

13th Conference on Space Weather

The Conference, held during the 2016 AMS annual meeting in New Orleans from January 11 to January 13, was co-chaired by Robert McCoy of the University of Alaska and Genene Fisher of NOAA. The central theme of the AMS meeting this year was Earth System Science in Service to Society and our conference explored the role of space weather. More than 200 people attended and, after a kickoff breakfast hosted by Ball Aerospace, we were informed by NASA, NSF, NOAA, DoD, FEMA, USGS, and the DoT about the federal agency needs and future directions. After a science centered poster session, the first day concluded by highlighting some recent successes in transitioning space weather research into operations. The second day featured exciting news of the plans of some upcoming space weather related satellites. These included the Deep Space Climate Observatory (DSCVR), the Global-scale Observations of the Limb and Disk (GOLD), and Ionospheric Connection Explorer (ICON). Following sessions featured impacts of space weather and recent advances in space weather modeling and prediction. The final day began with a panel discussion on the science, engineering and challenges of geomagnetically induced currents. This was followed by a spectacular keynote talk by Dr. Fran Bagenal of the University of Colorado on the New Horizons where we were treated to amazing images from Pluto. The 13th Space Weather Conference concluded with two more informative panels: the first discussing the progress and agency roles and responsibilities in OSTP's National Space Weather Strategy and the second, "Advancing the Space Weather Enterprise," centering on the commercial side of space weather.

The 14th Space Weather Conference will be held at the annual AMS meeting in January of 2017.