

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

Time: 1:00-3:00pm EDT

Date: March 31st, 2023

1. Meeting Participants

The following members participated in the AMS Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography and Climatology (SatMOC) Committee meeting and video conference on Friday, March 31st, 2023.

Name	Affiliation	Email Address
Jason Apke	CIRA/CSU	jason.apke@gmail.com
Kathryn Shontz	NOAA	kathryn.shontz@noaa.gov
Sara Tucker	Ball Aerospace	stucker@ball.com
Gary McWilliams	NOAA	gary.mcwilliams@noaa.gov
James Yoe	NOAA	james.g.yoe@noaa.gov
Jordan Gerth	NOAA	jordan.gerth@noaa.gov
Stephanie Ortland	Univ. Wisconsin	ortland2@wisc.edu
Mitch Goldberg	NOAA	mitch.goldberg@noaa.gov
Cara Wilson	NOAA	cara.wilson@noaa.gov

2. Agenda

- Welcome and action review

K. Shontz welcomed everyone to the meeting

- Membership status review

K. Shontz: J. Apke and C. Wilson are due to renew memberships.

Dr. Sid Buokabara declined to renew membership citing other commitments and will be leaving in the near future.

Action Items: J. Apke and C. Wilson- Send your CVs to K. Shontz to update memberships.

- New member nomination and voting

K. Shontz: 2 new candidate members are being considered to move into full memberships: Tom Auligne (SP?) from NCAR, he is an advocate for use of satellite data and an innovator for how data can be used for modeling and Dr. Lihang Zhou, a NOAA employee working for STAR who has supported JPSS in terms of products/STAR. We also need new student members, which committee members are encouraged to recommend.

***Action Item:** For the whole committee, help to identify possible student members to recruit for SATMOC. Designated students then need to fill out a form and provide a CV to K. Shontz.*

- Award nominations (link)

J. Apke: After extended discussion on deserving individuals in a separate meeting held before the quarterly, committee agreed to nominate Dr. Steve Miller for the David and Lucile Atlas Award, which J. Apke will be procuring the CV/Bio and Recommendation Letters for. Three letters of recommendation collected will be from Mitch Goldberg, Chris Kummerow, and possibly J. Gerth.

Committee also discussed nominating deserving candidates for the Spengler Award. K. Shontz will be nominating Pam Sullivan with possible recommendation letters from Steve Volz, along with L3Harris, and possibly a resource from academia.

***Action Item:** J. Apke and K. Shontz need to procure CVs/Bios and recommendation letters to AMS for S. Miller and P. Sullivan awards by 5/1/2023.*

- Conference planning at 2024 AMS Annual
 - SatMOC/OESS/JCSDA

G. McWilliams: Work is underway on planning a recommended memorial session for Vernon Dvorak. G. McWilliams has been coordinating with Mark DeMaria on developing the session. We are looking at having one invited

session with one keynote address and five talks after that. Depending on abstracts, we may consider a second session. We will also have a poster session for the special named session. The application for the named session has to be submitted by the first of May.

We are planning on having a total of 7 joint sessions with different conferences. One new one is the second symposium on the future of weather forecasting and practice. Possibly hold joint session on GeoXO and LEO satellites, and what capabilities everyone would like to see. The short course will focus on accessing GOES-R and JPSS data via cloud services. Usually we will think about having this at AMS, though some have recommended AGU may be a better venue to consider. We will have the final decision where the short course will be held shortly. We will want to also show how you can use the data once you get access. Last year, the short course on plotting satellite imagery with python had very good attendance, 70 or 80 total.

- **Thematic day session alignment for 2024 AMS Annual**

K. Shontz: We are aiming to have a thematic day session alignment for 2024 AMS Annual. We have four sessions: Satellite Sensors, Satellite ground processing, what we do with the satellite data/how it is exploited, and the use in focus, such as a weather-ready nation.

S. Tucker: It is quite challenging to boil thematic day down to four topics. It is also important to consider that the research/abstracts will be heavy on the process/data exploitation/and use. A lot of scientific innovation comes in with how we use the data, and we want to highlight that.

M. Goldberg: We build satellites, we develop them, we disseminate the data, and we have to make sure the customer is

using it, so utilization is a big piece which should be covered in the thematic day.

C. Wilson: It takes a lot of work to help users get and use the data, and it is almost always underfunded, which should be addressed. Topics should cover how to help the data creators to get the data out to prospective users.

K. Shontz: For a broader impact, we may need to narrow the theme to a singular instrument or data type, such as imagers.

J Gerth mentioned thematic day and planning will be beholden to the abstracts. K. Shontz: We can stack the deck a bit to get abstracts which fit our themes, guide discussion/session topics. We get to write the call for papers, and how do we do the town hall, w/ limited time. Gary has put together all the sessions, we could write our own session topics or tweak session topics.

K. Shontz: At the end of the day, we want to do the town hall, and we will all just chip in for a few beers afterwards.

Action item: *To the committee- Review and add thoughts to this google doc in the next two weeks to help G. McWilliams and K. Shontz plan thematic day sessions and topics*

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19njCYRNliZBexNRkRS5QZdUI6vf7hG-D/edit?usp=drivesdk&oid=111699049448342843767&rtpof=true&sd=true>

- Renewed commitment to DE&I

K. Shontz: Last time, there was a recommendation that we have a panel focused on how to apply DEI lessons in practice. We want to

bring that back to the forefront at future conferences. Townhalls and panels are not out yet for submission.

J. Gerth: There are a lot of opportunities to focus on DEI at our off-annual meeting where we have the leadership and organization capabilities. Since SATMOC organizes one of many DEI events, at some point, we have to ask how do we distinguish it from everything else going on at the annual meeting?

K Shontz: At the Madison meeting we had the panel, and had the hard discussion in public about the challenges in the committee. This panel was beneficial in that it moved the needle forward in terms of a positive discussion. We want to ask if we done enough as a committee to recon with some of these challenge points? How to elevate the voices from more underrepresented groups? Is it how we curate what panels there are going to be? Is it who we have serve as co-chairs? We want to have people talk about their background and what they are doing? A lot of times it is non-diverse folks giving presentations. The theme could be their careers and how they entered the field.

S. Tucker: At one point, we talked about the satellite meteorology enterprise, we can have folks throughout the enterprise and make sure that it is a diverse panel.

J. Gerth: To have a similar impact, we want to make sure scientific sessions do not overlap w/ DEI sessions. We need to make sure those other DEI sessions are mirrored on our agenda. At the annual, a lot of individual conferences have this idea, though what worked with Madison is when that was the only thing going on, significantly increasing attendance. We should be able to band together with some conferences, and we do have time to talk it through in the planning process. As we look to designate presenters and co-chairs, we ask everyone on this committee to help diversify between age/background/level of expertise. We can highlight how broad our community is.

M. Goldberg: We are aiming for a panel session that talks directly about DEI, including local issues with respect to underrepresented communities. If we get someone representing each of the NOAA cooperative science centers, they focus on DEI to allow underrepresented communities to become more involved in NOAA careers/opportunities. We can have them talk about local issues/sciences in how satellites can help. Three of the four cooperative centers attend the annual meeting because there is this educational component.

Sara Tucker: SATMOC also needs to consider DEI in awards nominations. Thus far, award nominations were more frequent for men, we noticed this is hard to come up with how to increase diversity in AMS award structures.

J. Gerth: The composition of our community is changing, the folks in the senior levels tend to be more white and male, leading to a bias in awards nominations. We have a much more diverse younger/mid-career level at the moment.

K. Shontz: None of these awards are lifetime achievement awards. Maybe there are more granular and smaller things that can be just more impactful which SATMOC needs to consider in their nominations process.

J. Gerth: The biggest AMS awards tend to mention something around "Over a period of time". We can try for diversity in the nomination letters as well.

S. Tucker: It is more than perception, you still have the leadership, who is in a position of power and authority, and the lack of DEI there. Could you coordinate a panel showing that we have a diverse workforce. When you put the VP up there for a talk/panel, you are taking away the opportunity for the community to be aware of somebody else who is awesome. We have to do a little work and make sure we recognize our diverse community. There is a change going

on at the meetings, it is getting to be more diverse, and we want to highlight that.

J. Yoe: About a year ago, we put out a little poll where one of the questions was what was the most important thing to do to increase representation at the higher levels? The most important thing you can do to influence younger people we found is to show there is opportunity for advancement at the higher levels. From my point of view, we need to encourage prospects among SES leadership. We need to have them everywhere. We also need to continue to listen more and say less.

J. Gerth: There is an issue to consider, in a white-male dominated field, are the senior leaders really bought-in or are they promoted because they are performative? I was told I am going to have trouble moving up because I am not a minority, which is in reality not the goal of our DEI initiatives. Hence, we need to have a true, honest discussion to make sure that people are all on the same page about what DEI is, and how we strive to implement these initiatives.

K. Shontz: Representation at all levels matters. If people don't see their likeness in senior leadership, that is a challenge-point they must overcome. It also means something is happening that is not moving things forward. For example, women can struggle to handle big careers when they have children so they have a tendency to drop off if not addressed. Culturally, we expect that, but with DEI initiatives we aim to resolve that disparity. We should continue to strive to tackle these issues wherever we can. What does that mean as a session? By nature, it is a diversity session. If we plant a question or two on those aspects, we can encourage the right discussions. This is a hot topic, and it should be as our demographics are changing, and we need to figure out how we as a team move that forward too.

- Closing

Action Item: Fill out Summer and Fall meeting polls!

Action Items: J. Apke and C. Wilson- Send your CVs to K. Shontz to update memberships.

Action Item: For the whole committee, help to identify possible student members to recruit for SATMOC. Designated students then need to fill out a form and provide a CV to K. Shontz.

Action Item: J. Apke and K. Shontz need to procure CVs/Bios and recommendation letters to AMS for S. Miller and P. Sullivan awards by 5/1/2023. M. Goldberg and J. Gerth will be contacted further about recommendation letters for S. Miller in the near future.

Action item: To the committee- Review and add thoughts to this google doc in the next two weeks to help G. McWilliams and K. Shontz plan thematic day sessions and topics

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19njCYRNliZBexNRkRS5QZdU16vf7hG-D/edit?usp=drivesdk&oid=111699049448342843767&rtpof=true&sd=true>