting number: 592 992 929
Add to Calendar

When it’s time, [join the meeting.](#)
Join by phone
Call-in toll-free number: 1-877-8846596 (US/Canada)
Call-in number: 1-513-2142378 (US/Canada)
[Show global numbers](#)
Conference Code: 430 958 4425
[Can’t join the meeting?](#)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Please note that this WebEx service allows audio and other information sent during the session to be recorded, which may be discoverable in a legal matter. By joining this session, you automatically consent to such recordings. If you do not consent to being recorded, discuss your concerns with the host or do not join the session.

The following 2017 Specialty Meetings have volunteer and award opportunities available to students:

- **17th Conference on Mesoscale Processes**
- **21st Conference on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics**
- **19th Conference on Middle Atmosphere**
- **Conference on Radar Meteorology**

For a full list of upcoming AMS meetings, please visit the [AMS website](#).

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DON’T FORGET TO VOTE!

Voting for the [2017 AMS President-Elect and Council](#) is now open to all AMS full members. The elected leaders of AMS are charged with advancing AMS’s goals in the areas of weather, water, and climate. We value and appreciate your vote. The deadline to vote is [22 November 2016](#).

[ indicates link to 2017 AMS President-Elect and Council website]

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[ indicates link to 2017 AMS President-Elect and Council voting page]
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE AMS INTERN BOARD

The AMS would like to remind you about our online Intern Board. The Intern Board offers a modern platform that makes the complex process of recruiting more efficient, which empowers companies to advertise internships that will attract the most qualified talent. You are able to list opportunities on the Intern Board at no charge.

You will be able to perform the following:

• Search Internships—View the newest/freshest internships available
• Post a Resume—Post your anonymous resume for free and let recruiters submit opportunities to you. A great tool whether actively or passively seeking.
• Set up an Email Internship Alert—Create an Internship Alert and new internships that match your search will be emailed to you.

• Access your Intern Account—Your Intern account will let you store available opportunities resumes, cover letters and more. Manage your internship search online and with ease.
• Job Target Customer Service—Customer service is there for you

The Intern Board is available now waiting for you to take advantage of this great opportunity and connect with potential companies looking to find qualified students. Create your profile and begin using the Intern Board services today.

AMS strongly encourages students to participate. We want you to take advantage of this service and hope that you will spread the good news about this worthwhile opportunity!

LOCAL CHAPTER OFFICERS’ BREAKFAST/POSTER DISPLAY DEADLINE REMINDER

To register for the chapter breakfast and to reserve poster space, please email the following form to Kelly Savoie by 21 November 2016.

All local chapter officers are invited to the chapter officers’ breakfast meeting that will be held at the upcoming 97th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society in Seattle, WA on Tuesday, 24 January 2017, from 7:00 to 8:30 am. This is being arranged by the Committee on Local Chapters Affairs in conjunction with the Society. The chapter awards will be presented to both the winning regular chapter and student chapter for 2015-16. We will also be awarding first, second, and third place ribbons to the best local chapter posters! Posters will be judged on content and design. We will once again be including a Town Hall meeting during the last 30 minutes of the breakfast. Winning chapters will have the opportunity to discuss what activities worked well for them over the past year, and meeting attendees interested in joining a local chapter will be invited to chat with chapter officers attending the breakfast. We ask that every chapter try to be represented. If officers will not be attending the Annual Meeting, please try and designate a member to act as the representative for the chapter.

Chapter Poster Display

The poster display will be held at the Convention Center in Hall 4E. Display panels will be available as well as pushpins. Each chapter will be allotted a 4’ x 8’ poster space to display a poster related to their local chapter history and recent activities. You may view posters from the 96th Annual Meeting. The Local Chapter Affairs Committee has also created a guideline for the poster award competition.
AMS STUDENT CONFERENCE UPDATES

• Early registration deadline is December 16. Sign up today!

• The conference agenda will be posted on the AMS Student Conference website soon! Follow the website and our Twitter feed here.

• Excited about the conference?! Sign-ups for our Sunday afternoon interactive sessions are now open.

AMS WASHINGTON FORUM’S STUDENT PARTICIPATION PROGRAM AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

The AMS Washington Forum brings science together with business, communications, technology, public policy and many other disciplines. Join us on Tuesday, 25 January at 10:30am for this session developed in coordination between students and scientists where you will get knowledge not found in a classroom. We will discuss why the AMS Washington Forum’s student participation program is a young professional’s dream experience. Panelists will include:

• Ms. Amanda E. Kopil, Millersville University of Pennsylvania, Master’s Program in Integrated Scientific Applications

• Ms. Shadya Sanders, Howard University, NOAA Center for Atmospheric Sciences

• Moderator: Dr. Shawn Miller, Chair, AMS Board on Enterprise Economic Development and with Raytheon Corporation

The next newsletter will be published in early February. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events or submit a write-up on a specific activity that was successful, please e-mail Kelly Savoie no later than January 15th. To view prior newsletters, click here.