

AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

Spring/Summer 2017

Volume 6 Issue 4

CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

ARK-LA-TEX

The Ark-La-Tex Chapter of the American Meteorological Society held their first annual meeting of 2017 at the National Weather Service Office in Shreveport. Meteorologist Leslie Sexton presented details on the new GOES-16 satellite including the new Geostationary Lightning Mapper (GLM), rapid scan modes, and enhanced resolution IR/VIS images. ■



DENVER-BOULDER

DBAMS, the Denver-Boulder chapter of AMS, is in the middle of our year. We regard that climate is just long-range weather and will continue to play into human history, so our attention must expand beyond tomorrow's weather predictions. Although we are not a political organization, we think that any technical professional today does well to pay attention to climates both political and weather-related in conducting our professional activities. We're giving our members information in presentations and other activities accordingly. You can find out more about us at <https://www.facebook.com/denverboulderams>.

Have you wondered what's computationally behind the

forecasting weather predictions, and where it might be going? Weather prediction famously consumes great volumes of data and computing horsepower, but we are not at the end point yet. Leslie Hart, Senior Software Engineer and Technical Lead, NESCC gave us a talk, "The Impact of Novel Computing Architectures on Numerical Weather and Climate Model Development". He emphasized that NOAA scientists require leadership-class, high performance computing (HPC) systems with petaflops-scale capabilities.

Nezette Rydell, Meteorologist In Charge, National Weather Service (NWS) presented on the Weather Ready Nation program. It is about readying your

DENVER/BOULDER (CONTINUED)

community for extremes of weather, water, and climate events. The WRN initiative is so important that NOAA's National Weather Service is transforming its operations to help America respond. We now provide forecast information in a way that better supports emergency managers, first responders, government officials, businesses and the public make fast, smart decisions to save lives and property and enhance livelihoods.

As meteorologists, our interests and technical awareness must span far greater realms than just holding a wet thumb into the air and applying memory of our local weather patterns. We had a talk by Dr. Isla Simpson of the UCAR staff, focusing on another aspect that has not only climatic, but perhaps also political, implications. Her talk was titled "Using global climate models to predict the future of the mid-latitude circulation and regional hydroclimate". Dr. Simpson discussed our understanding of these circulation changes and their impacts.

DBAMS has a book club! Upcoming is "A Discussion of

Bill Gail's book *Climate Conundrums: What the Climate Debate Reveals About Us*. Is the topic of climate change even bigger than climate change itself? The author will make that case.

We are also expanding our outreach. What does public outreach mean to you? Should we give public seminars? Reach out to local government officials? Mentor college students? Grow out internal network opportunities? These are items under active planning as we move into this aspect of our community involvement. This aligns well with formerly-local-member Wendy Abshire, who has moved along to AMS/National, where she is Director of the AMS Education Program. In April she will be in Boulder to and discuss how this less well known part of the Society actively works to increase public scientific literacy.

Just up Interstate 25 from us is the Ft. Collins Chapter and we'll be participating in their "Colorado Weatherfest" in June. We'll give 'em a plug here: See their [website](#) for more information. ■

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

The Millersville University Local Chapter is keeping busy through a series of professional development activities. On February 11th, a group of fourteen students travelled to Silver Spring, Maryland, to the NOAA Headquarters Open House. Students had the chance to meet NOAA staff, participate in hands-on activities and a digital presentation, and listen to a Hurricane Hunter pilot describe flight and science operations through the heart of hurricanes. "It was a great experience to get to see NOAA Headquarters," said sophomore Timothy Keebler. "Some of us will probably work there in the future."

In addition, Millersville sent a contingent to the Northeast Storms Conference (NESC) in Saratoga Springs, New York this past March. Despite losing a chunk of spring break, it was a very valuable experience, compounded by the class standing of the participants. Millersville funds a select number of freshmen and sophomores to attend the conference in order to get underclassmen involved early in research and to get a feel for professional conferences as NESC is a great way to introduce students to outside research and presentations. This semester, the Local Chapter has also had a vibrant guest speaker series, featuring alumni, visiting professors, and professionals in both private sector and NWS positions sharing

information on their experiences in the field. Through the speaker series, students gain valuable perspective on prospective employment and an excellent opportunity for networking. Early exposure to career options allows students to better discover the direction they wish to pursue. Our Local Chapter places a premium on professional development, and offers these many opportunities to members. ■



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

On February 24th, the Rutgers Meteorology had the opportunity to participate in two outreach events. A few of our members went to Highland Elementary School and participated at their Science Tech Career Day. They discussed what a meteorologist does and what kinds of jobs there are in the field. They also answered many questions that the curious students had and were able to meet them and discuss personally with them about their future goals.

We also had a group of students from a local elementary school tour our television studio and the Rutgers Weather Station. Two of our club members discussed with the

students how life as a meteorology student at Rutgers is, and what activities they could be involved in as a student at Rutgers. They showed the students how we create and film our forecasts that are aired on Rutgers Television every fifteen minutes. The members also gave the students a tour of our weather station, and showed them how we take weather observations. The weather observations are stored in our data system and used as climate data, and they are also sent over to the National Weather Service. It is extremely important to do outreach because it shows children how important and amazing the field of meteorology is, and maybe some of them will be aspiring meteorologists. ■



SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA

The AMS Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter continues to take pride in its colloquia series. In March, we had one speaker give a presentation at California University of Pennsylvania. This talk was free to the public. On March 7th, Patrick McCormick from Hampton University, located in Hampton, Virginia, gave a presentation at Cal U. This presentation was on the development of the SAGE III instrument and other satellites created at Langley. The SAGE III is used to study the ozone. He also described his professional experiences and detailed the atmospheric science department at Hampton. After the presentation, Patrick talked with students throughout the day more about Hampton University's graduate program and summer program that they offer. We look forward to a few more colloquia speakers throughout the rest of this semester.

Educational outreach plays a crucial role in the AMS Southwest Pennsylvania Chapter's success. On March 1st, one chapter member of our educational outreach committee visited Wendover Middle School, located in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Our educational outreach chair, Aaron Haegle, gave a presentation on severe storms. During the presentation, he discussed the different types of severe weather and some of the science behind how these storms form. On March 22nd, Aaron will be traveling to Trinity West Middle School, located in Washington, Pennsylvania. While there he plans to give a presentation on natural hazards for the students. ■

NEWS FROM AMS HEADQUARTERS

2017 AMS SPECIALTY CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANTS

Student Travel Grants are available for the 2017 AMS Specialty Conferences. Don't miss the chance to receive partial travel coverage to attend a conference that relates to your studies or research. Detailed information and applications can be found on the AMS [website](#). Questions? Contact [Donna Fernandez](#). ■

2017 NCAR EXPLORER SERIES

Emergence of Zika and other climate-sensitive viruses in the Americas

April 8 & 12

The Zika, dengue, and chikungunya viruses are all transmitted by the same mosquito species: *Aedes aegypti*. Meteorological and human factors shape the transmission of these viruses in numerous ways by determining when, where, and how virus transmission occurs. Scientists Mary Hayden and Andrew Monaghan will discuss ongoing research at NCAR focused on better understanding and predicting when and where *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes will be present, why these viruses are expanding in the Americas, and what to expect in the future.

JOIN US

Saturday, April 8

Talk: 4-5 p.m.

Q&A: 5-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Talk: 7-8 p.m.

Q&A: 8-8:30 p.m.

National Center for Atmospheric Research Mesa Lab
Boulder, CO

Free public event for ages 12 + | Limited seating | Please order free tickets [online](#).

Watch the [live webcast](#) and submit questions to the speakers. ■

AWARD FOR EARLY CAREER ACHIEVEMENT

The Board for Early Career Professionals recognizes the significant achievements of early career professionals within their community, society, scientific discipline, and profession. Please nominate a deserving early career professional for the [Award for Early Career Achievement](#). Nominations are due by 1 June 2017. Submit nomination packets to the [AMS Board for Early Career Professionals](#). ■

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR AWARD APPLICATION REMINDER

The Local Chapter of the Year Awards are presented each year to a regular chapter and a student chapter. The award will be given for chapter activities conducted during a 12-month period from May 1st through April 30th of the year the application is submitted. The complete application package must be received by May 1st and may be sent electronically by email to [Kelly Savoie](#) by the deadline date. Award winners are notified in October and are acknowledged at the Local Chapter Officers' Breakfast at the AMS Annual Meeting. Award applications and information may be found on the [AMS Web site](#). ■

OTHER AMS AWARDS

Each year AMS presents more than 25 awards to individuals, teams of people, and institutions for their outstanding contributions to the atmospheric and related sciences. The awards are open to all sectors of the Society—academia, government, and industry. We encourage you to nominate a deserving colleague for one of these prestigious awards. For a list of awards and more information on the nomination process, visit the [AMS Awards site](#). ■

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

As the reporting of election results is a requirement, please update your online local chapter directory listing when your chapter elections have been held. Updated election results should be entered no later than June 1st. Please keep in mind that the chapter president/chairperson is required to be a member (Associate, Member, Student) of the Society. If the chapter president/chairperson is not a member or pending member of the Society, then the chapter will not be recognized as being active. You may apply for Membership [online](#). Please update your last election date even if your officers were reappointed for 2017. This will ensure that your chapter remains active in our files and that you receive important emails from AMS Headquarters. Below are the steps to update your listing in the online [chapter directory](#).

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 [Sang Lee](#) to request access to your chapter account.

Please visit the [AMS Web site](#) for more detailed information on the new system and to access your chapter directory listing. [Click here](#) for the direct link to the login page. Contact [Sang Lee](#) if you are still having trouble getting into the system. ■

The next newsletter will be published in August. 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 July 15th. To view prior newsletters, [click here](#).

Local Chapter Mission The AMS Local Chapter Affairs Committee serves as a link between local student and professional chapters and the national AMS. The committee exists in order to provide guidance and support in the mission of all local AMS chapters.	Committee Leadership Wesley Rondinelli, Chair Sally Ricardi, Chair-Elect Kelly Savoie, AMS Liaison AMS Headquarters 45 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108	Follow Us on Facebook and Twitter @AMSLCAC	AMS Local Chapter Affairs This newsletter is constructed by members of the American Meteorological Society's Local Chapter Affairs Committee in conjunction with AMS Headquarters. The LCAC meets at every AMS Annual Meeting to help foster the growth of the local chapters. E-mail the committee at: amschaps@ametsoc.org
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