

American Meteorological Society

Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee 2010 Annual Report

The 2010 Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee was comprised of 10 members, 2 student members and a chair. One member was new to the committee this year, one member's term renewed and one member transitioned from a student member to a regular member. The committee met together once during the year in January at the AMS annual meeting. Three teleconference meetings of the full committee were also conducted as well as various teleconferences of the conference subcommittee. In addition, a considerable amount of business was conducted throughout the year via informal means.

Not having any specialty conferences this year, the committee's activities were limited this year to mostly planning and regular business of our committees Terms of Reference. Nonetheless, the major activities of the committee for the year were:

1. Planning for the 2011 WAF/NWP Conferences: The 24th Weather Analysis and Forecasting Conference and 20th Numerical Weather Prediction Conference will be held during the 2011 AMS Annual Meeting in Seattle. This marks the first return of the WAF/NWP conferences to the AMS Annual in a long time. Carolyn Reynolds (NRL) and Zhaoxia Pu (Univ. of Utah) are serving as conference co-chairs. The conference will take advantage of its presence at the AMS annual meeting by sponsoring numerous joint sessions with other committees. A total of 132 papers are planned in the WAF/NWP specific sessions, while another 99 joint session papers are planned. There is expected to be 77 WAF/NWP poster presentations as well.
2. Planning for the 2012 WAF/NWP Conferences: The WAF/NWP Conferences are typically held on an 18 month cycle so planning for the next conferences after Seattle has begun. There has been discussion amongst the committee for some time now about the possibility of holding our conferences internationally given that our conferences are generally considered the preeminent conferences on their respective topics globally. To test the international waters we decided to pursue a conference in Canada. We approached the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society about the possibility of jointly sponsoring our conferences. In those discussions it was determined that holding the conferences joint with the CMOS annual meeting in May 2012 in Montreal would be our best option. Therefore, a proposal for such as created and submitted to the AMS Executive Committee for approval, which was granted in September. The next steps will be to form the conference committee that will work with CMOS to set up the conference program.
3. Award Nominations and Recommendations. The full committee reviewed and made recommendations for the Charles Mitchell award and the Exceptional Prediction Awards. Two committee members also participated in the review of nominations for the Reichelderfer award.

In addition, recommendations for membership changes in 2011 were made to the STAC chair. This included nominating a new student member and renewing the terms of four regular members.

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Peter Neilley, WAF Committee Chair