

AMS Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee Meeting Agenda
4 February 2022, noon ET/11a CT/10a MT/9a PT

Attendance

Stephanie Avey	X	Katie Magee	X
Robert Banks	X	Shawn Milrad	X
Matt Beitscher		Louisa Nance	X
Alicia Bentley	X	Philippe Papin	X
Stephen Bieda	X (first 5 minutes)	Sarah Perfater	X
Tomer Burg	X	Jon Poterjoy	X
Austin Coleman		Rosimar Rios-Berrios	X
Keenan Eure	X	Sara Sienkiewicz	X
Clark Evans	X	Jennifer Tate	X
Victor Gensini	X	Andrew Winters	X
Aaron Hill	X	Kim Wood	X
Joseph Koval	X	Chasity Wright	X
Ryan Lagerquist		Nusrat Yussouf	X
Daniel Lloveras	X		

Discussion Items

1. ***New Business:*** Thank you, Shawn!
2. ***New Business: Strategic Planning Subcommittee (lead: Stephen)***
 - a. This is a new committee charged with preparing a five-year plan for the WAF committee by July 1.
 - b. **Action Item:** Please let Stephen know by the end of this month if you wish to serve on the Strategic Planning subcommittee!
 - i. Volunteers in the chat: Andrew, Kim, Victor
3. ***Continuing Business: 2023 Annual Meeting (lead: Clark)***
 - a. We're happy to announce the Special Symposium on Forecasting a Continuum of Environmental Threats (FACETs), with Stephen and Victor as co-chairs!

- i. This blends ideas Stephen and Victor shared at our December meeting into a cohesive theme - one that we expect will facilitate joint sessions with several other conferences and symposia (Societal Apps, R2O, WRN, EPICM, and Major Weather Events/Impacts of 2022).
 - ii. **Action Item:** If you would like to serve on the organizing committee for this special symposium, please let Stephen and Victor know by the end of this month!
 - b. We will also sponsor the 2nd Symposium on Earth Prediction Innovation and Community Modeling, with Louisa as our committee liaison.
 - i. **Action Item:** Please think about whether the WAF committee should commit to sponsoring future EPICM symposia, work with AMS on a self-sponsoring arrangement, and/or identify another sponsoring committee in preparation for a discussion at our March meeting.
 - ii. **Action Item:** Please think about the future of our Model Center Updates symposia in preparation for a discussion at our March meeting. The EPICM organizers do not believe that their symposium subsumes the Model Center Updates symposia we organized from 2019 through 2021.
- 4. **Continuing Business: 2023 32nd WAF/28th NWP + Mesoscale Conferences (lead: Stephanie)**
 - a. **Action Item:** Please let Stephanie know by the end of this month if you wish to serve on the 2023 Conference subcommittee!
 - i. So far: Alicia B, Matt B, Aaron H, Ben T, Xuguang W, Craig S, Louisa N
- 5. **Continuing Business: 2022 31st WAF/27th NWP Conferences (lead: Aaron)**
 - a. Finalizing student presentation winners...thanks to all that helped with judging!
 - b. Excited to pass the reins over to Stephanie, Alicia, and Matt for our joint 2023 conference
 - c. Generally received lots of positive feedback on the meeting/conference; people seemed to enjoy the return to 15-minute presentation slots over the lightning-talk format of 2021.
 - d. If you have any specific feedback, please provide it in the next two weeks and I will digest and pass along to Stephanie et al. for 2023 planning
 - e. Thank you again to all those who served on the program committee!
- 6. **Continuing Business: Society-Level Awards (lead: Clark)**
 - a. Our recommendation for changing the ESP Award's terms was approved by the AMS Awards Oversight Committee in mid-December and Executive Committee and Council in late January.
 - b. These committees recommended two minor changes that are consistent with our prior discussions regarding this award:
 - i. One letter is required but up to three letters are allowed, rather than only one letter being allowed.

1. **Tomer:** Will prospective nominees feel disadvantaged if they can't submit more than one letter?
 2. **Rosimar:** Suggested unconscious bias training regarding how to handle multiple letters; probably a good idea more generally. Will look into sharing NCAR's training with the committee.
 3. **Kim:** More letters is not always good. Likes the idea of wording in our outreach to indicate what we encourage in applications and of performing unconscious bias training.
- ii. The award terms' wording was slightly changed to: *"The Award for an Exceptional Specific Prediction is given to one or more individuals in recognition of an exceptional prediction of one or more significant events. This includes predictions originating or disseminated from across the weather enterprise. The Award may also be given to exceptional predictions of societal impacts from a specific weather event that directly lead to the protection of property and lives."*
 - c. The updated terms will take effect for this year's applications cycle. AMS President Mike Farrar encouraged us to reach out to all segments of the society that we would encourage to submit nominations, and I propose that the awards chair (me) and social-media team (headed by Katie) work to do this in the next 2-3 months.
 - d. The AMS Council raised the question of whether a new name for this award might be warranted to better reflect the new terms, but left this for us as a committee to consider. My inclination is to leave it be for now, to gauge the new terms' effectiveness first before considering further changes. Other thoughts?
 - e. Ankur Desai (STAC Commissioner) and Mary Glackin (AMS Past President and Awards Oversight Committee Chair) pass along their thanks to the committee for leading the process of updating the ESP Award's terms. I echo their thanks!

7. **Continuing Business: AMS Statement on Weather Analysis and Forecasting (lead: Clark)**

- a. The AMS Council approved the [revised statement](#) at its late December meeting. Thank you to everyone on the committee who assisted with this process!

8. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Glossary (lead: Jennifer)**

- i. No ongoing reviews.
- ii. Will need a replacement Glossary Subcommittee lead in 2023 as Jennifer phases off the committee. Andrew has expressed interest but was just added to the team, so this is still in flux.

b. **Social Media (lead: Katie)**

- i. Possible DEI-oriented posts given our previous committee discussions; ideas welcome!
- ii. Posts to increase visibility of the AMS society-level awards (ESP, Mitchell, Reichelderfer) for which our committee has purview.

- iii. Please fill out the Member Highlight Form if you haven't recently done so!
- iv. Monthly social media management (suggested topic list): Katie can schedule 1-on-1 training or provide a recorded video with how to post on social media pages from our accounts - whatever works best for you!
 - 1. February: Matt Beitscher
 - 2. March: Alicia Bentley
 - 3. April: Stephen Bieda
- v. New business: Live-tweeting annual conferences
 - 1. Social media subcommittee members and/or conference organizing committee will live-tweet talks
 - a. Better promotion for our speakers and knowledge sharing across Twitter
 - b. Works better if speakers send their slides ahead of time
 - c. Ask presenters for a summary slide or advertising slide if they want us to highlight their talk ahead of time
 - i. Also helps engage those not able to attend the annual conference
 - d. Sometimes conversations can really take off on social media, so continuing the conversation with the speaker
 - e. Ask the speakers for their Twitter handles to tag them
- vi. If interested in being on sub-committee, email Katie at Kathleen.Magee@noaa.gov
- c. **Webmaster (lead: Matt)**
 - i. Added a "Thanks for Participating" note to the website after the Annual Meeting.
 - ii. Adding Jonathan Poterjoy to the headshots.

9. Chair's Report

- a. Because Stephen will be heading the Strategic Planning subcommittee this year, I have volunteered to lead our committee's awards and new-member recruitment efforts this year. Thank you, Stephen, for leading the process of preparing a vision for our committee's future!
- b. Please review the committee's membership roster to confirm your contact information and committee role(s). If you are not currently signed up to help with at least one committee activity (conference planning, strategic plan, glossary, social media, webmaster), **please let me know this month** on which committee(s) you would like to serve this year!
- c. The STAC Chairs/Vice-Chairs Meeting will be held later this afternoon. Please let me know if you have anything you'd like to have brought up during that meeting!

- i. **Shawn:** The Student Conference was different this year because more professionals were able to focus on it as the only game in town. Might this be something the committee wishes to assist with in the future?
- ii. **Rosimar:** Possible actionable item for the committee to volunteer as speakers, since there's always trouble in finding speakers.
- iii. **Victor:** SLS STAC put on a student-centric conference last fall that seemed to work well. Even if we're moving out of an era of all-virtual conferences, the committee could consider organizing something student-centric (either at the Annual Meeting or a specialty meeting).

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 15, at 4p ET/3p CT/2p MT/1p PT.