

**American Meteorological Society (AMS)**  
**Scientific and Technological Activities Commission (STAC)**  
**April 2020 STAC Newsletter**

**AMS and COVID-19**

AMS has been impacted by the pandemic as all of us have been. The AMS staff is teleworking and you can reach them via email or phone (messages will be delivered by email). As many of you are aware, several conferences have been rescheduled (latest updates can be found [here](#)).

During this time, AMS has identified a number of ways to learn and connect with your fellow AMS members and meeting attendees online, such as:

- Join the discussion and connect with fellow members virtually on the [AMS Community](#).
- Explore a new field or brush up on yours in AMS [Journals Online](#); all content free & open access through 30 June in support of researchers & students working from home
- View over ten years of recorded meeting presentations for free on our [archived presentations page](#)
- Consider [organizing a webinar](#) around a topic of interest to the AMS community
- Speaking of webinars, did you know we have over [50 recorded webinars available in our webinar directory](#)?
- Work toward completing an application for an [AMS certification](#)
- Give back by becoming a mentor through the [Mentoring365](#) or [Board of Private Sector Meteorologists](#) mentoring programs
- If you have extra time on your hands, please consider nominating a deserving colleague for an [AMS Award](#)
- We also have two podcast series for you:
  - [AMS on the Air](#)  
Bringing you cool stories, news, and research in the weather, water, & climate community, focusing on conversations with the people who make it all happen.
  - [Clear Skies Ahead](#)  
Learn about careers in meteorology and beyond. Join AMS as we talk to experts working in the weather, water, and climate sciences.

**Society Awards and Fellow Nominations**

The May 1 deadline for submitting Society Awards and AMS Fellow Nominations is fast approaching. Each STAC B/C should encourage colleagues to nominate deserving individuals or groups for these awards and recognition. Also, B/Cs might consider nominating a worthy individual as an AMS Fellow. Further information on AMS awards can be found at <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/> Note that the Society's lectureships are now intended to recognize *outstanding mid-career scientists*. Mid-career is nominally taken to include scientists who are within 10 to 20 years beyond earning their highest graduate degree or within 15 to 25 years beyond earning their baccalaureate. Consideration will also be given, however, to those who are still in the middle stage of their careers but have seen these interrupted for up to 5–10 years by military service, or family and career circumstances.

Roger Wakimoto, AMS Past President, held a call with STAC Chairs on April 7 to discuss insights and tips on writing nominations and his summary can be found [here](#).

## **Call for Nominations for Culture and Inclusion Cabinet**

In January, the AMS Council established a new Culture and Inclusion Cabinet (CIC) and is now soliciting nominations (self-nominations are also welcome) from both current AMS members and non AMS members with demonstrable experience and investment in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Early career-members with a commitment to DEI are also strongly encouraged to apply. The role of the CIC is to accelerate the integration of a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging and accessibility across the AMS and evaluate and assess progress towards culture and inclusion strategic goals within the Society.

Nominations should include: A brief statement (300 words or fewer) describing (1) the motivation for serving as a Cabinet member, (2) goals for this service, and (3) the specific skills, qualities, and/or perspectives you will contribute to the CIC; A brief, bulleted list documenting and illustrating the track record of DEI supporting activities, including the impact of these efforts, relevant leadership, and/or collaborative roles and any training that has been completed. Please direct nominations and self-nominations, along with any questions to Melissa Burt ([Melissa.Burt@colostate.edu](mailto:Melissa.Burt@colostate.edu)). Evaluation of nominations will start on May 1.

## **2021 Annual Meeting**

For the 2021 Annual Meeting, we'll return to one of favorite cities, New Orleans with the theme of [Strengthening Engagement of Communities through our Science and Service](#). We plan to build on the success of the 2020 meeting by using your feedback on what worked and what needs improvement. As you give thought to developing topics and engaging volunteers to bring this meeting to life, please keep in mind our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion – we should reflect the society we seek to serve.

The first 2021 Annual meeting program chair preplanning meeting will be on Tuesday, 28 April at 1pm Eastern time. The agenda and dial-in details will be shared on our 2021 Program Chair Community Page. Please reach out to the meetings staff ([meetings@ametsoc.org](mailto:meetings@ametsoc.org)) if you are having trouble accessing our Community Page since this will be the main source of communicating with all chairs as we plan the meeting.

## **Web Editor Requests**

Brian Mardirosian, AMS Digital Products and Design (DPaD) Director, shared the following news: For requests for committee members to be web editors for your B/C, please send your requests in via the [Web Editor Request](#) form. Staff are watching for incoming requests, and the goal is to have all requests completed within a few business days. Additionally, automatic web editor access is in place for all B/C chairs, co-chairs, and other leadership positions. More to follow regarding other improvements coming later this year.

## **STAC Membership**

B/C Chairs and Vice-Chairs should review their updated 2020 membership rosters on their web pages at <http://www.ametsoc.org/stac> and report any corrections to Erica Callahan, [ecallahan@ametsoc.org](mailto:ecallahan@ametsoc.org). In response to the spam activities that many of us have experienced, AMS staff is working to remove e-mail addresses from the rosters. As a result, we will need to make greater use of the AMS Community to reach out to our B/C members.

**Commissioner:** [Genene Fisher](#)

**Past Commissioner:** [Bruce Telfeyan](#)

**Incoming Commissioner:** [Ankur Desai](#)