

Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee Luncheon Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 6, 2015; 2 PM EST; 1 PM CST; Noon, MST; and 11 AM, PST

(Meet-me phone number: 213-493-0622, Access code 411-135-177 or

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/join/411135177>)

1. Roll call of attendees (12 present and 9 dialed in, some kind of record for WAF):

- In Phoenix and through "GoTo Meeting."
 - Bruce Telfeyan
 - Carolyn Reynolds
 - Michael Brennan (GoTo Meeting)
 - Brent Shaw (GoTo Meeting)
 - Kelly Majoney (GoTo Meeting)
 - Lans Rothfusz
 - Rebecca Adams-Selin (GoTo Meeting)
 - Sam Ng (GoTo Meeting)
 - Jonathan Porter
 - Walter Drag (GoTo Meeting)
 - Gail Hartfield-Supina (GoTo Meeting)
 - Jen Alexander
 - Andrew Molthan
 - Alex Tardy
 - Jerry Wegiel
 - Justin McLay
 - Joseph Slezak
 - Jennifer Tate
 - Christopher McCray
 - Charles Kuster (GoTo Meeting)
 - Kathryn Shontz
- Guests
 - Ed Szoke (former 12 year member)
 - Ed Bensman (former member and WAF Chair)
 - Brenda Ward (AMS Senior Meetings Coordinator)
- Unable to attend
 - Robert Banks
 - Jason Furtado
 - Cyrena-Marie Briede
 - James Belanger
 - Josh Hacker

2. Bruce noted and thanked those members whose tenure on WAF has come to a close:

- Carolyn Reynolds, 2009 – 2015. Sincerest thanks for six years of involved and dedicated service! Co-Chair of the 2011 WAF/NWP Conferences in Seattle. Carolyn is now moving to the Annual Meeting Oversight Committee.

- Himself (Bruce Telfeyan), 2008 – 2015. He noted that it has been a distinct honor to have served as chair for the past three years and to work with all members! He shared that he is commencing a six year commitment to the Scientific and Technological and Activities Commission of the AMS (STAC) starting as the Future Commissioner for the next two years. Then he will become the full Commissioner in January 2017, responsible for six boards and 30 committees, including WAF.
- Charles Kuster – Student member the past two years, Facebook page architect.
- Derek Malia –Student member the past two years. Session co-chair for the Mountain Meteorology Conference in Seattle.
- Kathryn Shontz – Student member the past two years. On the program committee for the WAF/NWP conference in Atlanta, Feb 2015.

He welcomed the new members joining us now:

- Justin McLay, Meteorologist, Naval Research Lab, Monterey, CA
- Jen Alexander, Dean of Faculty, USAFA, Colorado Springs, CO
- Jerry Wegiel, Numerical Modeler, SAIC, Bellevue, NE
- Jennifer Tate, North Carolina State University, (Student member)
- Robert Banks, Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC), Institute of Sustainability, Barcelona, Spain (Student member)
- Christopher McCray, Lyndon State College (Student member)
- Joseph Slezak, Rutgers University (Student member)

3. Upcoming conference events:

- **95th AMS Annual Meeting 2015, Phoenix, AZ**

- We were brought u-to-date on the THM with BOGM and BHE, Wed, Jan 7, 12:15 to 1:15 PM.
<http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/programs-and-events/town-hall-meetings/town-hall-meeting-future-directions-for-employment-for-newly-graduated-meteorologists/>
- Special thanks to Alex Tardy and Joseph Slezak (and others) who helped to publicize the event. Postscript: this was a very successful THM in partnership with BOGM, BHE, and BECP. We should look at hosting a repeat session next January in New Orleans.
- Assisting with the First Symposium on High Performance Computing for Weather, Water, and Climate.
 - Special thanks to Alex and Carolyn for chairing session at this symposium.

- **The 27th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting, 23rd Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction**, set Chicago for the week of 28 June – 3 July. We are working closely with our senior meeting coordinator, Brenda Ward, and here is the latest information on our planning efforts:

- Abstracts -- it sounds like we should expect 300-350 abstracts for Chicago, similar to our last WAF/NWP meeting in Atlanta. Since we will have up to an extra day of presentations depending on how we make use of Friday, July 3rd, we shouldn't have any issues with space. The minor caveat will be posters. It sounds like we'll have about 100 posters up at a time, but we can change the frequency of the putting up/taking down to accommodate posters as needed (e.g. if we need to have more posters up during the week, leave them up for just a day rather than two days, etc.)
- Student Support -- it sounds like we will have an opportunity for 1-2 student travel grants and 4-5 student volunteers. Student travel grants would be a competed process for students who are /not/ presenting papers at the meeting. We can work with AMS staff to set up a procedure for their selection. I believe that student travel grants cover a significant portion of their attendance (perhaps all but the flight to get there?). Student volunteers assist with registration and running the meeting rooms. Volunteers are expected to work about a half day each and attend the conference for the remainder of the time. There is a little more flexibility in assigning volunteers. We can work with AMS to figure out how to best recruit and appoint those positions. We also have \$1,500 for each of WAF and NWP conferences (\$3K total) that we have chosen thus far to allocate entirely to student paper awards.
- Banquet -- at the last Omaha meeting, the committee chose to have additional food/beverage available for poster sessions in lieu of a formal banquet and speaker, etc. I would think we could go a similar route given the large number of outstanding places people will want to eat while in Chicago. We can work with Brenda for more details and options. One thing to consider might be whether we want a reception/networking event of some kind, if that's permitted. Additionally if there is sufficient interest, we might sponsor a student social outing one night.
- Special Group Event -- Brenda offered to check with the convention/visitors bureau to see what types of special group events might be an option for Chicago. In Omaha, they went to a baseball game -- not sure if that's the best fit for us in Chicago (would be White Sox, I think) but there might be other options in the downtown area. We can look to members of the committee for suggestions and follow up with Brenda on our options.
- Registration and Web Page -- Brenda is working on having our conference web page assembled, and most importantly, the abstract submission system. For Atlanta, Kelly and I used the call for paper "bullets" to set the options for paper submissions and we'll do the same to get things going for Chicago. This way, attendees "self sort" their talks which will make it easier for us to aggregate, review, and create sessions. It sounds like the AMS and conference staff will be on site the Sunday prior to the meeting kickoff on Monday to allow some folks to register early so that we'll have an on-time start

for Monday morning. Once the web page is up, Brenda will help us get the word out (and we can tweet it, etc.). I had suggested that an email blast go out to previous WAF/NWP attendees for Omaha and Atlanta, perhaps the Mountain Meteorology conference that WAF recently joined for their conference, the satellite community, and the student/early career distribution lists. We will need to also advertise as much as possible within our own personal networks.

- **96th AMS Annual Meeting 2016, New Orleans:**

Mary Cairns (lead program chair for the 2016 meeting) contacted me to see if we might be interested in co-sponsoring some sessions (part of a symposium) focused on the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. She has also reached out to the Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography, and Climatology committee as a possible partner for us. Bruce took part in a planning teleconference with Mary and President-elect Sandy MacDonald yesterday. A one day symposium is in the works, with invited and contributed talks and posters. More details to follow.

4. Significant issues from the Annual STAC Meeting, Saturday, Jan 3rd.

a. Ward asked that B/Cs add their five year plans to their AMS websites.

In response to President Bill Gail's theme of looking to the future, Ward asked that these five year plans encompass more than just noting recurring items (awards, conferences, THMs, symposia, annual reports). Rather, he advocated expanding the scope with a view to the future and how the B/C would evolve to address new realities and challenges that will emerge.

b. A suggestion will be considered to see if AMS is willing to waive the registration fees for B/C student members for conferences.

c. IT issues:

- IT to look into providing analytics to the STAC B/C to help in designing pages.
- IT to look into providing some sort of list serve host for B/C.
- A request to have a "trouble ticket" to keep track of IT requests.
- IT to review opportunities for expanding social media use by B/C. [Note: IT will be looking into a Policy for social media. This should include AMS logo usage.]
- Note: Brian Mardirosian (AMS/IT) will have a webinar later in January to provide training for new B/C webmasters.

d. Bruce spoke about "AMS B/C best practices" with the following main areas

- Recruiting/finding new committee members
 - Offer each departing member the opportunity to suggest a successor,
 - Consider from among those presenting at our conferences
 - Professional colleagues at work can be a source of a future member

- Be alert for volunteers passed along by the AMS from their “volunteer” link on the webpage.
- Recruiting/finding new student committee members
 - Suggested students from departing student members
 - Student award winning presenters at conferences,
 - Recommendations from faculty colleagues,
 - Suggestions from active committee members
- Periodic committee conference calls, quarterly or as needed
 - Send an agenda prior to, minutes subsequent to ...
 - There should be a note-taker to help formulate the minutes and they can be used to help create the B/C annual report.
 - Of course, more frequent conference call will be needed for planning specialty conferences.
 - Try using the Doodle Poll to find a good time when the most members can be available.
- Welcoming new members:
 - Experiment with a conference call just for the Chair and all the new members before their terms begin
 - Most new members will be unfamiliar with what the board does and how they can participate
 - Many questions can be addressed prior to new members joining the board enabling them to have an awareness allowing them to contribute meaningfully from the start of their terms.
- Joint events (conferences, conference sessions, symposia, THMs)
 - These joint events can bring together overlapping disciplines between various boards and commissions.
 - The resultant synergy can produce a more productive and meaningful event
 - It is up to the committee to reach out to other groups and find a natural match
- Assigned duties for B/C members:
 - The B/C often leaves too much in the Chair’s hands. By assigning specific responsibilities to all members, it involves the entire membership and shares the workload.

5. Items from our past STAC Commissioner, Ward Seguin and new STAC Commissioner Dave Stensrud:

- a. STAC has initiated a monthly newsletter. You can view it (including the current month) at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/news-reports/monthly-stac-newsletter/>.
- b. Check out the new STAC webpage, <http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/>

- c. (Repeat item) The Community Directory is now available on the AMS website for all of us to use as a way to share our profiles, interests, and expertise within the AMS community. Go to this website:

<https://ametsoc.org/boardpges/cwce/docs/profiles/update.html> for instructions on how to set up your own profile.

- Also, you can view the Community Directory at this link:
<https://ametsoc.org/boardpges/cwce/docs/profiles/index.html>

6. Discussion regarding deciding whether we designate a WAF Committee Vice Chair and, if so, identifying that individual.

- a. Actually, a suggestion from the STAC meeting that Andrew brought forward was to have an incoming chair during the last year of the committee chair's tenure. This might be a better approach for WAF to employ than having a vice chair, especially if we adopt the idea of key duties for our members.
- b. This spreadsheet is one we might use to record key duties (such as GoM point of contact, Webpage manager, Awards & Fellows, Conferences co-chair, Symposia lead, Town Hall Meetings lead, Recorder/note taker, Incoming WAF chair, member of the conference Program committees):



WAF Member
Roster 2015.xlsx

7. Update on WAF Committee website developments:

Please visit our site at <http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/committees/committee-on-weather-analysis-and-forecasting/>

- It is time for a new team to take on this duty in place of Sam and Derek and Cyrena and new student member Robert Banks had volunteered to assume these duties (yet to be confirmed).

8. Update on recent review of suggested additions or modifications to the AMS Glossary of Meteorology—Brent Shaw.

9. Update on the revision of the AMS WAF Statement: The 30 day member comment period resulted in three inputs. We have until Feb 5, 2015 to review these suggestions and decide which to incorporate. Then, the draft statement goes back to the AMS Council, hopefully for final approval. Bruce met with Professors Yvette Richardson and Clark Evans in Phoenix and reached consensus on our final submission to the AMS Council. We are hopeful that the Council will approve our draft for release and publication.

10. Facebook page rotating schedule for the primary person for upcoming months (Andrew will modify as necessary and add future month assignments):

- a. January **2015**: James Bellanger
- b. February: Michael Brennan
- c. March: Sam Ng

- d. April: Becky Adams Selin
- e. May: Kelly Mahoney
- f. June – Dec: TBD.

11. Other topics of interest or concern: None.

12. Introductory comments from the new WAF Committee Chair: Andrew Molthan (Jan 2015 – Jan 2018).

- Andrew made very kind (and probably undeserved) remarks about the service by his predecessor which were deeply appreciated. The applause by the committee made it even harder for the outgoing chair to depart.
- Andrew will share the spreadsheet to seek out volunteers for key duties on the committee.

13. Again, our next meeting will be sometime during April 2014, specific date/time TBD.

Andrew L. Molthan
WAF Committee Chair

R. Bruce Telfeyan
Past WAF Chair