

AMS STAC Board/Committee Chairs Call

April 30, 2019

2-3pm Eastern Time

Agenda

1. Opening remarks
2. STAC Board/Committee Centennial Activities
3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities
4. STAC level awards
5. AMS Resources (e.g., AMS Community, website, zoom)
6. AMS Annual Meeting overview/reminders
7. Open discussion

Opening remarks

- Genene Fisher, STAC Commissioner, thanked everyone for all the time and effort they put in volunteering as chair and vice-chair. Forty four people dialed into the conference call--thank you!

STAC Board/Committee Centennial Activities

- AMS has already been communicating a lot of information on how you can get involved with the centennial. If you haven't already, go to the AMS homepage and you'll see "centennial on the top bar." Then you'll see some of the activities that have already been done and some that are being planned.
- On April 10, Jen Ives sent out a message to the annual meeting program chairs and provided suggestions on how to incorporate history or future of AMS:
 - AMS is celebrating its centennial at the 100th Annual Meeting and we would like your conference to help us by incorporating the theme of history and/or the future of AMS into your planning. You are invited to incorporate your history (that of your conference, your field, or AMS) into your conference:
 - A few words/slides during opening remarks
 - A few words/slides during closing remarks
 - Special oral session
 - Special poster session
 - Invited presentation
 - Video presentation
 - Competition
 - Please feel free to do as little or as much as you'd like. Once you choose the best way to incorporate the AMS Centennial into your conference, we ask that you fill out the form here: forms.gle/G7zzJc7bYneM8xpJ7 so that we can include details in your call for papers/conference announcement and website. Your lead planner, along with Jen Ives can help you develop a blurb for this.

- If you are planning a special centennial session and would like to solicit abstracts for that session, please add the session topic/title into Confex by 1 May.
- Open Discussion on Centennial activities
 - Several committees discussed organizing a history session as part of their conference (e.g. AI, Environment & Health, WAF/NWP, Polar Meteorology, Radar, Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions).
 - AI Committee is organizing two oral sessions, one on the past and one the future. They are talking to past conference chairs to gather information.
 - AI and Probability & Statistics Program Committees are looking to organize a History of Women session. EIPT expressed interest in this joining.
 - EIPT Program Committee is looking at 36 years of abstracts and finding common themes to see how much they have changed.
 - Measurements Committee plans to work with the exhibitors on a way to highlight the history of measurements.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Activities

- The AMS Council Ad Hoc Task Force on DEI has been working on a report with recommendations for the Society. This report will be presented to the Council in September and we should be hearing a lot more then.
- However, in the meantime, there are actions that the boards and committees can take now.
 - For memberships:
 - Make sure your B/C membership includes a diversity of people (age, gender, race, nationality, ethnicity, physical ability, discipline, sector etc.)
 - All B/C should have a student representative and we would like to encourage you to include one or two Early Career Professionals. Bruce, Ankur, and I will be reaching out to our assigned B/C and asking to see who is interested in adding an early career professional. Then AMS can reach out to the ECP mailing lists to see who is interested.
 - For meetings:
 - Encourage session chairs to cast a wider net to advertise the conference theme.
 - Encourage presenters to explore the social relevance of their work, including its relevance to historically marginalized communities.
 - Cast a wider net for invited presentations (diverse group that includes people from all genders and ethnic backgrounds).
 - Integrate learning and leadership on a DEI topic into the science sessions
- Emily Fischer from Colorado State University shared information about a session she held aimed at reducing gender-based harassment on field campaigns.
 - She used harassment training material adapted from ADVANCEGeo. Other intervention measures included codes of conduct and handouts. Pre and post campaign surveys showed the importance of the issues and value and impact of the training.
 - Results of this work were presented at the AMS Annual Meeting through a poster session and lunch meeting. Next steps include more lunch programming, train PIs to train their teams, and on boarding more field campaigns.

- This presentation led to much discussion. It was mentioned that NSF is accepting proposals for research on sexual harassment. It was suggested that program committees pay attention to who is on the meeting panels—make sure the panels are diverse.
- It was acknowledged that discussing DEI and harassment issues depends on the comfort level of those involved in the planning. Being honest and discussing is a first step.
- Emily concluded with recommendations for AMS B/C: 1) the lunch format worked well and B/C should consider that, 2) add a DEI research talk in a science session, rather than holding a parallel session, 3) reach out to ADVANCEGeo to organize a train the trainer session, and 4) identify presenters for DEI talks in science session by looking at other DEI meeting programs.
- Overall, this was a great discussion and STAC will continue sharing ideas on how to best highlight DEI topics and integrate into B/C meetings and activities.

STAC level awards

- To recognize individuals whose outstanding contributions further the goals of the STAC, the Society has established STAC level awards.
- The process can be found on the STAC webpage, under the “Chair & Member Information” tab
- <https://www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/stac/chair-member-information/awards/stac-board-and-committee-awards>
- The nomination must be received by the STAC Commissioner no later than 1 October during the same calendar year as the call for nominations was announced. Nominations due October 1, 2019.
- There are three types of awards for which each board or committee can submit a nomination:
 - Outstanding Early Career,
 - Distinguished Scientific/Technological Accomplishment, and
 - Outstanding Service.
- This award is only offered every other year. This is our second instance of offering this biennial award opportunity. In the 2017 award cycle, we presented ten awards and we anticipate that many more boards and committees will submit nominations this year. Please work within your board or committee to ensure your group takes advantage of this opportunity.

AMS Resources (e.g., AMS Community, website, zoom)

- Encourage your B/C to use the AMS Community. It’s an excellent way to communicate and keep all your discussions and documents in one place. You can select the settings to be real-time so you will receive the message as soon as it’s sent. Please note that Jordan has left AMS and if you have any questions about the Community, please contact Beth Farley, Director of Member Services.
- On April 8, Brian Mardirosian posted on the STAC Chairs Community that you have access to a zoom account for your B/C calls.
- On March 25, Brian posted that there is a new Web Editor Request form to obtain website editing permissions for any of your members who you would like to help manage your B/C website. Please let the STAC Commissioner know if you’d like to add a web editor.

AMS Annual Meeting overview/reminders

- Claudia Gorksi, Director of AMS Meetings, provided some reminders.
- April 30 was the deadline for the program chair funds request. Typically these funds are used for student awards, student travel, waiving invited speaker abstract fees, etc. If you still have not submitted this form, please talk to your meeting planner as soon as possible.
- May 1 was the deadline for initial session topic proposals—AMS understands these may change.
- August 1 is the abstract deadline. August will be a very busy month for program chair as they are organizing the conference. Please reach out to your lead meeting planner for any help and questions.
- October 1 is the deadline for requesting space for your STAC B/C to meet during the Annual Meeting.

Open discussion

- No issues presented