

**Quarterly Meeting for the American Meteorological Society (AMS)  
Committee for Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography and Climatology  
Meeting Minutes**

**Time: 10:00-12:00pm EDT**

**Date: April 16, 2020**

### 1. Meeting Participants

The following members participated in the AMS Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography and Climatology (SatMOC) Committee meeting held virtually using NOAA Hangouts on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

Name	Affiliation	Email Address
Jason Apke	CIRA/CSU	jason.apke@gmail.com
Phil Ardanuy	INNOVIM	philip7779@gmail.com
Jordan Gerth	NOAA/NWS	jordan.gerth@noaa.gov
Mitch Goldberg	NOAA/NESDIS	mitch.goldberg@noaa.gov
Eric Goldenstern	Student/CSU	eric.goldstern@colostate.edu
Kenneth Holmlund	EUMETSAT	kenneth.holmlund@eumetsat.int
Edward Hyer	NRL- Monterey	edward.hyer@nrlmry.navy.mil
Gary McWilliams	NOAA/STC	gary.mcwilliams@noaa.gov
Kathryn Schontz	NOAA/NESDIS	kathryn.shontz@noaa.gov
James Sims	NOAA/OFCM	james.sims@noaa.gov
Sara Tucker	Ball Aerospace	stucker@ball.com
Cara Wilson	NOAA/NMFS	cara.wilson@noaa.gov
Jim Yoe	NOAA/NWS	james.g.yoe@noaa.gov

### 2. Agenda and Discussion Highlights

10:00 Welcome and introductions - Ken Holmlund and Mitch Goldberg

*Mitch welcomed everyone to the meeting and each participant introduced themselves.*

10:05 Update on committee news - Ken Holmlund and Mitch Goldberg

*Mitch said that all four SatMOC conferences/symposiums will be meeting at the 2021 AMS Annual Meeting and lots of work lies ahead in preparing for them.*

*Ken reported on the last STAC committee meeting. This meeting focus on preparing the packages for the high levels awards such as the Fellows. He said that Roger Wakimoto, the former AMS president, chairs the selection committee for Fellows. The advice provided at the meeting includes 1) picking the right person for the right award so later the nomination does not have to be transferred to another committee and likely delaying the award process, 2) providing support letters from different persons that offer different perspectives on the nominee's accomplishments, 3) ensuring the lead person preparing the package is fully acknowledgeable of the nominee's contributions, challenges he or she has overcome, and why he or she stands head and shoulder above their peers, and 4) identifying the contributions as either lifetime or cumulative contributions. A nomination will remain active for three years so if the nomination is not accepted the award package should be updated and resubmitted. The nomination package needs to be submitted by 1 May.*

10:15 Status of nominating new members - Mitch Goldberg

Mitch welcomed Cara Wilson who recently joined the committee. Cara is with NOAA Marine Fisheries and her expertise in ocean science fills a knowledge gap on the committee.

10:30 Report on preparations for upcoming conferences at 2021AMS Annual Meeting (conference and symposium chairs should prepare one description highlighting session topics)

24th Conference on SatMOC - Ken Holmlund and Mitch Goldberg

*Mitch reviewed the Call for Papers which had earlier been emailed to all of the members. Papers are being requested on applications of satellite observations for enhanced scientific understanding, improved forecast skill, and more environmentally-informed decision making for meteorological, oceanographic, climatological and other environmental problems. There will be joint sessions with*

*the 17<sup>th</sup> OESS, 9<sup>th</sup> Symposium on JCSDA, and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference on Air-Sea Interaction. James recommended that this conference include sessions on commercial weather satellites and how AI is being used in decision making. Mitch said that there would likely be AI sessions in both this conference and the 17<sup>th</sup> OESS.*

*Mitch said the AMS has a new policy which limits the number of program co-chairs to 3 people. Others functioning in a role similar to a program co-chair have to be identified as program reviewers. Both Ken and Mitch instructed Gary to push back against this policy and try to have them reverse the decision because being identified as a program reviewer does not properly recognize their contributions.*

### **17th Annual Symposium on Operational Environmental Satellite Systems – Gary McWilliams**

*Gary reviewed the list of proposed session topics for the 17<sup>th</sup> Satellite Symposium. The session topics focus on the operational capabilities of the GOES-R and JPSS satellites as well as the satellite systems of our partnering nations. The proposed topics include 4 proposed topics from the AMS community which will be evaluated by the organizing committee. The Symposium will be helping to organize a combined short course on GOES-R and JPSS. This course will be offered as a one-day course on Sunday, 10 January. The Symposium will be lead host for the Annual AMS Speed Networking Event for Students and Early Career Professionals on Monday evening and a Side Panel Discussion on Tuesday at lunchtime. The topic for the Side panel Discussion has not yet been determined.*

### **9th AMS Symposium on the Joint Center for Satellite Data Assimilation – Jim Yoe**

*Jim said that the JSDA Symposium will be a sponsor for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Speed Networking Event and next week he would share with everyone a draft statement on their Call for Papers. Phil said that he would like to see a joint session with the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference on Earth Observing Smallsats to discuss JEDI.*

*Sara mentioned she would like to see a better connection between NOSA and EPIC and believe there needs to a discussion on how the connection can be improved. Sara, Mitch, and Ken will arrange a telecon to further discuss.*

#### 4th Conference on Earth Observing Smallsats – Phil Ardanuy

*Phil said the Conference will be two days with the first day being joint sessions with the 11th Conference on Transition of Research to Operations and the second day mostly comprised with talks on radio occultation.*

#### 10:50 Update on STAC–level award nominations

Award nomination process and supporting documentation - Ken Holmlund

*See Ken’s comments in the section on committee news update.*

#### Award categories – Mitch Goldberg

*Mitch said that STAC-level awards nominations are due by 1 October. Currently the award opportunity is only available on a biennial basis and the next award opportunity is 2021. However, the Council is expected soon to make the award opportunity an annual opportunity so we should be prepared to submit a nomination by 1 October 2020. Only one nomination per committee is allowed and it must be selected from one of the three award categories shown below.*

Outstanding Early Career  
Distinguished S/T Accomplishment  
Outstanding Service

#### 11:10 Update of 5-year plan – Kathryn Shontz

*Kathryn reviewed the current draft 5-year plan and invited everyone to use the Google documents link she shared to make comments. The sections needing the most work are sections 2 and 3 on creating sustained partnerships and creating a more diverse and cross—cutting satellite science community. Partnerships are needed with government, academia, and private industry. Kathryn suggested that networking during events like the AMS Washington Forum and the AMS Summer Community Forum would provide two good opportunities for the improving our*

*outreach to these communities. Jordan mentioned the Summer Community Forum has been canceled for this year and the Washington Forum has been rescheduled for the fall but its agenda is full. Jordan believes the Summer Community Forum is the better of the two events for establishing partnerships.*

11:30 Review website updates by webmaster – Eric Goldenstern

*Eric said the AMS had recently fixed the webpage editor tool and he now able to update the SatMOC website directly. He provided a summary of his updates. These updates include changes to the following webpages: Homepage, AMS Student Awards, Links, Committee Meetings and Activities, Short Courses, and Meetings.*

*Mitch brought up the need to make more people aware of the website and the idea of creating a Twitter account with multiple owners. We will discuss this topic at the next meeting.*

11:40 Any other topics – All

*Ed mentioned he had recently saw a brief on the National Plan for Civil Air Observations and asked who in NOAA was providing input to the plan. James said Karen St Germain was the NOAA rep providing the input.*

*Gordon asked if we could identify a date for our next meeting. Mitch said the week following the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday would be the target and asked Gary to conduct a Doodle poll to confirm the best time that week.*

### **3. Meeting Summary:**

*The meeting was conducted virtually using NOAA hangouts. Mitch welcomed everyone to the meeting and recognized Cara Wilson as our newest member. Ken's opening remarks summarized the last STAC committee meeting which focused on the AMS level award process. The program chairs for the four SatMOC conferences and symposiums (Mitch, Gary, Jim and Phil) at the 2021 AMS Annual Meeting provided updates on their planning process. Mitch discussed the STAC level award categories and said we should be prepared to submit an award nomination by 1*

*October. Kathryn reviewed the draft update to the 5-year plan and encouraged everyone to review the document using the shared Google document link. Eric who is our student rep and webmaster reviewed all of the recent updates he has made to the SatMOC website. Our next quarterly meeting will be scheduled the week following the 4th of July and the exact time will be determined from a Doodle poll.*

***Action items identified:*** *The following AIs were identified during the meeting:*

*1) committee members should review AMS Glossary to see if updates are needed for environmental satellite terminology. 2) Gary will contact the AMS to see if they will reverse their decision limiting the number of program co-chairs to 3 people. 3) committee members are asked to review and provide comments on the 5-year Plan using the Google document link Karen provided. 4) committee members are also asked to review and correct any dates shown in the 5-year plan for the upcoming conferences. 5) committee should be prepared to discuss at the next meeting how to establish a Twitter account for the SatMOC committee and how to broaden the awareness of the SatCOM website. 6) Jim will share a draft Call for Papers for the AMS Symposium on JSDA sometime next week 7) Sara, Mitch, and Ken will have a telecon meeting to discuss how the connection between NOSA and EPIC can be improved. 8) Gary will conduct a Doodle poll to determine the best time for our next quarterly meeting.*