AMS Climate Variability and Change (CVC) Committee Meeting

(Tuesday, 24th January 2017, in the Ravenna A Room of the Sheraton Seattle Hotel)

Meeting Report

In attendance: Ben Kirtman, Dan Vimont, Gudrun Magnusdottir, Kerry Cook, Ramalingam Saravanan, Walt Robinson, and Sumant Nigam; briefly joined by Genene Fisher (AMS STAC Commissioner).

• Nat Johnson’s written report on the planning/program of the AMS-CVC co-sponsored meeting on *Probability and Statistics* in Baltimore (July 2017) was shared; the report is attached.

• Ben Kirtman and Dan Vimont shared their insights/experience gained from organizing two CVC conferences, principally, for the benefit of Kerry and Gudrun, who are co-chairs of the 2018 CVC in Austin. The committee was very appreciative of Dan and Ben’s efforts.

• The 30th Conference on Climate Variability and Change (CVC) in Austin, TX (7-11 January 2018)
  o CVC will be organizing a special session to honor Jay Fein (Kerry Cook, leading the planning, along with Anjuli Bamzai, Walt Robinson, and Eric DeWeaver)
  o CVC discussed the idea of a special session to honor Ralph Cicerone but wasn’t sure if it or even AMS was a suitable forum, given Ralph’s strong ties to atmospheric chemistry and the AGU community. After our meeting and after some community input, CVC decided that it was not the optimal conference to host this session.
  o Gillian Peguero (gpeguero@ametsoc.org), the lead AMS conference planning support for the CVC Committee, will be requested to apprise and alert Kerry and Gudrun of impending AMS and CVC-specific deadlines, especially after abstract submissions are over.
  o Session Chairs will be asked, at the time we request them to chair sessions, to also serve as judges of student presentation/posters.
  o Walt Robinson agreed to contact the AMS Middle Atmosphere committee to investigate the possibility of joint sessions on troposphere-stratosphere interaction in context of climate variability and change, especially in the middle-high latitudes.
  o Dan Vimont will respond to the Air-Sea Interaction Group’s request (from Young Oh-Kwon) to organize a joint meeting – a difficult proposition as they meet in summer, every other year. CVC can, however, co-sponsor sessions or even a 1-day symposium at other meetings, and Dan will investigate option, along with Air-Sea Interactions interest in co-sponsoring sessions at our Austin meeting.
  o Dan also floated an attractive idea – a multi-STAC sponsored meeting that focuses on a limited set of topics. Possible topics could be “Dynamical Processes in Climate Variability and Change”, or “Interactions between Climate Variability and Climate Change” etc. Possible STACs might include Air-Sea Interaction, Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics, CVC, Polar Meteorology and Oceanography, Tropical Meteorology (from Dan’s email)

• Genene Fisher, the new AMS STAC Commissioner with oversight responsibilities for the CVC, briefly spoke to the committee.
AGENDA

- Report from Nat Johnson (CVC rep) on the planning/program of the Probability and Statistics meeting in Baltimore in July 2017, a CVC co-sponsored activity
- Feedback/advice from Dan and Ben based on organization of the last 3 CVC conferences (among the most well-attended AMS conferences)
- The 2018 CVC Conference in Austin, with Kerry Cook and Gudrun Magnusdottir as co-chairs; their emergent plans and anticipated needs
  - Organization of special sessions to honor Jay Fein (Kerry, leading) and Ralph Cicerone (Gudrun, leading) who unexpectedly passed away in 2016
  - Organize a session on *Stratosphere-Troposphere Interaction with Climate Variability/Change Implications*, with help from the AMS Middle Atmosphere committee (emails were exchanged with Ed Gerber, Chair); as the Middle Atmosphere meeting is not during the AMS annual meeting, a joint session is not possible.
  - Joint Session possibilities (some examples): It would be great if a committee member can take the lead in contacting the other committee and in subsequent session planning; we will discuss this at our business meeting.
    - With Hydrology Conference, e.g., on *The Evolving Drought State over Western United States: Any New Lessons?*
    - With Polar Meteorology and Oceanography, e.g., on *Arctic Climate Variability and Change: Causes and Impacts*
    - With Weather Analysis and Forecasting, e.g., on *Atmospheric Rivers*
    - With Atmospheric Chemistry and the Symposium on Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions, e.g., on *Aerosols and Climate Change over South and East Asia*
    - With the Symposium on Prediction of MJO, e.g., *Influence of MJO on Extratropical Winter Teleconnections*
  - Evaluation of Student Posters: Feedback from Saravanan. Should we name prizes after leading climate scientists (from former AMS presidents to make this easy for AMS approval), and increase the amount of the award to enhance their visibility; I have $1500 to spend on the meeting. I recommend moving away from ranked prizes (e.g., first, second, ...) to outstanding contribution in observational analysis, climate modeling, climate prediction, etc. More when we meet.
- Dan’s idea of a multi-STAC sponsored meeting targeting a limited set of topics
- Committee composition (suggestion for new members)
Nat Johnson’s brief report on the CVC co-sponsored  
*Probability and Statistics* meeting in Baltimore in July 2017

The AMS Probability and Statistics Committee has taken the lead in organizing a conference that is cosponsored by the CVC and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Committees. The conference will occur on 28-29 July 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland (preceding the 2017 ASA Joint Statistical Meetings). In late October, the organizing committee determined that the conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor. A call for papers was announced in the November or December issue of BAMS. The announcement indicated a desire for papers that cover a range of topics at the intersection of probability and statistics and CVC interests, including “subseasonal to seasonal (S2S) prediction and predictability; ensemble and multi-model ensemble forecasting methods; artificial intelligence, machine-learning and decision making; process-oriented model evaluation and prediction; extreme value analysis and prediction; climate change and non-stationarity in analysis and prediction; derived forecasts, decision support and climate services; as well as forecast verification.”

In early December, there was an effort to set up a meeting website, but there were some logistical issues to resolve before setting it up (whether the session would be completely joint among the three groups, and some details about $1500 reserved for student awards). I am told that the website will be up very soon – I will pass along the website information to the rest of the CVC Committee when it is up. The meeting is being organized as a fully joint conference, which means that all sessions will have all three groups as part of them, so there will not be a separate CVC program. The current deadline for abstract submission is 21 March 2017. In late March and April, I will work with the other meeting organizers to evaluate abstracts and to schedule the meeting. I know that we discussed more about the logistics of the meeting like the number of reserved rooms and the expected number of talks, but I am still trying to figure out exactly was decided. Overall, the conference planning is proceeding relatively smoothly, with special thanks to Jen Ives and Brenda Ward for their assistance.