

August STAC Newsletter

The hotel information and reservations for the 95th Annual Meeting are now online at <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/hotels-travel/>. The Sheraton Phoenix Downtown is the headquarters hotel.

Annual Meeting student funding opportunities: Updated guidance on student funding opportunities to attend the Annual Meeting will soon be provided to the STAC Board and Committee chairs. Students should contact their chairs for copies of this guidance. The current list of conference and symposium award opportunities is posted at the following AMS web site: <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/information-for/students/student-award-opportunities/>. Information on travel grants can be found at: <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/>. The deadline for application for these grants is **October 3rd**. There are also student work opportunities for the Annual Meeting. We have asked the AMS to give priority to those students who are members of one of the STAC boards or committees. For additional information, students can contact Donna Fernandez, 617-227-2426 ext. 3907; e-mail: dfernandez@ametsoc.org.

Employment opportunities: The AMS Board on Higher Education, Board for Operational Government Meteorologists, and Weather Analysis and Forecast Committee will host a panel discussion during the week of AMS Annual Meeting regarding employment opportunities and challenges for newly graduated meteorologists. Panelists from government and private sectors will be on hand to provide insight on where job opportunities are opening up and what future indicators are suggesting for the next several years. Short talks will be given by each panelist, along with a Q&A session at the end. Areas to be addressed will include: additional skills that make a new B.S. holder more competitive in the job market, tips on finding job opportunities, additional strategies to enhance your potential for employment, and benefits of additional education. All members of the AMS community, including undergraduate and graduate students, post docs, and early career professionals are encouraged to attend this one hour town hall meeting to be held Wednesday, January 7, 2015; 12:15–1:15 p.m. For additional information, please contact R. Bruce Telfeyan (e-mail: r_bruce.telfeyan@us.af.mil).

Geoscience Visits Day on Capitol Hill on September 16-17, 2014: The American Meteorological Society (AMS) Policy Program seeks member volunteers for a Congressional Visit Day (CVD) focused on the geosciences. Participants for the CVD will be selected based on area of expertise, geographic location of residence, and potential to contribute to the federal policy process, among other factors. The purposes of this event are 1) to give scientists an opportunity to learn about Congress, 2) to build relationships between scientists and Congressional offices, and 3) to help make sure that Members of Congress and their staff have access to the best available scientific information relating to weather, water and climate. This AMS Policy Program event is non-partisan. Information provided to Congressional offices will

be policy relevant but not policy prescriptive. A mandatory training session will take place on Tuesday, September 16, in Washington, DC. The Hill meetings will take place Wednesday, September 17 from about 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, with exact schedules to be provided just prior to the event. Participation in Congressional Visit Day is a great opportunity for experts in our community to interact directly with Congressional members and staff. It is an invaluable experience for those who would like to learn more about and have greater involvement in the policy arena. AMS is not able to provide financial support for travel and lodging expenses for this event. To apply, visit: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/policy/get-involved/participate-in-a-congressional-visits-day/geoscience-day-on-capitol-hill/>. Please include name, email address, job title, organization, address of residence (to determine Congressional district), and a short biography (no more than 200 words). The application deadline is August 15th. Contact Paul Higgins, phiggins@ametsoc.org.

American Meteorological Society's 2016 Annual Meeting: President-elect, Sandy MacDonald and his organizing committee are actively planning for the meeting. The theme will be, "Earth System Science in Service to Society". The meeting will be held January 10-14, in New Orleans, Louisiana. A summary of the theme can be obtained from Mary Cairns. The organizing committee is seeking ideas on how STAC Boards and Committees can incorporate this broad topic in their conferences and symposiums. This theme is not meant to be overly restrictive. Contact Mary Cairns at cairnsmm@gmail.com.

Participating in the 2016 Annual Meeting: STAC Board and Committees intending to participate in the 2016 Annual Meeting should inform Claudia Gorski of this intent as soon as possible. A tentative list has been assembled based on e-mails received and a history of committees that traditionally meet at the Annual, but Chairs should confirm their intent. Once a complete list is in hand, Claudia Gorski will contact Chairs seeking Call for Papers. Contact Claudia, cgorski@ametsoc.org.

The 14th AMS Atmospheric Radiation Conference was held jointly with the 14th Cloud Physics Conference from July 7-11, 2014 in Boston, MA at the Westin at Copley Place. 515 abstracts were submitted to both conferences combined, a slight increase from the previous meeting. Several events distinguished this particular meeting. The Anthony Slingo Symposium on July 8th drew invited talks from ex-colleagues and students covering Tony Slingo's observational and modeling contributions to atmospheric radiation and large-scale climate, with a lunch-time talk by Julia Slingo, Chief Scientist of the UK Met Office. On July 9th, the Sean Twomey named sessions celebrated his contributions to radiative transfer theory and retrieval development, and the development of susceptibility concepts by which we still seek to quantify aerosol effects on clouds. On July 10th, Naomi Oreskes, science historian, provided a well-received lunch-time talk on her book "Merchants of Doubt: How a handful of scientists introduced doubt into the climate change debate". The next meeting is anticipated to be held four

years from now, again jointly between the two committees. Paquita Zuidema, pzuidema@rsmas.miami.edu.

The **14th Conference on Cloud Physics** took place in Boston during July 7-11, 2014. This conference continues a successful partnership with the 14th Atmospheric Radiation Conference, which was held in the same facility. The Cloud Physics Conference had about 260 attendees, which was a slight increase (Chair: Jorgen Jensen, NCAR/EOL and much help from AMS staff Marjorie Huntington, Brenda Ward, Jennifer Ives and others). Apart from discipline specific sessions on Cloud Physics extending over observations, laboratory experiments and numerical modeling, there were several joint sessions between the two conferences. These included the Tony Slingo Symposium, which honored the late British scientist for his work on clouds, radiation and climate. A lunch talk on Tony Slingo's work was given by Julia Slingo, the current Chief Scientist of the UK Met Office. In addition there were several invited talks given by Tony Slingo's UK and American co-workers. A joint named session, the Sean Twomey Session, was held to honor the late meteorologist for his pioneering work on aerosol-cloud interaction and on radiation retrievals. The Cloud Physics Committee and other attendees also formed a committee to judge the best student presentation (oral or poster). This years winner of the Peter V. Hobbs Prize was Ms. Zhujun Li from University of Miami, for a talk on dynamical forcing of precipitation cold pools. The meeting also featured a lunch talk on the political aspects of the current climate debate by Naomi Oraskes (Harvard) titled "The Merchants of Doubt".

Just prior to the Cloud Physics Conference, a 2-day Workshop on Data Analysis and Presentation of Cloud Microphysical Measurements, was hosted at MIT for about 80 observational cloud physicists (Chair: Darrel Baumgardner). Although this was not an AMS activity, it highlighted the importance of the AMS Cloud Physics Conference to serve as a nuclei for bringing together scientists for in-depth discussions on related matters. Jorgen Jensen, jbj@ucar.edu

Glossary of Meteorology – An Update: Many of you may already be aware of the importance of your Boards and Committees in the review of new or revised terms for the online Glossary of Meteorology (GoM). In case you were wondering in 2014 so far we have added five new terms, revised five, and nine terms are in the process of either adding or revising. Since May 1, the GoM has been accessed over 46,000 times! Thank you – your efforts have been commendable! Mary Cairns, cairnsmm@gmail.com.

Upcoming Meetings:

16th Conference on Mountain Meteorology, 18-22 August 2014, San Diego, CA

19th Biennial Joint AMS/AGU Heads and Chairs Meeting: Best Practices: Meeting the Challenges Facing Academic Geoscience Programs, 16–17 October 2014, Boulder, CO

27th Conference on Severe Local Storms, 3–7 November 2014, Madison, Wisconsin

Lecturer Nominations Reminder: Nominations are due October 1, 2014. For a description of the awards and the nomination form, go to: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-fellows-and-honorary-members/lecturers/>. Board and Committee chairs are strongly urged to seek nominations for these awards.