

To: Ward Seguin, STAC Chair
From: Andre van der Westhuysen, Chair, AMS Committee on the Coastal Environment
Subject: Annual Report 2014 – AMS Committee on the Coastal Environment
Date: 21 November 2014

1. Overview: In January 2014 we held the 12th Symposium on the Coastal Environment in Atlanta, GA, at the 94th AMS annual meeting (see #4 below). Other major activities in 2014 included the formulation of a five-year plan for our Committee (see #13 below), as well as the preparation and organization of the 13th Symposium on the Coastal Environment, to be held in January 2015 in Phoenix, AZ, at the 95th AMS annual meeting (see #4 below). The CE Committee met in person in Atlanta, GA in February 2014, and quarterly via telephone during the year. We will meet again in Phoenix, AZ in 2015. Additional committee communications were conducted by email.
2. Members rotating off the committee:
 - a. Christopher Mooers will rotate off in January 2015
3. New members (subject to AMS Council approval - (names only) and leadership changes.
 - a. In Jan 2014 Frank Aikman stepped down as the CE Chair, and Andre van der Westhuysen became the new Chair. Frank Aikman will stay on the CE Committee and extend 3 years;
 - b. Three members came to the end of their terms in 2014 (effective Jan 2015). Of these, one member (Pat Fitzpatrick) has accepted a second three-year term, and one student member (Alec Setnor Bogdanoff) has accepted a second two-year term. This brings the total membership to twelve (with the two new members nominated).
4. Conferences, symposiums held during 2014:

In February 2014 we held the 12th Symposium on the Coastal Environment in Atlanta, GA, at the 94th AMS annual meeting. Contributions were invited that focused on global, regional and coastal forecast systems and on coupling of atmospheric, oceanic, hydrologic and ecological capabilities. We encouraged papers addressing the building and testing of the capacity for long-term projections in coastal environments using the regional scale of the integrated Earth System models. Participation from IOOS Regional Associations and Federal operational centers was encouraged, and student participation in particular.

A total of 36 abstracts comprised the three-day Symposium, which included:

- (1) A Themed Joint Session with the 18th Joint Conference on the Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology and the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) on “Air and water-born transport and diffusion of contaminants from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant”;
- (2) Sessions on “Case Studies Defining Coastal Hazards”;
- (3) Sessions on “Modeling, Analysis and Forecasting”;
- (4) Sessions on “Developing Solutions: New Tools to Assist Coastal Adaptation and Decision Making”;

(5) A plenary session featuring a panel discussion on the major themes of the symposium and the state of the coastal environment in general.

The session chairs of the 12th Symposium on the Coastal Environment were comprised of CE Committee members (Mona Behl, Frank Aikman, Teddy Holt, and Andre van der Westhuysen).

Other major activities in 2014 included the preparation and organization of the 13th Symposium on the Coastal Environment, to be held in January 2015 in Phoenix, AZ, at the 95th AMS annual meeting. The session topics of 13th CE Symposium reflect the overall theme of the 2015 AMS Annual Meeting, namely “Fulfilling the Vision of Weather, Water, and Climate Information for Every Need, Time, and Place”. In coastal regions, increasing human involvement through population-related and industrial pressures makes it a particularly important consumer of weather, water and climate information. The Symposium will explore these information needs and solutions in the coastal zones of the world.

A total of 51 abstracts comprise the two day 13th CE Symposium. The session chairs of the 13th Symposium on the Coastal Environment will be comprised of the CE Committee members. Travel support has been extended to three students.

5. Meetings: The CE Committee met in Atlanta, GA in February 2014 and quarterly via telephone during the year. We will meet again in Phoenix, AZ in 2015. Additional committee communications were conducted by email.
6. AMS statement and position papers: None
7. Special activities (short courses, outreach): None, although preliminary plans have been made to host a one-day short course in 2016 (New Orleans).
8. Glossary of Meteorology (GoM) support: The committee provided a number of recommendations on proposed additions/edits to the GoM,, including the terms “tsunami”, “meteotsunam” and “tidal wave”.
9. Member recognitions and awards:
 - a. We provided one judge for the Francis W. Reichelderfer Award.
10. Student member recognition and award: None
11. CE Committee Plans for 2015:
 - a. As mentioned above in #4, preparation and organization of the 13th Symposium on the Coastal Environment, to be held in January 2015 in Phoenix, AZ, at the 95th AMS annual meeting, has been done.
 - b. CE is also planning to hold the 14th Symposium on the Coastal Environment in 2016 at the 96th AMS annual meeting, in New Orleans, LA. CE is furthermore planning to hold a one-day seminar preceding this seminar.
12. Issues you would like to see the STAC and/or the Council to consider: None.

13. Additional items:

- a. We have submitted a five-year plan for CE to the STAC Commissioner in July 2014. Highlights of the plan includes a commitment to (i) host yearly symposia, (ii) arrange at least one short course, (iii) write at least one AMS position paper and (iv) write one peer-reviewed journal paper on the state of the coastal environment.

Respectfully submitted,
Andre van der Westhuysen
Chair, Coastal Environment Committee