

To: Mary Cairns, STAC Chair
From: Frank Aikman, AMS Committee on the Coastal Environment, Chair
Subject: Annual Report 2011 – AMS Committee on the Coastal Environment
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The major activities in 2011 included preparation and organization of the 10th Symposium on the Coastal Environment, to be held in January 2011 in New Orleans, LA, at the 92nd AMS annual meeting. The Symposium topics focus on both basic and applied research issues involving understanding, analysis, and prediction of the coastal atmosphere and ocean. There is an emphasis on the coupling of atmospheric, oceanic, and hydrological processes and models and examining their effects on ecological processes and responses, coastal urban effects, and ocean and air quality. The Symposium will engender practical considerations and applications of interdisciplinary field programs, advances in remote sensing and in-situ observational networks, and advances in modeling and forecasting.

A total of 65 abstracts comprise the two day Symposium, which includes two all-day sessions on the “IOOS/SURA Super-Regional Coastal Modeling Testbed” and on “Observations and Modeling of Land-Falling Tropical Cyclones.” To promote interaction with other committees, we organized a joint session with the 17th Conference on Air Pollution Meteorology on the topic of “Air and Sea Transport Modeling of the Fukushima Reactor Crisis.” In addition, there are sessions on “Multiple Use of Coastal Environmental Sensors and Models;” on “Coastal Upwelling and Downwelling;” and on “The Northern Gulf of Mexico.” The session chairs of the 10th Symposium on the Coastal Environment are comprised of both CE Committee members and non-members.

We have also begun planning for the 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment, to be held in January 2013 in Austin, TX, at the 93rd AMS annual meeting. The theme for the 2013 AMS Annual Meeting is “Taking Predictions to the Next Level: Expanding Beyond Today's Weather and Climate Forecasts and Projections”. Following this theme, the 11th Symposium on the Coastal Environment is soliciting papers on advances in predicting coastal conditions, including storm and surge/flooding events, as well as ecological conditions such as water quality, hypoxia and harmful algal blooms, and providing physical and ecological decision assistance, tools and applications.

In 2011 the CE Committee had an election for three new members to three-year terms; two members come to the end of their terms in 2012 and will resign; and two of our members accepted a second three-year term. This brings the total membership to nine. Four members will expire in 2013 so we are actively seeking new members as well as a student member.