

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Associate Director of AMS Education Program to Retire**

AUGUST 7, 2017 – BOSTON, MA – The American Meteorological Society announces that after 22 years of service to the AMS Education Department, Robert Weinbeck is retiring in August 2017. Bob’s retirement concludes a two-decade partnership with the State University of New York (SUNY), College at Brockport to provide free graduate credits to in-service teachers who successfully complete AMS DataStreme courses or either of the popular AMS summer workshops, Project Atmosphere and The Maury Project.

The DataStreme Project, Project Atmosphere, and the Maury Project are courses offered as a free professional development program for in-service K-12 teachers.

“Bob Weinbeck has been a stalwart contributor to the success of K-12 teacher education programs, especially all our DataStreme courses and Project Atmosphere,” said Wendy Abshire, AMS director of education. “I’ve been astounded as I’ve met with teachers across the country during education conferences how many of them have shared with me the impact that AMS Education courses have had on their own science literacy and teaching careers.”

During Weinbeck’s time as DataStreme coordinator/associate director, 21,362 teachers have earned graduate credits while increasing their own earth science literacy in weather, ocean, water, and climate sciences. These teachers then trained other teachers while serving as state, regional, and local leaders in their own communities, ultimately reaching millions of students.

Beginning this year, the AMS Education Program will work with California University of Pennsylvania to continue to offer graduate credits tuition-free to K-12 teachers who participate. Chad Kauffman, a Cal U professor and a long-time contributor to AMS Education activities, has accepted the position of curriculum development coordinator and DataStreme lead.

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### **About AMS**

Founded in 1919, AMS is the leading voice in promoting and advancing the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. We are committed to supporting and strengthening the weather, water, and climate community to ensure society fully benefits from scientific education, research, and understanding.

Headquartered in Boston, with an office in Washington DC, AMS has more than 13,000 members, including researchers, scientists, broadcasters, educators, and other professionals,

as well as students and weather enthusiasts. AMS publishes books, textbooks, and monographs as well as more than 2,000 articles annually across 11 peer-reviewed scientific journals. AMS set the standard for broadcast meteorologist certification in 1957, and today more than 1,500 broadcasters and consultants are AMS certified. Each year, AMS holds 8 to 12 specialty meetings and an Annual Meeting that draws more than 3,500 attendees. AMS helps inform policy makers of the latest scientific understanding and high-impact research, and promotes Earth Science literacy through initiatives for K–12 teachers and undergraduate institutions across the country.

### **About Cal U**

California University of Pennsylvania offers career-focused academic programs in science and technology, education, the liberal arts, and professional studies. About 7,550 undergraduate and graduate students study on Cal U's campus, about 35 miles from Pittsburgh, or earn their degrees 100% online. A proud member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, Cal U has acknowledged a special mission in science and technology for more than 40 years. To learn more about how Cal U fosters innovation, creativity and leadership, visit [www.calu.edu](http://www.calu.edu).