

Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2013, Noon to 1:30 PM

Austin, TX

1. **Attendees:** James Belanger, Mike Brennan, Kelly Mahoney, Andrew Molthan, Sam Ng, Jonathon Porter, Carolyn Reynolds, Lans Rothsfusz, Becky Adams-Selin, Brent Shaw, and me (Bruce Telfeyan). This was our largest gathering in at least the past three years!

2. New member introductions:

Sam Ng

Jonathan Porter

Rebecca Adams-Selin (former student member)

James Belanger (former student member)

Charles Kuster (student member, Univ of Oklahoma)) - not able to attend

Derek Mallia (student member, Univ of Utah) - not able to attend.

3. **New STAC Commissioner:** Mary Cairns has served as our commissioner for the past five years and will now serve as Past Commissioner. Her replacement is Dr. Ward Seguin and Ward stopped by to greet us, offer words of encouragement, and answer questions. He mentioned the revised Glossary of Meteorology and noted that STAC boards and chairs will be at the center of the process to accept modifications to, or new definitions of terms. It will be in wiki-based format. More information will be forthcoming.

You can view Ward's biography at:

<http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/about-the-commissioner/>

- Ward also said we could add a third student member. Note: since then, he has approved of Kathryn Shontz (Univ of Maryland) for this position effective Feb 1st--her CV and statement of interest are attached here:



CV_Kathryn_Shontz_Jan13.docx



Shontz Statement of Interest.docx

4. Update on **Special Symposium** (Jan 9th), *“Advancing Weather and Climate Forecasts: Innovative Techniques and Applications”* Program co-chairs are Kelly Mahoney and Andrew Molthan—special thanks for their tireless efforts.

5. **Plans for 26th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting, 22nd Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction:** We are in the planning stages for our next WAF/NWP conference. It will be held in Atlanta in January, 2014 in conjunction with the 94th Annual Meeting. Our program co-chairs are Andrew Molthan and Kelly Mahoney. New this year is the option for interested parties to submit

proposed session topics. In our discussion we agreed that those who submit proposals would be asked to chair that session.

6. Award committee judges:

We will need to supply judges for three awards:

- **Francis W. Reichelderfer Award**, The STAC Commissioner, in consultation with the Professional Affairs Commissioner, is responsible for overseeing the award process and forming the selection committee. The selection committee is composed of a chair and two members from the Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee, two members of the Board for Operational Government Meteorologists, one member from the Hydrology Committee, and one member from the Coastal Environment Committee. Lans and Brent volunteered to serve as the WAF judges.

- **Exceptional Specific Prediction (ESP) Award** - Our entire committee serves in the selecting the winner.

- **The Charles L. Mitchell Award** - Again, our entire committee serves in the selecting the winner.

7. **AMS WAF Statement:** Our committee has had a difficult time finding a sufficient number of volunteers to form the writing committee for the AMS WAF statement. We only elicited two volunteers (one professor and one graduate student). The STAC Commissioner is taking active steps to help us recruit additional volunteers. Note: since our meeting, Sam Ng recruited two volunteers and Brent Shaw provided one!

8. Other matters of interest or concern.

a. We discussed the joint conference **with CMOS in Montreal** in June 2012 and how CMOS expressed a desire to join with us at three year intervals. We agreed that it would be impractical for us to have our conference not tied to the AMS Annual Meeting all take place in Canada. But we were open to the possibility of joining with them every sixth year. I will be in touch with the CMOS President regarding our discussion.

b. Our **conference after the Atlanta WAF/NWP** sessions will be in the May/June 2015 time frame. We need to settle on a location. Our last three conferences separate from the Annual Meeting have been in Park City, UT (2006), Omaha, NE (2009), and Montreal (2012). After our meeting, I discussed the possibility of Denver with Sam. We'll continue to consider possible options. Realistically, we need to settle on a location a year from now when we meet in Atlanta.

c. **WAF Committee website update:** The AMS has made it much easier for us to have control over our committee's website (<http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/committees/committee-on-weather-analysis-and-forecasting/>). Kevin Scharfenberg is our webmaster and we talked about perhaps adding our photos to the site, for those so inclined. The newer capabilities, the content management system will be available in March 2013. These will include inline editing, image manipulation, and a full mobile administrative interface.

d. **Encouraging award submissions and AMS Fellow nominations:** Peter Neilley had initiated our active involvement in proposing Fellow nominations in 2011. I failed to follow up on this last year. It turns out that our Committee Terms of Reference stipulate that we are "to recommend to the AMS Council, each year" nominees for the ESP, Mitchell Awards, other special awards, and Fellows. I took an action item to further investigate these matters and ensure we are involved. Also, regarding Fellows, this link is informative on the nomination process:

<https://www.ametsoc.org/awards/fellowsnominationprocedure.html>

e. **Joint conferences with other committees:** AMS encourages committees to pair up with others for joint conferences. It lowers the AMS cost for conferences. However, we have a large enough conference that it is fine for us to have our own WAF/NWP conferences. In the past year, in addition to our joint conference with CMOS, we were approached by Mountain Meteorology (this did not come to fruition) and we assisted in setting up a panel discussion on Data Assimilation with the 3rd R2O Conference in Austin.

f. **Administrative matters:**

(1) Most agreed that we needed to have at least three conference calls per year, perhaps every fourth month. These are separate from the conference calls that will take place in planning for the WAF/NWP conference in Atlanta.

(2) I'll continue to copy committee members on correspondence I have with STAC or AMS on various matters to keep all aware of various matters that arise.

Submitted by Bruce Telfeyan
WAF Committee Chair
January 25, 2013