

# AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

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## Chapter Poster Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the AMS Annual Meeting Chapter Poster Competition! Thank you to all of the chapters who participated. There were some excellent posters this year which made the judging process quite difficult.

A PowerPoint display of all poster submissions will be posted to the AMS Web site soon.

### Regular Chapter Poster Winners

- 1st place - North Florida
- 2nd place - Metropolitan Atlanta
- 3rd place - District of Columbia



### Student Chapter Poster Winners

- 1st place - Concord-Carlisle Pre-College
- 2nd place - University of Georgia
- 3rd place - Southwest Pennsylvania



## Local Chapters Recognized at 2013 AMS Annual Meeting

The Chapter Award Winners for 2011-2012 were recognized at the Local Chapter Officers' Breakfast meeting in Austin, Texas on Tuesday, 8 January 2013.



West Central Florida (top) and Iowa State University Student Chapter (below) with AMS Past-President Louis Uccellini.



### Honor Roll

- North Florida
- Ohio University
- Oregon
- Southwest Pennsylvania
- University of Alabama-Huntsville
- University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

# News from AMS Headquarters

## Science Fairs

Science fairs have already started and we want to remind you that "Certificates of Outstanding Achievement" are available through AMS Headquarters free-of-charge. If you would like to order certificates, please contact Katelyn Angland ([kanland@ametsoc.org](mailto:kanland@ametsoc.org)). We also encourage you to submit a summary of winners when the fairs have ended. The summary should be written in paragraph format and should include the name(s) of the fair winner(s), grade and school attended, project title, and award won. A summary of winners will be published in the December issue of BAMS. Please send them electronically to Erica Callahan at ([ecallahan@ametsoc.org](mailto:ecallahan@ametsoc.org)).

## DID YOU KNOW...

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## Help us understand you better!

The AMS Policy Program (APP) strengthens the connection between Earth system science and services and public policy by assisting communities to understand and manage the risks associated with weather, water, and climate. The AMS local chapters are in a unique position to facilitate such discussions and catalyze action at local levels. For this reason, we ask you to participate in a brief survey that will help us understand you better, identify areas of concerns and opportunities, implement solutions, and improve products and services. This survey will only take a few minutes of your time. Your privacy is important to us, therefore, your answers will be combined with others, and will never be linked with you personally. Your feedback and thoughts are greatly appreciated.

## Link to the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LocalChapter2013APP>

Thank you for taking the time to consider this study!

## Call for Topics and Volunteers for the 2013 AMS Summer Community Meeting

The AMS Summer Community Meeting is becoming a vibrant, important forum for the public, private and academic communities to come together to address critical issues. In the past two years we've addressed the state of the enterprise, renewable energy, social media, greenhouse gases and transportation, to mention a few of the topics.

The Board on Enterprise Communication, which is charged with organizing the Summer Community Meetings is looking for topic ideas for the August 2013 meeting as well as AMS members, including student members, who are interested in helping plan the the meeting. Please contact Betsy Weatherhead ([betsy.weatherhead@colorado.edu](mailto:betsy.weatherhead@colorado.edu)) chair of the Board on Enterprise Communication and Gary Rasmussen ([grasmussen@ametsoc.org](mailto:grasmussen@ametsoc.org)) on the AMS staff, if you have topic suggestions or are interested in being a part of the planning team.

## Did you know the AMS provides the following resources to local chapters?

- Electronic letterhead (available on the chapter information section of the AMS Web site)
- One complimentary chapter mailing per year (two week lead time)
- A 25% discount on retail items for chapters who are giving the items as gifts to speakers or science fair winners
- Complimentary science fair certificates

Contact AMS Headquarters for additional information.

## FEATURED CHAPTER

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The Student Chapter at University of Miami has been reborn and is now active on many fronts.

We recently hosted the SKYWARN training session for Miami-Dade County in Florida on February 2, 2013. Our Chapter is now a CoCoRaHS volunteer and contributes to the national effort through Station FL-MD-29. This data accumulation started September 21, 2011.

We have been serving the university community for the past year and a half through daily Twitter forecasts. This year we expanded our UM CampusCast initiative to include text forecasts sent directly to students and the local community each morning.

The Chapter has written weekly forecasts for the tourist areas of Miami Beach that is regularly used

by local hotels and tourists coming to the area. We have also released a series on Hurricane Preparedness through Examiner.com.

We have also strived to work with faculty in increasing communication about program and event

information. In addition, the Chapter has begun reaching out to local schools to increase awareness about Meteorology through lessons in the subject. We hope to open up lines of communication to our local community through these endeavors.

### University of Miami Student Chapter



## OKLAHOMA HOSTS NATIONAL TORNADO SUMMIT

### 2ND ANNUAL EVENT INCLUDES NOAA SEVERE WEATHER WORKSHOP, FREE WEATHER FAIR

Emergency managers, policymakers, insurance industry professionals, teachers, weather experts and weather enthusiasts are invited to attend the 2nd annual National Tornado Summit in Oklahoma City March 10-12.

For the first time, the National Tornado Summit will also include the National Severe Weather Workshop (NSWW). The breakout sessions will focus on crisis communication, emergency response analysis, significant weather events of 2012, tornado ratings and how social media impacts the effectiveness of severe weather watches and warnings.

Also new in 2013 is the addition of the Weather Fair. The free, family-friendly event is scheduled for March 10th and is open to the public. Attendees can step inside the tornado simulator, speak to a television meteorologist or hop in the front seat as professional storm chasers relive the close calls they've encountered on the job. The Weather Fair will also feature canine search and rescue teams, disaster response vehicles, and more.

For more information, or to register online, visit [www.tornadosummit.org](http://www.tornadosummit.org).

# The Howard University AMS Chapter (GSAAS/HU-AMS)



**HU-AMS members at the first General Body Meeting**

The Graduate Student Association for Atmospheric Science (GSAAS) is the AMS Chapter at Howard University and its main goal is to foster growth of Atmospheric Sciences both at/in the name of and in general. The new executive board has been working hard in restructuring the chapter to better achieve this goal.

Since the beginning of this academic semester, our chapter has been engaging actively in several events, to include conducting new student orientation and a BBQ/ General Body Meeting, to attract both undergrad and graduate students into our chapter. One of our newest projects has been the creation of a Forecasting Team, which has already been involved in the planning of Howard University events, such as Commencement and Homecoming; and was vital in supporting the campus community during Hurricane Irene.

One of our major goals is to revamp our interactions with our members, our alumni and the community. As such, a

## FEATURED CHAPTER

new website ([gsaashu.weebly.com](http://gsaashu.weebly.com)), Twitter account (GSAAS\_HU) and Facebook page were developed. Our Chapter was recently featured in the Howard University Hilltop, the University Newspaper. We had also participated in outreach events, to include the presentation of scientific oriented modules to elementary and middle school students.

We have no intention of losing the momentum we have created. At the AMS Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas we hosted the Colour of Weather reception, an event celebrating diversity of representation in careers

and fields of study contributing to the atmospheric sciences. This event provides a unique mentoring and professional development experience for students and young professionals of color or from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the fields of atmospheric sciences, earth sciences, hydrology, meteorology, and other fields encompassed by the AMS.

The event is sponsored by NOAA, Howard University, and Colour of Weather, Inc.

### FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks for taking the time to check out our newsletter! The next newsletter will be published in early April. If your chapter would like to announce upcoming events, Webinars, conferences, etc. in the next issue of the Newsletter, please email Kelly Savoie ([ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org)) no later than March 15. To view prior newsletters, see <http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/newsletters.html>

### 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

JIM KURDZO, CHAIR  
JESSICA FIEUX, CHAIR-ELECT  
KELLY SAVOIE, AMS LIAISON

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### AMS LOCAL CHAPTER AFFAIRS

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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](mailto:AMSCHAPS@AMETSOC.ORG)