

# 2014 PUBLICATIONS COMMISSION REPORT<sup>1</sup>

August 20, 2014

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## 1. Introduction

This report provides highlights of the 2013 publication activities for the AMS scholarly publications. The list of 2014 Editors for each journal is included and anticipated changes for the 2015 Editorial Boards is discussed. Also included is a list of 2014 Editors Award nominations; the AMS Awards Oversight Committee has approved these nominations for Council consideration. Council action is required for (1) the nominations and/or renewals of Chief Editors of *MWR*, *WAF*, *JPO*, *JAMC*, *JAS*, *JCLI*, *JHM*, *Earth Interactions* and *Scientific Monographs*; (2) an administrative change to add one more permanent Publications Strategic Planning Committee (PSPC) member: the PRSA manager.

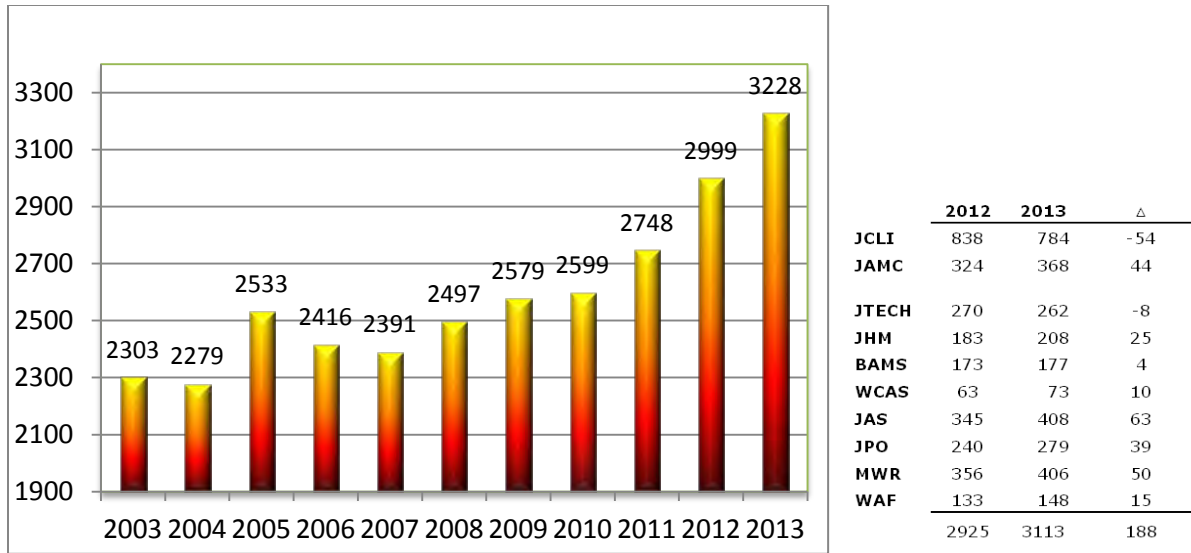
## 2. 2013 Editorial Operations and Submission Trends

**Table 1: Summary of submissions to AMS Journals (excluding Earth Interactions)**

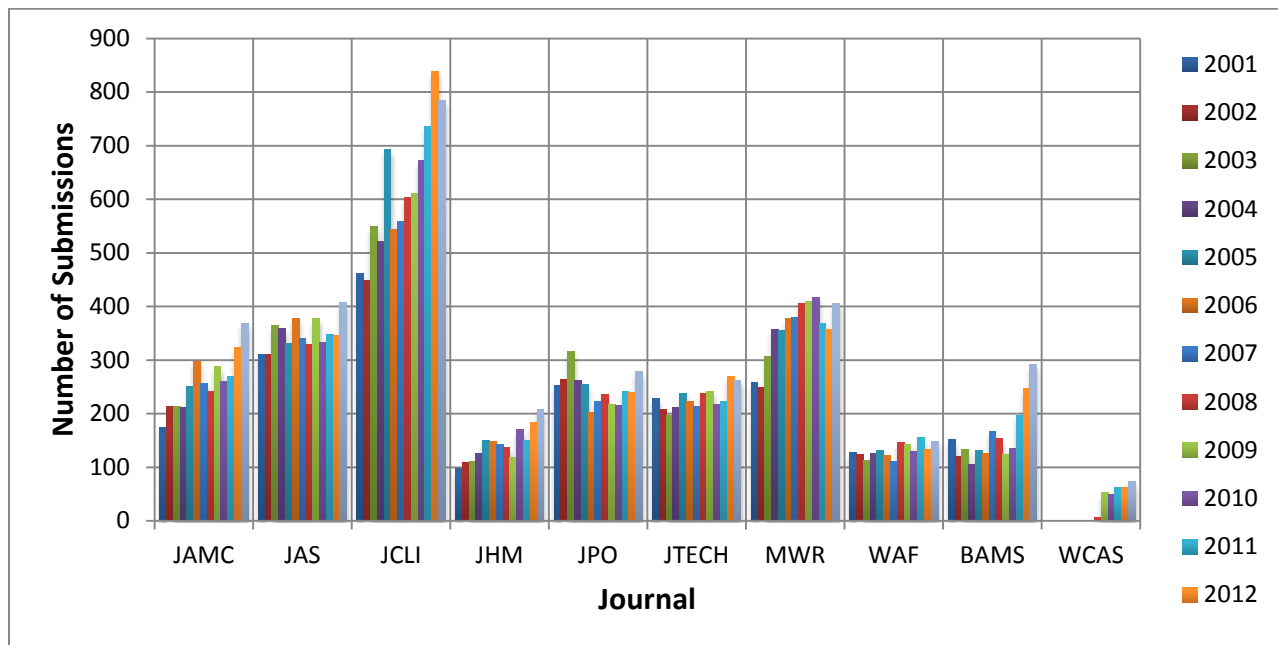
Journal	Total Manuscripts:						Average Days to:		
	Received	Final Dispositions <sup>1</sup>	Final Dispositions that were:			Initial Decisions that were:		Initial Decision	Final Disposition
			Accept	Reject	Withdrawn	Major	Minor		
JAMC	368	353	171	172	10	172	33	62.7	144.1
JAS	408	351	236	103	14	176	83	57.9	137.5
JCLI	784	762	503	241	24	396	151	77.8	169.1
JHM	208	205	137	65	3	108	36	72.8	170.5
JPO	279	256	180	66	10	147	56	61.1	180.0
JTECH	262	259	195	54	10	153	65	72.2	192.5
MWR	406	379	248	116	15	195	80	49.3	136.7
WAF	148	138	85	52	1	66	24	56.6	138.1
WCAS	73	73	43	28	2	36	10	81.5	179.8
BAMS (includes proposals)	292	240	145	94	1	7	37	58.0	111.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,228</b>	<b>3,024</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>155.8</b>
			<b>64.2%</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>48.1%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>		

A summary of the 2013 publications submissions and editorial decisions are shown in Table 1. Figure 1 is a plot of the number of submissions (exclusive of EI) from 2003 to 2013. The table to the right of Figure 1 shows the 2012-13 change in each journal's submissions. Journal abbreviations are as follows: *JAMC*—*Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology*; *JAS*—*Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*; *JCLI*—*Journal of Climate*; *JHM*—*Journal of Hydrometeorology*; *JPO*—*Journal of Physical Oceanography*; *JTECH*—*Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanographic Technology*; *MWR*—*Monthly Weather Review*; *WAF*—*Weather and Forecasting*; *WCAS*—*Weather, Climate and Society*; *BAMS*—*Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*.

<sup>1</sup> The authors thank Dr. Sharon Kristovich, who programmed ARIES to generate Tables and figures in this report



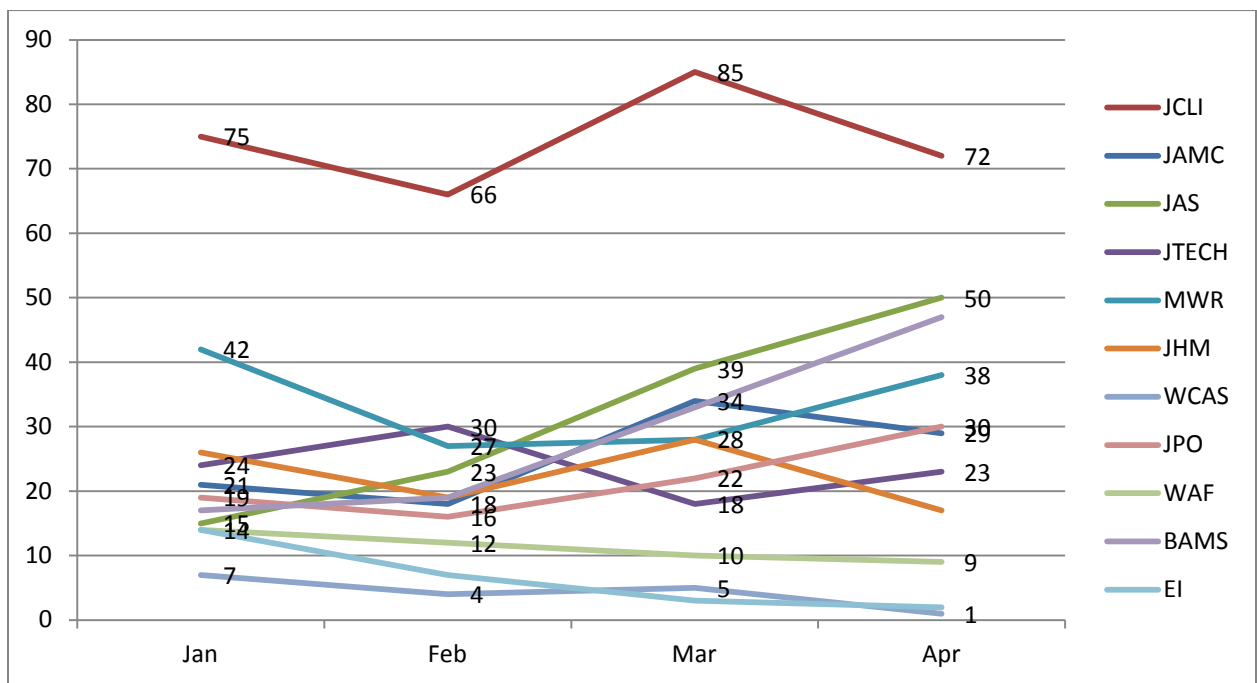
**Figure 1: Annual submission rate to AMS journals during the last decade, and the change in submission rate for each journal between 2012 and 2013**



**Figure 2: Growth in submissions to AMS journals over the last 13 years**

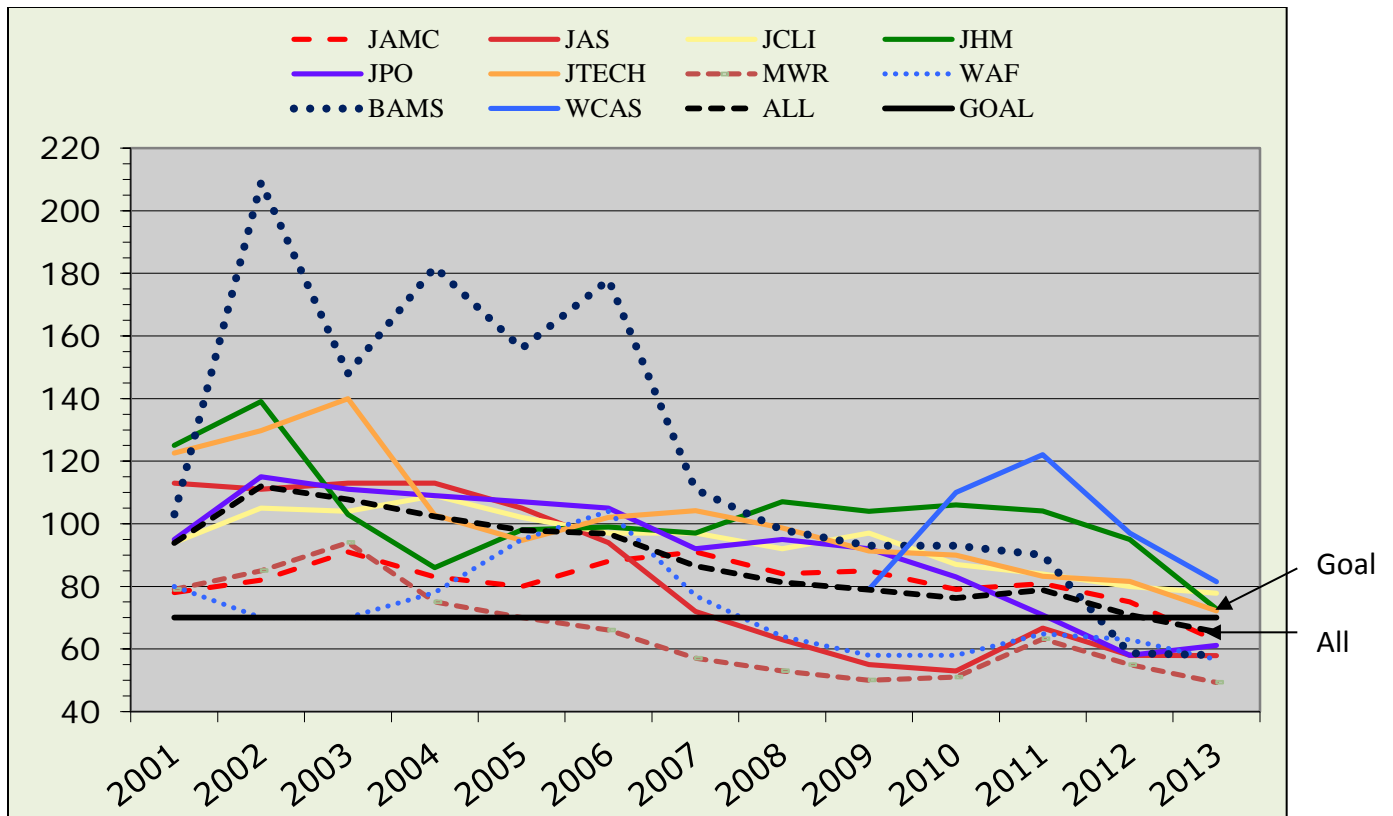
A total of **3228** manuscripts of all types (including BAMS proposals) were received by the ten AMS scholarly journals (not counting *Earth Interactions*) in 2013, an increase over the 2999 submissions over 2012, repeating last year's achievement of setting an all-time record high for yearly submissions to AMS journals. Submission growth was 7.6% over 2012. *JCLI*, *MWR*, and *JAS* continue to be the three largest journals for submissions. With the deadline for acceptance of papers to be included in the 5th IPCC report in August 2012, we experienced a surge in

climate related submissions (mostly to JCLI, JAMC, and BAMS) in 2012. In 2013, with the deadline passed, JCLI had a reduction in submissions from 838 to 784 in 2013. JTECH also had a small decline in submissions from 270 to 262. All other journals increased submissions, some substantially. For example, JAMC has seen a significant two year increase in submissions from 269 in 2011 to 324 in 2012, to 368 in 2013. Encouragingly, WCAS saw 15% growth over 2012, from 63 submissions in 2012 to 73 in 2013. JAS and MWR also saw substantial growth. If we look over a broader time period (Fig. 2), we can see that all journals except WAF and JPO are generally experiencing continued growth. WAF and JPO have remained largely steady over the last decade. Fig. 3 shows the 2014 submissions through April. A total of 1140 submissions, including BAMS proposals and EI submissions, arrived. If this rate is maintained, we are on target for another record year



**Figure 3: Total submissions by journal during the first four months of 2014.**

The time for first editorial decision can be seen in the column labeled “Average days to Initial Decision” on Table 1. The 13 year evolution of this parameter can be visualized in Fig. 4. This is one important metric for Editor Performance. With continued emphasis within the Commission for improved author service, the time to 1<sup>st</sup> editorial decision has been steadily decreasing since 2006 (e.g., 2006: 92 days; 2007: 86 days; 2008: 81 days; 2009: 79 days; 2010: 76 days; 2011: 79 days, 2012: 68.2 days; and now 2013 at 65.5 days). For the second year in a row, we have reached our stated Commission goal of 70 days.



**Figure 4: Time to initial decisions for manuscripts submitted to AMS journals (including BAMS proposals)**

Here we see that four journals (JCLI, JHM, JTECH, and WCAS) still have not reached the 70 day goal; all others have surpassed the goal, with MWR achieving a record 49 days. The worst performing journal, WCAS, had a jump to 120 days in 2011, but has since reduced the time to 81 days under new Chief Editor, Amanda Lynch.

Author success rate (64.2%) has maintained a nearly constant 65% plus or minus a percent throughout most of the AMS publishing history. Contrast that acceptance rate with some of the social science journals with rates <30%. Given the relative constant turnover in editors from year to year, the commission is happy to see that author success rate remains constant regardless of editorial board changes.

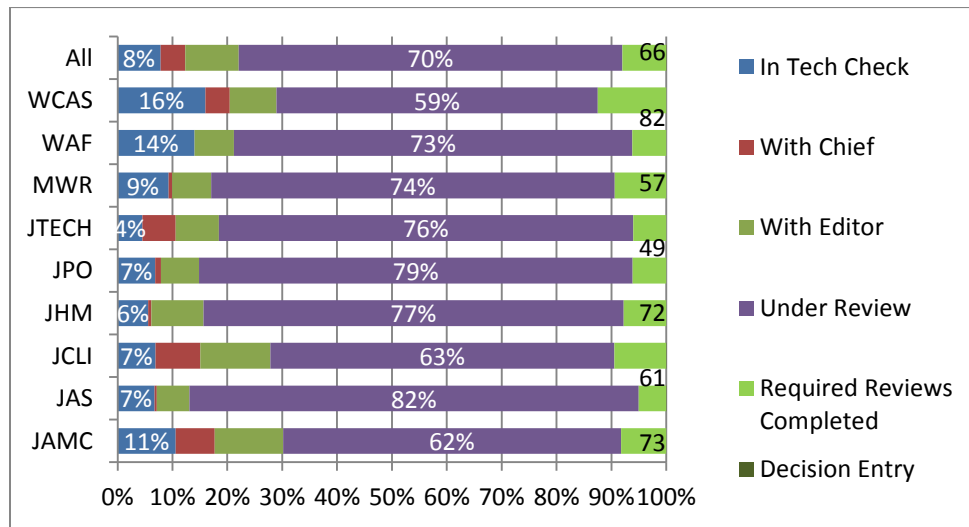
### 3. Editor Performance

The AMS Editorial board consists of 83 chief editors/editors. The metric that the publication commission uses to gauge editor performance is based on the time to 1<sup>st</sup> editorial decision for a new manuscript. The top-performing Editors, in terms of quickest time to 1<sup>st</sup> Editorial decision, are shown in Table 2. 32 of the 69 editors (46%) with 10 or more final dispositions had average days to initial decision that were equal to or less than 62 days (median excluding BAMS proposals). 47 of the 69 editors (68%) with 10 or more decisions had average days to initial decision that were equal to or less than 70 days, our PC target, meaning that 68% of all editors

now meet the target. We continue to seek ways to increase this number. It is worth noting that the time to first decision is not all in the editor's hands, but involves several steps. Figure 5 summarizes these steps for each of the journals, and the percent time spent in each step. We are looking at ways to reduce time in each step of the process, as a way to continue to reduce the time from submission to first decision.

**Table 2: Gold, silver and bronze star editors for 2013**

Gold			Silver			Bronze		
Editor (Journal)	Ave Days to Initial Decision	# Final Dispositions	Editor (Journal)	Ave Days to Initial Decision	# Final Dispositions	Editor (Journal)	Ave Days to Initial Decision	# Final Dispositions
Tung (JAS)	24.2	23	Sun (MWR)	48.5	20	Cai (JAS)	52.3	43
Schultz (MWR)	32.4	56	Durrant (MWR)	48.9	44	Emery (JTECH)	53.0	27
McTaggart-Cowan (MWR)	36.1	44	Markowski (WAF)	49.6	42	Bryan (MWR)	53.5	39
Kristovich (JAMC)	39.8	112	Zhang (MWR)	50.0	35	Wang (WAF)	53.9	27
Rosenfeld (BAMS)	41.8	90	Reynolds (MWR)	51.2	15	Spall (JPO)	54.2	50
Roundy (MWR)	47.7	25	Heywood (JPO)	52.1	37	Waldstreicher (BAMS)	54.9	14



**Figure 5: Percentage of time spent in tech check (qualification), with chief editor, with editor, in review, and after review but before decision, as a percent of total time between initial submission date and first decision.**

#### 4. Expedited Contributions

Expedited contributions (ECs) have been a feature of AMS journals for three years. The twin goals of ECs were to reduce the time for submission to publication of important research papers and to encourage authors to develop short, concise contributions to the journals. Table 3 shows summary statistics for ECs for 2013. Approximately 11% of all submissions start as ECs. To remain an expedited contribution after first review, the paper must be accepted with minor revisions. For papers with reviews recommending major revisions or rejects, the editor has the option of either rejecting the paper or moving it into the standard article workflow. Of the submitted ECs about 63% remain as ECs and 37% are converted or rejected. These numbers are close to accept/reject statistics of all AMS submissions. The time to initial decision ranges from 29-59 days for all journals. The average time to initial decision for all journals was 48 days and the average time to final decision was 78 days. Overall, the expedited contribution concept appears to be working well, and the publication commission supports its continuation.

**Table 3: Summary of 2013 Expedited Contributions to AMS Journals**

Journal	Expedited Contributions that:			Total Number of Submissions	Percentage of:		Average Days to:	
	Reached Final Disposition as ECs	Were Converted to Articles	Under Consideration in 2014		Total Submissions beginning as ECs	Expedited Contributions Converted	Initial Decision	Final Disposition
JAMC	21	15	3	368	10.6%	41.7%	42.1	54.4
JAS	11	5	2	408	4.4%	31.3%	43.6	70.6
JCLI	53	34	12	784	12.6%	39.1%	58.3	83.5
JHM	7	4	0	208	5.3%	36.4%	49.0	79.4
JPO	31	11	4	279	16.5%	26.2%	31.2	46.6
JTECH	13	22	5	262	15.3%	62.9%	59.1	129.5
MWR	26	11	2	406	9.6%	29.7%	29.5	51.8
WAF	14	2	0	148	10.8%	12.5%	45.4	58.0
WCAS	6	4	1	73	15.1%	40.0%	48.8	78.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	182	108	29	2936	10.9%	37.2%	48.8	78.3

In 2013, the Publication Commission modified the terms of reference to be consistent with practice concerning ECs. Specifically, the terms of reference now read that Expedited Contributions are:

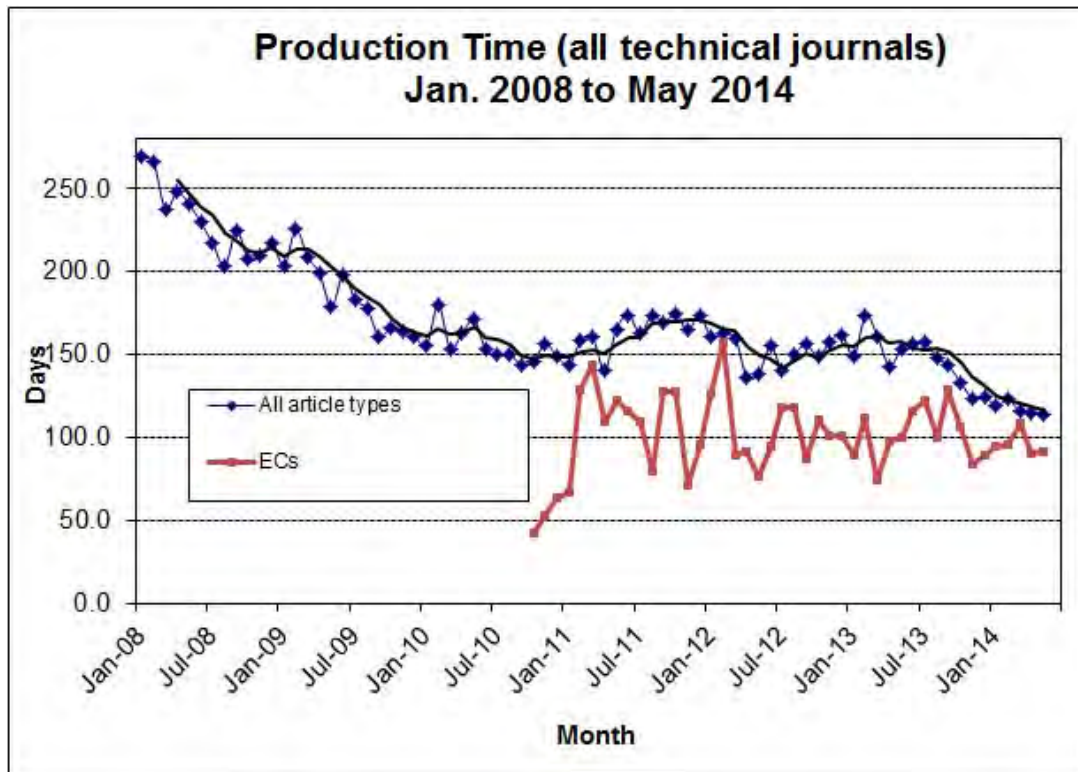
“Shorter articles with an expedited peer-review and publication cycle, limited to 2,500 words (approximately 9 double-spaced text pages), not including references, figure and table lists, and figures, and no more than a combined total of 6 figures and tables. Multi part papers are not allowed. For Expedited Contributions the Editor will expedite the review process and the AMS publication department will accelerate manuscript preparation for publication in final form. Authors will have a deadline of 4 weeks to complete revisions. Expedited Contributions should be published 10 to 12 weeks after final acceptance. If the manuscript grows beyond the maximum length or figure criteria specified above

during the review and revision, the Editor will decide if the paper remains an Expedited Contribution or becomes a regular article. If, however, the paper requires a second round of reviews the contribution will move out of the expedited contributions category and will be considered as a regular article.”

## **5. Production time and future article based workflow**

Production time is defined in various ways by different publishers. For AMS journals, production time is the number of days between editor acceptance of a paper following peer review and the appearance of the final article online. The AMS publication staff now processes roughly 2000 accepted articles per year. Production of the final articles involves an automated pre-editing step (language and formatting standardization), copy editing, technical editing, typesetting, author review of proofs, AMS review of corrected proofs, assignment to an issue, and transfer of content to the printer and online host. So that authors’ work can be disseminated as quickly as possible, the AMS began publishing Early Online Release (EOR) articles in 2010, a process by which the final accepted PDF of the manuscript is made available online and assigned a final digital object identifier (DOI). With the permission of the authors, the fully citable EOR is available online within 7–10 days of acceptance. Upon publication the EOR is taken down from the AMS web delivery system and replaced by the final article. AMS production specialists continue to employ new technologies and ideas to streamline production workflows and increase efficiency, such as employing the Aries Systems ProduXion Manager® (PM) software (a companion to the Aries EM software used by editors and reviewers), and reducing the steps involved in the copy and technical editing process. Reducing production time continues to be of paramount importance to the AMS and its authors. The results of these improvements are apparent from Fig. 6, which shows the average production time of all AMS journals since 2008. Average production time has decreased from of a high of 269 days in January of 2008 to 114 days in May of 2014, a reduction of 58% despite a 15% increase in the number of published pages from 2008 through 2013. Production time for expedited contributions has varied, but is currently 25 days shorter than for regular contributions. Production time will continue to decrease with continued optimization of the production workflow.

The AMS publications department is now developing an approach called Article-based workflow. At present, publication of an article in final form is delayed until all the articles in a print issue are collected. At that time, all the articles in the issue are released on-line simultaneously. We are developing a new approach whereby when an article is ready it appears in final form on-line, complete with page numbers. When the issue is built later, the paper version of the issue is printed and released. We expect that article based workflow may reduce the production time for an article 20-30 days. This approach hopefully will be in use in 2015.

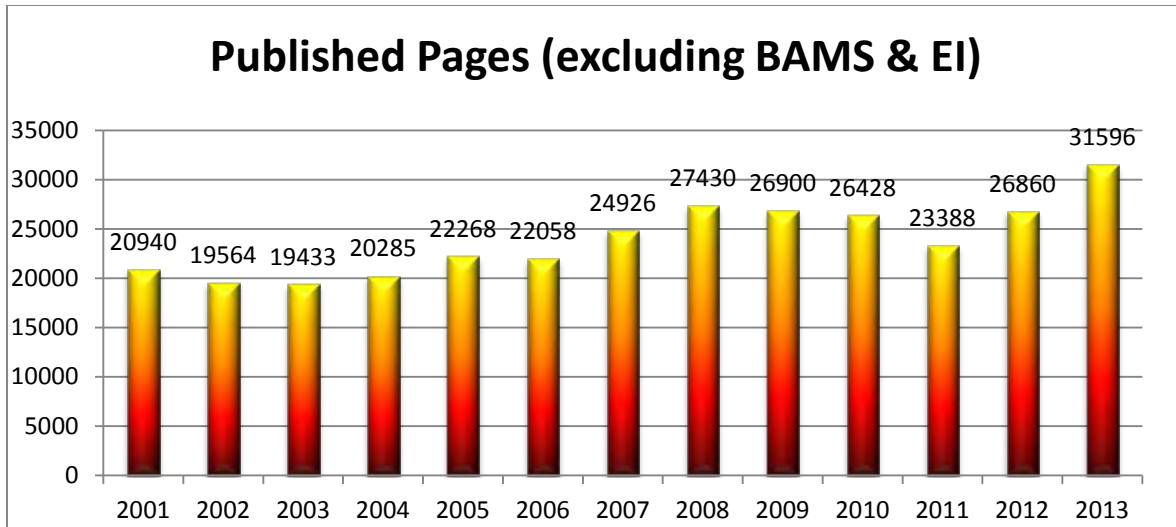


**Fig. 6: Production time for all technical journals and expedited contributions**

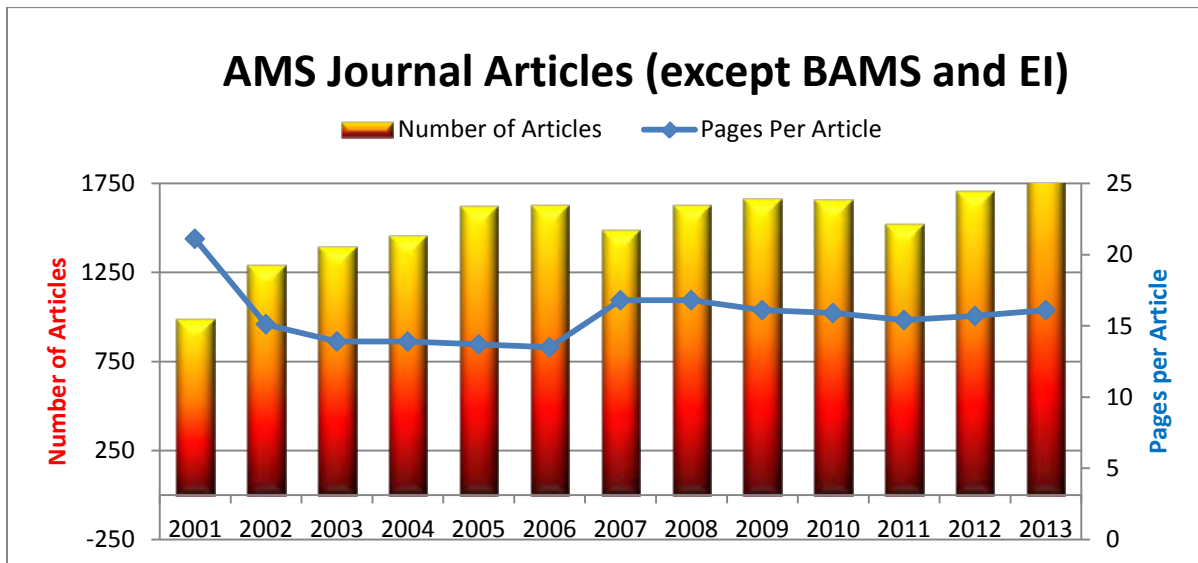
## 6. Published pages

Fig. 7 shows the trend in published pages in AMS journals since 2001. In 2013, the number jumped from 26,860 pages to 31,596 pages, a 17.6% increase and an all-time record. For comparison, in 2011, **23,388** pages were printed in AMS journals (excluding *BAMS*, *EI*, and year-end indexes), a decrease of over 3,000 pages from 2010, due largely to the data crash. In 2012, the number rebounded to 26,860, not a record, but close to the record of 27,430 set in 2008. In 2013, all this was eclipsed. We may see growth continue with the zero supplemental page charge for color implemented in April 2013. Fig. 8 shows the number of articles, and average pages per article. The number of published articles, 1,750, in 2013 was also an all-time record. The number of articles published has held steady to increasing slightly.





**Fig. 7: Trends in published pages in AMS journals since 2001**



**Fig. 8: Trends in number of articles and pages per article in AMS journals since 2001**

## 7. AMS Monographs

In early June, 2014, we received the sad news that long-time Monograph editor, Dr. Peter Lamb, passed away. His death left a gap in the editorship of AMS Monographs. Currently, two monographs, one on the DOE ARM project, and one honoring the contributions of Prof. Yanai, are in progress. The monographs, unlike all other AMS publications except books, are still handled in a paper format, even though articles undergo stringent review much like AMS scholarly articles. We have reconstructed the history of these monographs from Pete Lamb's notes. David Jorgenson, at-large PC member, and Bob Rauber, PC Commissioner are each shepherding one of the existing monographs to completion.

We have begun a process, with approval of the AMS Executive Director, to move the Monographs review and production process into the electronic age by incorporating it into the Aries Editorial Manager and Production system. This upgrade to electronics would have simplified the complicated task of reconstructing the current state of review and process of the existing monograph contributions, and will make record keeping in the future sustainable and manageable. It also allows flexibility for the monographs to appear on line in addition to book form. The two monographs in progress will be moved into this electronic workflow.

We also reviewed the procedures used for monographs and identified a key inefficiency that led to monographs taking 4-5 years or more to complete. In the past, a first complete scientific peer review of monograph chapters was conducted by the organizers of the monograph. Following completion of those reviews and the monograph, the monograph chapters were then subjected to a second complete scientific review under the direction of the Chief Editor of monographs. All of this, in the past, was done in paper format. We developed a new procedure for editing future monographs which will largely eliminate this inefficiency. In the future, upon approval of the topic of a monograph, the Chief Editor of Monographs will immediately seek and appoint, with PC commissioner approval, two editors who are experts in the subject of the monograph, but are not contributors to, or organizers of the monograph. The organizers will be responsible for developing the chapter outlines, selecting the contributors, and insuring that the flow of the monograph between chapters is appropriate. However, the independent editors will conduct the scientific peer-review, and scientific peer review will occur only one time, following the same procedures used for AMS scholarly journals. We expect that the changes described above will cut the time for development of a monograph to under two years.

My nominee for Chief Editor of Monographs to replace Dr. Lamb is Prof. Greg McFarquhar of the University of Illinois. His CV is provided separately. Prof. McFarquhar has been Guest Editor for CAMEX-4 special issue of JAS, Associate Editor for JAMC and JCLI, Associate Editor for *Quarterly Journal of Royal Meteorological Society*, and a Guest Editor for *Atmospheric Research*. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles, mostly in AMS journals.

## **8. Publication Commission makeup and Council Appointment requests**

The AMS Publications Commission currently consists of the 10 Chief Editors, 2 Monograph editors, the Editor in Chief and Chair of the BAMS Editorial Board, the Chief Editor of the Glossary of Meteorology, the Chair of Meteorological and Geophysical Abstracts, three At-Large members, and AMS staff. AMS journals currently have **83** Editors across the nine Journals (exclusive of BAMS). Appendix A shows the current status of our Editorial boards of all journals. Editors agreeing to another term beginning January 1, 2015 are tagged in **green**. Editors whose terms are expiring, but haven't made decisions about continuing as of June 1, 2014 are in **red**. Editors retiring at the end of 2014 are in **blue**. New editors as of January 2015 are in **purple**. We have appointed a few new editors across the journals to cover increasing workloads or specific

disciplines. With the new PRSA model, adding new editors no longer has financial implications for the AMS, but does expedite the workflow for the editors.

The Commission seeks Council approval for appointment or re-appointment for the following Chief Editors:

JAS	<b>Walter Robinson*</b>	Initial 3-year appointment to Dec 31, 2017
JAS	<b>William Brune*</b>	Initial 3-year appointment to Dec 31, 2017
JAMC	<b>David Kristovich</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
JCLI	<b>Anthony Broccoli</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
JCLI	<b>John Chiang*</b>	Initial 3 year appointment to Dec. 31, 2017
MWR	<b>David Schultz</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
JPO	<b>Mike Spall</b>	one year extension to Dec. 31, 2015
JHM	<b>Christa D. Peters-Lidard</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
EI	<b>Razhaul Mahmood</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
WAF	<b>Paul Markowski</b>	two year extension to Dec. 31, 2016
SCI Monographs	<b>Greg McFarquhar*</b>	Initial 3 year appointment to Dec. 31, 2017

\*The new CEs, Drs. Chiang, Robinson, Brune, and McFarquhar’s CVs are attached as addendums to this report.

## 9. Journal of Climate Co-Chief Editorship

JCLI has grown continuously throughout its history, but has remained under the purview of a single Chief Editor. The workload for this CE has become so burdensome, that it is no longer sustainable. The Publication Commission approved moving to having Co-Chief Editors of JCLI beginning in 2015. The workload will be divided equally between the CEs. This will provide some ease for the CEs and allow continuity of workflow when one or the other has commitments or vacations that take him/her away from journal duties.

## 10. Journal Impact Factor Rankings

The table below shows that three of the top-10 journals in the most recent ranking of Thompson-Reuters Impact Factor® (and 5 of the top 20) in the category of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences were AMS titles. *BAMS* has continued its run with the 5<sup>th</sup> straight year being identified as the top-ranked AMS journal and one of the top-3 of all journals in the Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences category. Though the inaugural ranking of *Weather Climate and Society* (WCAS) at #61 was lower than we had hoped, all signs point to it moving up the charts in the coming years as it becomes more established.

## Thompson-ISI Rankings – IMPACT FACTOR

'07 (N=51)	'08 (N=52)	'09 (N=63)	'10 (N=68)	'11 (N=71)	'12 (N=74)
4. JCLI	1. BAMS	1. BAMS	3. BAMS	1. BAMS	2. BAMS
5. BAMS	3. JCLI	9. JCLI	6. JCLI	7. JCLI	5. JCLI
8. JAS	8. JAS	10. JPO***	10. JPO****	12. JPO^	6. JPO ^^
9. JPO**	9. JPO**	13. JAS	14. JHM	14. JHM	14. JHM
13. MWR	9. JHM	14. JHM	16. JAS	18. MWR	20. MWR
15. JHM	13. MWR	20. MWR	18. MWR	20. JAS	24. JAS
20. JAMC	23. JAMC	24. JAMC	26. JAMC	24. JTECH	31. JAMC
25. JTECH	26. JTECH	32. WAF	28. WAF	27. WAF	33. WAF
30. WAF	35. WAF	35. JTECH	30. JTECH	34. JAMC	39. JTECH
					61. WCAS

\*In Oceanography Category (N=48) \*\* (N=50) \*\*\* (N=63) \*\*\*\* (N=59) ^ (N=59) ^^ (N=60)

*Earth Interactions* was top 20% in Geoscience in '08; 63/55 ('09); 61/170 ('11)

### 11. Editor Awards

The list of 2014 Publication Commission nominees for Editor's Awards is shown in Appendix B. In 2008, Council approved an additional two Editor's Awards to be used to provide balance between large and small journals so that reviewers in the large journals had an approximately equal chance of earning an Editor's Award. To further improve the equity of awards across journals, in 2009 Council approved a further change in the number of Editor's Awards to maximum of five distributed in the following groups so that the total decisions in each group totaled approximately 500. Below is the distribution based on 2013 submissions and the journal groups that share an award:

JCLI = 784

JHM+JAS= 208+408 = 616

MWR+WAF = 408 + 148 = 556

JTECH+JPO=262 +279 = 541

BAMS+WCAS+JAMC=292+73+368 = 733

The Chief Editors of each group get together and decide on the extra nominees for that group. This gives reviewers in the larger journals a better chance of winning awards. The process continues to work well. The Commission reviews the journal groupings each year and adjusts the groups to maintain balance in number of decisions in each grouping.

## **12. Change in Membership in the Publication Strategic Planning Committee**

In 2011, Council approved the formation of the Publication Strategic Planning Committee (PSPC), a subset of the Publication Commission that meets the day before the formal Commission meeting to prioritize the issues that come before the commission and develop a series of recommendations for the commission to consider and debate. The PSPC has worked exceptionally well since its formation, and has allowed the commission to get its work done in the 1.5 days allotted for the commission meeting in early June. The formal makeup of the PSPC is currently 1) The Publication Commissioner, 2) the PSPC Chairman, 3) The At-Large members of the PC, 4) 3 Chief Editors from PC (from Journals, History, and/or Monographs, rotated as necessary for expertise), 5) The Director of AMS Publications, 6) The Journal production Manager, and 7) An At-Large member from outside the PC. This latter position has been filled by the Peer Review Support Assistant (PRSA) manager since the inception of the PSPC. **The Publications Commission requests that Council approve that the At-Large member from outside the PC be formally appointed as the PRSA manager.** This will formalize what is already being done and insure that the interests of the Peer review support staff are represented in PC deliberations.

## **13. Proposal to the PC from the Board on Data Stewardship on data citation**

The Publication Commission reviewed a proposal from the Board on Data Stewardship (BDS) concerning formalizing data citation guidelines in AMS journals. The proposal suggests that the Publication Commission develop best practice guidance for referencing datasets. The PC was concerned that the BDS proposal lacked specifics—for example, their proposal gave no examples at all.

The PC spent a good deal of time discussing how one might reference a variety of datasets, from model datasets so large that they can't be stored on supercomputers and have to be processed on the fly, to simple datasets like CCN data collected by a single instrument operated by a university PI in a small field study. The myriad of possible datasets, and the complexity of data itself, left the PC wishing we had examples of specific citations that we could recommend as standards to put in a best practice guide for authors to use. Citations for journal articles have specific formats, and for data citation to work, data citations must also have standards.

As an example of the quandary in developing standards, we considered the case of a thermodynamic retrieval analysis derived from a dual-Doppler wind retrieval. Suppose for example that NCAR provides SPOL and CFSWR provides a DOW to a project. The radars each collect a suite of data including standard Doppler and polarization parameters. The raw data from each radar are in different formats. They are subsequently converted to DORADE format, a new dataset. These are then quality controlled and released to investigators, a third dataset. These are then edited by a graduate student, creating a new series of sweep files that are the cleaned up data, a fourth dataset. The graduate student then converts the data from each radar to a Cartesian dataset by interpolating the data to a common grid, a fifth data set. These

data are then combined to create a dual-Doppler wind field, a sixth dataset. This new data set is then run through a thermodynamic retrieval algorithm (which also requires an independent sounding--another data set) to produce a seventh dataset. A few cross sections from this final dataset are made into figures and published in JAS by the student. What is the specific citation that the student should use in the reference list?

The PC requested that the BDS provide specific references to be used in this, or other cases of similar complexity. We noted that that this example is not unusual. Many NASA satellite datasets, for example, are massaged many times, with new algorithms applied as they are developed. Even in simple cases, individual datasets (e.g. the CCN example) are collected by an investigator (graduate student), processed several times, used for a thesis and a paper, and then sit on the investigator's home computer for years. What is the best practice guidance for a data citation for this simple case?

The PC requested that the BDS provide concrete, multiple examples of specific data citations for a variety of real scenarios like the ones described above that can be used as guidance to develop standards that we can publish in the author's guide. As a start, we suggested that the BDS tackle citation for common datasets from straightforward government sources (e.g. NASA satellite data from a TERRA platform instrument, NOAA datasets such as an ASOS pressure sensor, Reflectivity from the Lincoln, IL WSR88D, a DOE ARM dataset, data from an NSF sponsored facility, etc). We requested that as they develop these that they consider (A) the raw collected data, (B) the investigator final datasets shown in journal figures, and (C) the algorithms (and other datasets) required to get from dataset A to dataset B, that another scientist would need to truly reproduce the published study.

The PC supports formalizing and advancing data citation in AMS publications, but without guidance of a concrete nature (rather than the statements of general goals that comprise the BDS current proposal) we had difficulty moving forward in a way that would provide specific author guidance and achieve the spirit of what is being proposed. To address our concerns, the BDS and PC formed an ad-hoc committee to address the issues raised by the PC. The committee, consisting of the PC commissioner, the head of the BDS committee, and several members of both the BDS and PC, is currently developing a more concrete proposal. We expect it to be ready for PC review either off cycle, or at the next PC meeting.

#### **14. AMS Glossary of Meteorology**

In 2012, the Commission petitioned Council to consider the Glossary of Meteorology as a continuously updated, open access, peer reviewed, online, resource of the AMS, with oversight responsibility of maintaining and updating the content of the Glossary with the PC. The PC stated in its petition that it will partner with the STAC concerning the structure of the process for proposing and vetting Glossary changes and addition, and requested Council approval of a new position of "Chief Editor of the Glossary of Meteorology." These actions moved forward with Council Approval and in 2013, Mary Cairns was appointed as the first Chief Editor of the

Glossary of Meteorology. During 2013, the Glossary has seen an uptick in activity, often coinciding with news items such as the popularization of the term “polar vortex.” The procedure for revising terms in the glossary has been working well

### **15. Progress toward developing a Journal of Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols**

Last year, the Publication Commissioner reported to Council concerning a proposal by the Chair of AMS STAC committee on Atmospheric Chemistry to create a new AMS journal devoted to Atmospheric Chemistry. Independently, a separate group of scientists, led by Bob Houze, also proposed the creation of an Atmospheric Chemistry journal. Last year, the PC considered the creation of an Atmospheric Chemistry Journal and the possible expansion of its scope to include aerosols. We sought and obtained the opinions of the members of six STAC committees that represented communities that potentially would publish in the journal. These were the AMS STAC committees for Atmospheric Chemistry, Cloud Physics, Planned and Inadvertent Weather Modification, Atmospheric Radiation, Climate Variability and Change, and Meteorological Aspects of Air Pollution. All committees responded with their opinions. The PC unanimously concluded that there was not sufficient reason to create a new journal at that time, and noted that the terms of reference of the Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences, specifically “*The **Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences (JAS)** publishes basic research related to the physics, dynamics, and chemistry of the atmosphere of Earth and other planets, with emphasis on the quantitative and deductive aspects of the subject*” covers atmospheric chemistry quite well. However, we noted that papers in atmospheric chemistry in JAS have essentially disappeared over time, lost to other non-AMS journals such as AGU journals and on-line journals such as Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics. This migration occurred despite the fact that the AMS hosts a well-attended meeting on Atmospheric Chemistry at the Annual Meeting every year. We discussed reasons for the migration, and noted that none of the current JAS editors has significant expertise in Atmospheric Chemistry, and the lone editor that has expertise in aerosol science is an expert on remote sensing of aerosol rather than chemistry aspects of aerosol.

After much discussion, the PC recommended, and the Council approved, a plan to make a focused effort to redevelop an interest within the chemistry and aerosol community in publishing in JAS. If we can stimulate sufficient interest in the Atmospheric Chemistry community to publish in JAS, the plan is to then consider splitting off a new Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol Journal.

To that end, we added Renyi Zhang, Professor at Texas A&M University and head of the AMS STAC committee on Chemistry, as an editor in 2014. Renyi and Sonia Kreidenweis from Colorado State immediately set out to organizing a special collection of Atmospheric Chemistry papers for JAS. The special collection is titled “Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions”. The topics will include but not be limited to: (1) CCN and IN properties of aerosols and their impacts on clouds, precipitation, circulation, and climate; (2) Aerosol-radiation interactions; (3) Aerosol-cloud interaction parameterizations in large-scale models; and (4) Cloud processing of aerosols. The expected submissions will be about 30, with the proposed time frame for initial

submissions: Dec 2014-Dec. 2015. The Organizers are Jiwen Fan, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and Daniel Rosenfeld of the The Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

With the retirement of the current Chief Editor, K.K. Tung, at the end of 2014, the next step in the process is to appoint two co-chief editors of JAS, one a recognized expert in atmospheric dynamics, and the second an internationally recognized leader in atmospheric chemistry. We wanted both chief editors to fully support and be engaged in the plan to make JAS a home for atmospheric chemistry papers, and work toward future establishment of an AMS Journal of Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols. The two leading scientists we propose to take the helm as co-CEs of JAS are Prof. Walter Robinson, head of the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Marine Science at North Carolina State University (Dynamics CE), and Prof. William Brune, former head of the Department of Meteorology at Penn State University. Both are willing to serve as CEs. We further plan employ the JAOT model of listing papers on-line and in print in two sections (see <http://journals.ametsoc.org/toc/atot/current>) for an example), the first section “Dynamics and Physics” and the second “Chemistry and Aerosols.” The co-chief editors, along with the Publication Commissioner, will continue to promote JAS as a journal to publish atmospheric and aerosol chemistry articles. Pending results of these efforts, the PC will consider in the future whether to split off a new journal. The PC continues to believe that this approach is the best to support the Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosol community, and consider whether a new journal is viable.

## **16. CrossCheck and Plagiarism**

In the June 2013 PC meeting, the PC reviewed the use of CrossCheck, an online comparison tool that identifies how similar a manuscript is to an existing publication. The second phase of testing involved the PRSA staff running similarity comparisons on all new submissions to AMS and providing the results to Chief Editors for use in decisions. The second phase of testing began in Spring 2013. CrossCheck is now being used by all Journals. The PC approved its formal use as a tool in AMS publications. All journals use cross check on submitted papers. The PC decided that each Chief Editor develop policy on implementation for their journal, specifically how the authors are notified of plagiarism and self similarity to their past work, and how infractions are handled (e.g. outright rejection, notification at time of major revisions, etc.) In cases of egregious plagiarism, articles will be rejected with possible additional action (such as notification to their institutions). In adopting these policies, the PC relied on guidance from MWR, JAMC, JTECH and JCLI Chief Editors who have been using Cross Check for a year. The PC also charged a committee led by MWR Chief Editor, Dave Schultz, to develop clear policy regarding plagiarism for the AMS Author’s guide. That policy was reviewed at the PC, accepted. and the following final draft, based on the PC review, is being added into the Author’s guide:

*What is not plagiarism or self-plagiarism*

1. Effective communication in science requires clear and precise descriptions, often involving technical words and phrases. Duplication of words and phrases from other



source material amounting to less than a sentence shall not be construed as plagiarism, in general.

2. Directly quoted material surrounded by quotation marks or indented as block quotes and cited to the original source is not considered plagiarism.

3. Duplication of text from a non-peer-reviewed source (e.g., most conference preprints, personal or project Web sites, dissertations), provided that it was written by one of the authors, will not constitute plagiarism, in general. In such cases, authors should disclose the prior informal publication of this work either as a citation in the text or as a mention in the acknowledgements if the past work is not publicly available.

#### *What is Plagiarism*

Excluding items discussed above, duplication of unquoted text (even if cited)—even if the similar text includes changed verb tense, different numerical values, and the use of synonyms, for example—is generally considered to be plagiarism and is unacceptable within AMS journals.

#### *What is Self-Plagiarism*

Self-plagiarism occurs when substantial amounts of text previously published by the same author are used without citation and without indicating it is a quotation. To avoid self-plagiarism, sections containing duplicate or similar text must (a) appropriately cite the original source to promote the primacy of the source and (b) indicate that the text largely follows directly from that source (e.g., “The description of the dataset parallels that of Smith et al. (1980) as follows in the next two paragraphs.”, “The methods are the same as employed in Smith et al. (2008), and the following text is derived from there with minor modifications.”). Editors will determine the acceptability of such cases of duplicate or similar text and may provide guidance about how to avoid self-plagiarism.

#### *Consequences of Plagiarism and Self-Plagiarism*

How such manuscripts are handled by Editors is left to their discretion. Severe cases may be rejected outright with no chance for resubmission. Other actions may be taken as well. Minor cases may be pointed out to the author in the initial decision letter with the requirement that revisions be made.

#### *Sources for Best Practices*

Authors are encouraged to examine the reference material that was used in the construction of AMS policy regarding plagiarism.

Clark, R., 2009: Self-plagiarism and self-citation: A practical guide based on underlying principles. <http://www.rogerclarke.com/SOS/SCSP-09.html>

Committee on Publication Ethics. <http://publicationethics.org>

Dooley, J. J., 2013: A note on good research practice. *Int. J. Greenhouse Gas Control*, **15**, 1–2.

### **17. Publications surveys**

As described in the 2013 PC report to Council, The Commission designed a survey that was sent to all authors following completion of the publication process to improve our ability to gauge author satisfaction with the publication process and to solicit ideas for improvements. Questions dealt with both the editorial component of the process as well as the production component (to authors of accepted papers only). Overall, less than 10% of all authors responded to the survey request. Although there is the expected difference in satisfaction between authors with accepted and rejected papers, overall the responses continue to be quite positive about the AMS publication process. We had hoped that the surveys would give guidance about how to improve the editorial process, but this has not happened. Although the survey's are interesting, they have not provided sufficient information for any action to be taken by the PC. In the future, the PC has asked the PRSA Coordinator to provide a report to the Commissioner once a year on survey results. If the survey warrants action, the PC will consider it.

### **18. BAMS article in 45 Beacon St to improve author perception of AMS publications**

Last year, we reported that the Publications Commissioner and Director of Publications were planning to write an article in BAMS detailing the efforts that have been made to streamline the publication process and reduce costs. The article was drafted, reviewed, and is in press. The article, titled "Faster, Cheaper, and More Control: Improvements and Innovations in Publishing AMS Journals" discusses recent improvements to the peer-review process, reduction in the time to decision and publication costs for authors by eliminating color charges, streamlining and speeding up production, incorporating cutting-edge technologies, and new exciting changes that are imminent.

### **19. Earth Interactions Workflow**

Earth Interactions (EI) is a joint on-line, open access publication of the AMS, the AGU, and the American Association of Geographers. In the past, the review process was handled by the AGU. In 2013, the AMS took over handling the review process through its Aries system. The financial model was adapted as well to reflect this change. The AGU review guidelines for return of reviews (2 weeks) differs from the AMS policy (1 month). The PC voted to standardize procedures and deadlines for EI to be the same as for all other AMS journals.

## Appendix A: Editorial Board Changes for 2015

The Commission currently has **70** Editors for the ten Journals (exclusive of BAMS) plus **2** Monograph Editors. Listed below are the present editorial boards for each journal as of August 1, 2014 continuing or new CEs and Editors for 2015, and their current appointments. Editors agreeing to another term beginning January 1, 2015 are tagged in **green**. Editors whose terms are expiring, but haven't made decisions about continuing are in **red**. Editors retiring at the end of 2014 are in **blue**. New editors as of January 2015 are in **purple**. **New and renewing CEs must be approved by Council.**

### JOURNAL OF THE ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES (10 EDITORS)

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Walter Robinson	CE Phys/Dyn	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
William Brune	CE Chem	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
New Editor	Rep Haigh	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Wojciech Grabowski	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Rolando Garcia	Editor	2010	2015	1-yr extension
Ming Cai	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Zhaohua Wu	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Lorraine Remer	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Chun-Chieh Wu	Editor	July 2013	2015	Initial 2.5 yr term
Renyi Zhang	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3 yr term
Joanna Haigh	Editor	2009	2014	Retiring end of 2014
Ka-Kit Tung	Chief Editor	2006	2014	Retiring end of 2014

### JOURNAL OF APPLIED METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATOLOGY (9 EDITORS)

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
David A. Kristovich	Chief Editor	2012	2016	Initial 2-yr extension
Bart Geerts	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
David Ellis	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Sandra Yuter	Editor	2012	2016	Initial 2 yr extension
Steve (Qi) Hu	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Paquita Zuidema	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Todd Sikora	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Andrew Jones	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
David Wolff	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Thomas Mote	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014
Joseph Charney	Editor	2010	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**JOURNAL OF ATMOSPHERIC AND OCEANIC TECHNOLOGY (7 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Peter Chu (O)	Co-Chief Editor-Oceans	2009	2015	2-yr extension
V. Chandrasekar (A)	Co-Chief Editor-Atmos	2011	2015	2-yr extension
William J. Emery (O)	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Kirsti Salonen (A)	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3 yr term
David Frattoni (O)	Editor	2010	2016	2-yr extension
Steve D. Miller (A)	Editor	2012	2014	2-yr extension
Luca Baldini (A)	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Christine Grimmond (A)	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**JOURNAL OF CLIMATE (17 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Tony Broccoli	Co Chief Ed	2010	2016	2 yr extension
John Chiang	Co-Chief Ed	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Oleg Saenko	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Steve Klein	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Mingfang Ting	Editor	Jul 1 2014	2016	Initial 2.5-yr term
Renguang Wu	Editor	2009	2014	1-yr extension
Brian Soden	Editor	2010	2014	2-yr extension
Kerry Cook	Editor	2012	2014	Initial 3-yr term
Tim Delsole	Editor	2010	2014	2-yr extension
Michael Coe	Editor	2012	2014	Initial 3-yr term
Pierre Friedlingstein	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Peter Clark	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Judith Perlwitz	Editor	July 2013	2015	Initial 2.5-yr term
Kevin Walsh	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Aiguo Dai	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
John Walsh	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Joseph Barsugli	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Rosana Nieto-Ferreira	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Dan Vimont	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014
Robert Wood	Editor	2009	2014	Retiring end of 2014
Peter Gent	Editor	July 2013	2014	Retiring end of 2014
Anand Gnanadesikan	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW (13 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
David Schultz	Chief Editor	2008	2016	2-yr extension
Hugh Morrison	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Dan Kirshbaum	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Yvette Richardson	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Pat A. Harr	Editor	2010	2015	1-yr extension
Paul E. Roundy	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Ron McTaggart-Cowan	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Pamela Heinselman	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Carolyn A. Reynolds	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Jenny Sun	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
George Bryan	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Josh P. Hacker	Editor	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Altug Aksoy	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Jeff Anderson	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Almut Gassmann	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Dale Durran	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**WEATHER AND FORECASTING**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Paul Markowski	Chief Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Philip Schumacher	Editor	2010	2016	2-yr extension
Brian Ancel	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Yuqing Wang	Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Mike Baldwin	Editor	2012	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**Journal of Physical Oceanography (8 Editors) (Last communication 3-30-13)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Mike Spall	Chief Editor	2009	2015	1-yr extension
New Editor	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Jody Klymak	Editor	2015	2017	Initial 3-yr term
Jerome Smith	Editor	2007	2015	2-yr extension
Karen Heywood	Editor	2013`	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Jim Lerczak	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Herle Mercier	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term
Jody Klymak	Editor	Sept 2013	2015	Initial 2+ yr term
Billy Kessler	Editor	2012	2014	Initial 3-yr term
Eric Kunze	Editor	2009	2014	Retiring end of 2014

**JOURNAL OF HYDROMETEOROLOGY (4 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Christa D. Peters-Lidard	Chief Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
L. Ruby Leung	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Francis Joseph (Joe) Turk	Editor	2012	2016	2-yr extension
Steve Margulis	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term

**WEATHER, CLIMATE, AND SOCIETY (4 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Amanda Lynch	Chief Editor	July 2013	2015	Initial 2.5 year term
David Letson	Editor	2012	2016	2 yr extension
Kirstin Dow	Editor	2010	2016	2-yr extension
Henry Huntington	Editor	2014	2016	Initial 3-yr term

**EARTH INTERACTIONS (1 EDITOR)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Rezaul Mahmood	Chief Editor	2010	2016	2-yr extension

**MONOGRAPH EDITORS (2 EDITORS)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Greg McFarquhar	Met. Momo.	2015	2017	Initial 3 yr term
James Fleming	Hist. Mono	2011	2015	2-yr extension
Peter Lamb	Met. Mono.	2009	2014	Deceased

**AT LARGE COMMISSION MEMBERS (3)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Joe Klemp	At large	2007	2015	2-yr extension
David Jorgensen (PSPC chair)	At large	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term
Robert Livezey	At large	2009	2015	2-yr extension

**GLOSSARY OF METEOROLOGY (1 EDITOR)**

Editor	Position	Term Start	Term End	Current Appointment
Mary Cairns	Chief Editor	2013	2015	Initial 3-yr term

### Appendix B 2014 Editor's Award Nominations

Below are the nominations for 2014 Editor's Awards for each of the AMS scientific journals and the five additional awards.

Journal	Nominee	Citation
JAS	Dr. Judith Lean, Senior Scientist, US Naval Research Laboratory	For her expert reviews that were always constructive, probing and encouraging.
JAMC	Dr. Trevor Alcott, NOAA NWS Western Region Headquarters	For an exceptionally thoughtful and detailed set of reviews on a complicated manuscript that provided excellent insights and helped improve the paper
JCLI	Dr. John Fasullo, NCAR	For timely and thoughtful reviews of a large number of manuscripts
JTECH	Prof. James C. McWilliams UCLA	For timely, high quality reviews of manuscripts related to numerical ocean modeling for the Journal of Atmospheric and Oceanic Technology
MWR	Dr. Jason Sippel, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center	For providing insightful and constructive feedback on numerous submissions on a broad range of topics, and for undertaking such reviews with extremely tight deadlines.
WAF	DR. Craig Schwartz, NCAR ESL	For dedication to maintaining the high standards of the journal by providing perceptive and constructive reviews on a large number of papers spanning a broad range of topics.
JPO	Dr. Laurie Padman (Earth and Space Research)	For consistently providing insightful and thorough reviews in true collegial spirit.
JHM	Prof. Faisal Hossain, Univ. of Washington	For numerous detailed, constructive and timely reviews, often submitted well before the due date.
WCAS	Dr. Carla Roncoli	For two independent, thorough, thoughtful, constructive reviews requested simultaneously by the editor.
BAMS	Bob Kuligowski, NOAA/NESDIS Center for Satellite Applications and Research, College park, MD	For providing comprehensive, timely reviews that provide valuable stylistic and technical insights with unusual precision and thoughtfulness

None have previously won an Editor’s Award. Each journal Editorial Board devised procedures for their nominations. The procedure usually involves canvassing the Editors for nominations and voting on the top candidates. The “extra” or grouped awards were determined after negotiations of the respective Chief Editors. The Publications Commissioner reviewed the nominations, checked against recent awards or other factors that may require reconsideration, and the nominees and the citations were discussed at our most recent Publications Commission Spring meeting. The AMS Awards Oversight Committee (AOC) has endorsed these nominations.

**The five additional awards shared by journal groups. The first column is the journal issuing the award, the second is the group which decides the award**

Journal	Journal Group	Nominee	Citation
BAMS	BAMS/WCAS /JAMC	Prof. John Nielsen-Gammon Department of Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University	For extraordinary effort and thoroughness in evaluating a wide range of challenging and novel studies with versatility and perceptiveness
JCLI	JCLI	Prof. Courtney Schumacher	For high quality reviews that help authors to put their work into a broader context For a large number and thorough reviews of manuscripts, resulting in considerable improvement in their scientific quality, and thereby contributing to maintaining the high standards of the two journals
BOTH	MWR/WAF	Prof. Russ Schumacher, Colorado State University	For his insightful, timely, and thorough reviews and re-reviews of a few JAS manuscripts during the last two years
JAS	JHM/JAS	Prof. Evgeni Fedorovich, U. of Oklahoma	For thorough, thoughtful and large number of reviews, completed in a timely manner
JTECH	JTECH/JPO	Dr. Renzo Bechini, Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione Ambientale (Agency for the Protection of the Environment), Piemonte, Italy	