

AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the 18-19 September 2014
Meeting of the Council
Boston, MA

Participants—President Bill Gail, President-Elect Sandy MacDonald, Past-President Marshall Shepherd, Secretary-Treasurer Richard Rosen, and Executive Director Keith Seitter. **Councilors:** Stephen Corfidi, Jose Fuentes, Steve Hanna, Susan Jasko, Richard Johnson, Sonia Kreidenweis, Dennis Lettenmaier, Frank Marks, Michael Morgan, Christa Peters-Lidard, Yvette Richardson, Elizabeth Ritchie, Wendy Schreiber-Abshire, and Chidong Zhang. [Councilors Cullen and Thiaw were absent.] **Commissioners:** Mary Glackin (Weather and Climate Enterprise), Raj Pandya (Education and Human Resources), Bob Rauber (Publications), Ward Seguin (STAC), and Jay Trobec (Professional Affairs). [Commissioner Colman was absent.] **AMS Staff:** Joyce Annese, Stephanie Armstrong, Mike Batsimm, James Brey, Tom Champoux, Beth Farley, Claudia Gorski, Ken Heideman, Paul Higgins, William Hooke, Anne McDonough, Jeff Rosenfeld, and Melissa Weston. Not all staff was present for the entire meeting. Annese and Seitter served as recorders.

[The numbering of the following sections follows that in the agenda, but the sections are listed in the order they were addressed at the meeting.]

0.0 Agenda

President Gail called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. on 18 September 2014, and welcomed all. Secretary-Treasurer Rosen called the roll and announced a quorum of voting members was present. President Gail then offered opening remarks about the state of the Society and reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Minutes of Council Meeting

Council reaffirmed its e-mail approval of the minutes of its 2 February 2014 meeting in Atlanta, GA, and it approved the minutes of its conference call on 19 May 2014.

1.5 Consent Items on Council Mail Ballots

All Council e-mail ballots not previously approved unanimously were formally approved, and ballots that were “provisionally approved” were formally approved.

2.1 STAC Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Seguin highlighted new activities undertaken by the Commission, including a monthly newsletter, five-year plans, STAC guidelines for the review of Society awards, and the restructuring of the website.

2.1.1 Future Commissioner

President Gail reviewed the rotation for STAC leadership and presented the Executive Committee’s recommendation that Bruce Telfeyan be the next Future Commissioner, which was approved by a vote of the Council.

2.1 STAC (cont.)

A request from the Commissioner to recognize STAC Board/Committee Awards in the form of plaques was presented, and the Council approved plaques or certificates at the Board/Committee’s discretion. In light of the discussion, Council agreed to extend the option of plaques to all Commission-level awards, and it further agreed that more attention should be given to recognizing service to the Society in general. Commissioner Glackin volunteered to develop a proposal on the latter subject for the January meeting.

2.2 Publications Commission Report

The Council approved Commissioner Rauber’s request that the following individuals be reappointed to two-year terms ending in 2017: David Schultz, Chief Editor, *Monthly Weather Review*; Paul Markowski, Chief Editor, *Weather and Forecasting*; David Kristovich, Chief Editor, *Journal of*

Applied Meteorology and Climatology; Anthony Broccoli, Chief Editor, *Journal of Climate*; Christa Peters-Lidard, Chief Editor, *Journal of Hydrometeorology* [Councilor Peters-Lidard recused herself from this vote]; and Razhau Mahmood, Chief Editor, *Earth Interactions*. The following individuals were approved for three-year terms ending in 2018: Walter Robinson and William Brune, Chief Editors, *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*; John Chiang, Chief Editor, *Journal of Climate*; and Greg McFarquhar, Chief Editor, Scientific Monographs. Gwendolyn Whittaker, the Peer Review Support Assistant, was appointed as an ex-officio member of the Publication Strategic Planning Committee, and Mike Spall was approved for a one-year extension as Chief Editor, *Journal of Physical Oceanography*. Commissioner Rauber agreed to the Council's request that diversity issues be fully considered during the next round of appointments. He reported the number of yearly submissions to AMS journals and the number of published articles set records in 2013 and are poised to do so again in 2014. Following a discussion about making important research results more visible, Commissioner Rauber agreed to work with *BAMS* to improve efforts to highlight papers of note in our publications. He reported on-going, impressive reductions in production time, and Council asked its thanks for this achievement be conveyed to those involved, and it expressed support for the new article-based workflow approach intended to shorten production time even further.

2.3 Professional Affairs Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Trobec reported on the activities of his Commission and requested Council approve appointments to his Boards and Committees, which it did ex post facto. Council also approved the terms of reference Commissioner Trobec proposed for a new Board on Best Practices.

[Council recessed for lunch from 12:05– 12:35 p.m.]

2.6 Weather and Climate Enterprise Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Glackin reviewed the reports from the various Boards in her Commission. She presented terms of reference for the Forecast Improvement Group (FIG), which were approved by Council.

2.6.1 Adding "Water" to the CWCE

Commissioner Glackin reported on discussions about a proposal to add "Water" to the title of the Commission. After discussion, the Council approved the title to be the Commission on the Weather, Water, and Climate Enterprise.

2.4 Education and Human Resources Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Pandya reviewed the activities of the Commission and its Boards. He informed Council that the survey to the membership would be distributed in October. The Board on Outreach and Pre-College Education recommends elevating its Distinguished Educator Recognition Program to a Society Award. Council agreed this proposal should be reviewed by the AOC in January. Council also welcomed Commissioner Pandya's suggestion to identify opportunities AMS could offer early and mid-career individuals to advance in their careers.

2.5 Planning Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Colman was not in attendance, but Executive Director Seitter provided a summary based on a recent discussion with the Commissioner. Council suggested the Planning Commission look at the structure of AMS' committees and boards with the goal of making it more transparent to members interested in participating in AMS activities. It also suggested the Commission consider undertaking a longer term planning effort to help evolve our committee structure.

3.1 Status of Statements in Process

President Gail reviewed the progress of Statements in various stages of preparation. A list of expiring Statements was reviewed by Council. Council liaisons were assigned to several Statements that are due for review and revision. The Council voted to release the Statement on One Health for the 30-day member comment period.

3.2 New Statement Creation Process

Commissioner Seguin presented the latest draft on the Statement Creation Guidelines that was circulated prior to the meeting for review and edits. Council approved the Guidelines and extended its thanks to Dave Stensrud, Future Commissioner, for leading this effort.

3.3 “AMS Insights”

Director of Communications Champoux reviewed lessons learned from producing the first Insights statement, and he reported his goal of publishing an Insight every month or so.

[Council recessed from 3:35– 4:00 p.m. President-Elect MacDonald left the meeting during this recess.]

2.3 Professional Affairs Commissioner’s Report (cont.)

Commissioner Trobec requested a minor change in the CBM application procedures be approved, and Council agreed.

4.1 Status of 2014 Budget

Executive Director Seitter reviewed the current status of the 2014 budget.

4.2 2015 Proposed Budget

Executive Director Seitter reviewed the Society’s financial performance in 2013 and 2014 as a prelude to discussing the 2015 proposed budget. President Gail reported the 2015 proposed budget was supported by the EC, and after discussion, the Council voted to accept it.

4.3 Putting BAMS Legacy Content Online

Executive Director Seitter described the value of placing the full contents of *BAMS*, which documents much of the Society’s history, on-line in a searchable format. The Council approved the use of \$300K from reserve funds to forward fund the completion of a *BAMS* legacy content project, and it requested Executive Director provide a plan in January to recover these monies.

4.4 UNA Report

Council was provided a history of the Society’s financial reserves, including its unrestricted net assets, for the past eighteen years.

4.5 Budget Creation and Implementation Guidelines

Executive Director Seitter and Controller Batsimm will produce a revised set of guidelines for the January meeting.

5.1 Awards Oversight Committee Report

AOC Chair and Past-President Shepherd reviewed the process followed by his Committee and those other committees responsible for awards. He noted concerns regarding ongoing shortfalls in diversity and gender balance in the nominations, as well as the small pool of candidates for the oceanography awards. Council considered the list of proposed awardees and citations, and it voted to approve all those proposed. *[Councilor Hanna recused himself from this vote.]* Council also reviewed award-related issues associated with the reporting form used by committees and the conflict of interest policy. These issues will be further reviewed at the January AOC meeting.

5.2 Awards Nominations Committee Report

The report submitted by Committee Chair Fine was reviewed, and the Council expressed its appreciation for the Committee’s efforts. Continued outreach to members is needed to keep the nomination process healthy, and Commissioners should encourage nominations from their Boards and Committees. The on-line submission of award nominations will continue to open in November versus January to provide additional time for submissions.

6.0 Proposed AMS Fellows

President Gail presented the Fellows Committee's proposed list of new Fellows. Council approved the following candidates for 2015 Fellows:

Jennifer Alexander
Richard Behnke
Anton Beljaars
Cecila Bitz
Larry Brazil
James Cantore, CBM
John Church
Amy Clement
Thomas Delworth
Qingyun Duan
James Hack
Martin Hoerling
Conrad Lautenbacher, Jr.
Amanda Lynch

Gloria Manney
Robert Palmer
Lorenzo Polvani
Warren Qualley
Alan Sealls, CBM
Mark Serreze
Matthias Steiner
Gregory Tripoli
D. Randolph Watts
Jack Williams
Fuqing Zhang
Renyi Zhang

*President Gail reminded Council that Claude Frankignoul and Frank Wentz were elevated to Fellow by virtue of their receiving major AMS Awards.

6.1 AMS Fellows Brief Bio

After discussion, Council agreed to include a brief biography of the newly elected Fellows in the awards brochure. The desirability of brief biographies for all awardees was discussed, as was securing similar biographies of existing Fellows to include on the AMS website.

7.0 Honorary Members

Council approved Richard Anthes, Elbert (Joe) Friday, and Eugenia Kalnay as the 2015 Honorary Members.

8.0 Fellows, Awards, and Nominating Committees for 2015

Council approved Anne Douglass and Greg Fischel as members of the Fellows Committee with terms ending 2018. Council approved appointments to the Awards Nominations Committee of Joel Myers, Courtney Schumacher, Chidong Zhang, and Donna Charlevoix (replacing Anne Douglass) for terms ending 2018, with Amy Bower as chair-elect for 2015.

[Council adjourned for the day at 6:00 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:30 a.m. on 19 September 2014 with the same members present except President-Elect MacDonald and Director Brey.]

2.1.2 Future Named Symposia

Council voted to approve named symposia to honor Peter J. Lamb and Marvin Geller at the 2016 Annual Meeting in addition to a symposium for Mario Molina that had been approved.

5.3 Suggested New Award

Councilor Peters-Lidard reviewed the process that led to the proposal to establish a new award for work in hydrology, given that AMS does not currently have a major hydrology award. Council discussed the proposal and approved the creation of a hydrology medal.

9.0 100th Anniversary

President Gail reviewed feedback received after sharing the draft vision with our Fellows. A committee should be formed by the January meeting.

10.0 Better Use of Fellows

President Gail reviewed the communication that was sent to Fellows and the positive feedback he received. Council discussed additional ways to engage the Fellows in advancing the Society's goals.

11.0 Proposal for Banquet Awards Groupings

President Gail presented a plan to facilitate events at the annual banquet. Council voiced general agreement with the plan, and staff will proceed accordingly. Council suggested other possible improvements to the awards ceremony, which Executive Director Seitter will pursue.

15.1 Committee on Researcher Involvement in the AMS

Council approved the terms of reference for this Committee. Council agreed with the EC's recommendation for selecting a chair. The remaining committee membership will be created with input from the chair and presented to the Council in January.

17.0 Fifth Councilor

Council agreed to focus on candidates from the oceanographic community. A lengthy list of potential candidates was considered and then shortened to four individuals who will be contacted to provide statements and CVs. These materials will be submitted to Council with the expectation Council will vote shortly after voting by membership for the other Councilors closes in early November.

[The Council briefly recessed from 10:30 – 10:48 a.m.]

12.0 Major Partnership Initiative

President Gail presented the topic, and Council approved "Affiliate Member" as a special class of Associate Member to facilitate reciprocal memberships between AMS and a partner society.

12.1 Partnership MOUs with Other International Societies

President Gail presented the text of a proposed memorandum of understanding with the Indian Meteorological Society, which was approved by Council subject to certain edits. The draft of an MOU with the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society was also presented for information and discussion. President Gail expressed his hope the draft can be finalized and approved by email ballot by Council so it can be signed in January. Efforts toward possible MOUs with other meteorological societies were also discussed.

13.0 Membership Decline

Council discussed the decline in membership seen over the past couple of years, and Councilor Schreiber-Abshire reported on efforts of the Membership Committee to deal with this issue. The new database should allow customization of emails to communicate to specific member groups in order to encourage renewals. The Communications Department will also work to increase exposure of the Society to potential members.

13.1 "News You Can Use—Just for You" and Related Enhanced Member Benefits

Council briefly discussed specialized services and member benefits that should be possible when the new membership database is in place.

14.6 Membership Committee

President Gail and Committee Chair Schreiber-Abshire reviewed the report of this Committee.

14.1 Annual Meeting Oversight Committee

President Gail reviewed the report of this Committee. Council expressed its wish the Committee become increasingly more strategic in its future considerations.

14.2 Environmental Responsibility Committee

President Gail reviewed the Committee's report, including suggestions for additional ways to reduce paper at the Annual Meeting.

14.3 Report of the History Committee

President Gail reviewed the report of this Committee and informed Council of new members appointed by the EC.

14.4 Investments Committee

Controller Batsimm reported on the performance of the Society's investment portfolio thus far this year.

14.5 Local Chapters

President Gail reviewed the Local Chapter Affairs report and applauded the efforts of our Local Chapters for the Society.

[Past-President Shepherd left the meeting at 12:25 p.m.]

15.2 International Affairs Committee

President Gail plans to work closely with Committee Chair John Jones on forging bi-lateral agreements with other societies, as well as other activities to increase the role of AMS internationally.

16.1 Leveraging AIP Relationship

Executive Director Seitter reported on the lengthy list of activities being carried out in partnership with AIP that take advantage of our position as a Member Society.

16.2 Air & Waste Management Association

Executive Director Seitter is developing an MOU with this Association to increase collaboration on topics of mutual interest.

16.3 Possible AGU/AMS Joint Meeting

After some discussion, the Council agreed working with AGU's Ocean Sciences meeting would be mutually beneficial. The possibility of a joint meeting on some aspect of hydrology was also discussed.

16.4 Enhanced Institutional Support Opportunities

President Gail informed Council of efforts to enhance relationships with those organizations currently supporting us.

18.1 AMS Development

Director of Development Armstrong reviewed the status of the development efforts for the Society, especially in connection with the 100th Anniversary.

18.2 Fellowship and Scholarship Program

Information was provided to Council about 21st Century Campaign activities, as well as scholarships, fellowships, and other student programs made possible by external support.

19.1 2014 Specialty Meetings

Director of Meetings Gorski reviewed the list of upcoming meetings and noted 2014 will be a strong year for meetings.

19.2 2015 Annual Meeting

President Gail reviewed the status of his meeting and its many conferences and symposia, which will be held in Phoenix from 4-8 January.

[Councilor Peters-Lidard left the meeting at 12:40 p.m.]

19.3 2015 Specialty Meetings

President Gail reviewed the list of meetings planned for next year.

19.4 2016 Annual Meeting

President Gail reminded the Council this meeting will be held 10-14 January in New Orleans.

19.5 2017 and Beyond Annual Meetings

President Gail reviewed the list, noting the locations of our Annual Meetings have now been set through 2032.

20.1 Publications

Executive Director Seitter highlighted advances in the Society's publication processes.

20.2 IT

Executive Director Seitter reported a new association management system is in the process of being implemented at Headquarters and is on target to roll out in early 2015.

20.3 K-13 Educational Initiatives

Executive Director Seitter provided an overview of the Education Program in Director Brey's absence and described the activities of the Program including its work to support NOAA's STEM education reorganization.

20.4 Report on Membership

Director of Membership Farley reviewed the status of the Society's membership.

20.5 Report of Policy Program

Policy Program Director Higgins reviewed the Program's activities. He mentioned there will be three Congressional Visits Days next year and invited AMS leadership/commissioners to attend the one in May which is being organized specifically for the AMS community.

20.6 Communications

Communications Director Champoux discussed the new "Soundings" member e-mail. He looks forward to obtaining feedback from the membership in January.

20.7 Science, Service, and Society

Executive Director Seitter reported on efforts carried out under the Society's Framework for Government Interactions.

20.8 AMS/Sigma Xi Lecturer

Executive Director Seitter reported that Mark Serreze will serve as the AMS/Sigma Xi Lecturer for 2015/2016. Ana Barros has begun her term as Lecturer for 2014/2015. Council suggested soliciting more broadly from the membership to obtain candidates for the lectureship.

21.0 AMS Affiliations with Other Organizations

Executive Director Seitter reviewed the list of AMS affiliations with other organizations. Council suggested adding this list to our website.

The Council meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.