

## August 2015 STAC Newsletter

**12th Symposium on the Urban Environment:** The AMS Board on the Urban Environment and the International Association for Urban Climate partner every three years to develop a joint conference. The 12th Symposium on the Urban Environment was held jointly with the 9th International Conference on Urban Climate (ICUC9) in Toulouse, France from 20- 24 July 2015. Over the years, this joint meeting between AMS Symposium on the Urban Environment and the ICUC has become one of the premier urban climate related conferences that networks urban meteorology, climatology, and practitioners across the globe. This year, the 21st session of Conference of Parties on Climate Change Policies and Practice (COP21) will be held in Paris, France in November. Therefore, this joint conference had an additional focus of providing the state of the recent scientific advances as they pertain to climate impacts of urbanization. Specifically, the foci included its detection, attribution, impacts and representation in multi-scale studies. Additionally, global datasets were leveraged and careful study was made for transferring knowledge on climate change adaptation and mitigation in urban environments to different many stakeholders. There were a total of 4 plenary sessions, 72 sessions comprising more than 340 oral presentations, and two poster sessions containing more than 300 posters. Participants came from over 30 countries and an opening ceremony, reception in Town Hall, and an awards banquet made this a highly interactive and vibrant meeting. Dr. Fei Chen from NCAR was recognized with the AMS Board of Urban Environment Award. Student awards will be announced shortly. The program can be found at: <http://www.meteo.fr/icuc9/programme.html> . Dev Niyogi, [dniyogi@purdue.edu](mailto:dniyogi@purdue.edu), Jorge Gonzalez, [gonzalez@me.ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:gonzalez@me.ccny.cuny.edu) .

**16th Conference on Mesoscale Processes:** The Conference, co-chaired by Prof. Sue van den Heever and Prof. Zhiyong Meng, was held 3-6 August 2015 in Boston, Massachusetts. The meeting attracted a record number of abstract submissions (187) and attended by more than 160 people. There were sessions focused on a variety of mesoscale processes, including high-impact events, mesoscale predictability and convective-scale processes; and special sessions describing recent field programs. Invited keynote presentations were given by Professors Fuqing Zhang (Penn. State University), Dale Durran (Univ. of Washington), Russ Schumacher (Colorado State University), and Gretchen Mullendore (Univ. of North Dakota). A special evening session was also held with presentations by Morris Weisman (NCAR) on a historical perspective on mesoscale convective systems and Chris Nowotarski (Texas A&M University) on job seeking in the discipline. The conference featured very strong student and early career researcher attendance. Awards were presented for best oral presentation by a student (1st place: James Ruppert, Colorado State University; 2nd place: Brice Coffey, North Carolina State University) and best poster presentation by a student (1st place: Yunji Zhang, Peking University; 2nd place: Annareli Morales, University of Michigan for her Masters work at Colorado State University). An award for best presentation by a very early career researcher (defined by the AMS as someone within five years of completion of their highest degree) was also presented for the first time – the winner was Kristen Rasmussen from NCAR. Todd Lane, [tplane@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:tplane@unimelb.edu.au)

**BOGM Webinar:** The Board of Operational Government Meteorologists will present a webinar on research to operations on 25 August. Topics include: Evaluating the Usefulness and Usability of Different GOES-R Scanning Strategies at the Operations Proving Ground, Forecasting a Continuum of Environmental Threats (FACETs): The Science and Strategic Implementation Plan for a Watch/Warning Paradigm Change, Storm-scale Data assimilation and ensemble forecasting with the NSSL Experimental Warn-on-Forecast System for Ensembles, Derivation of Climatology – Based CONUS POP Guidance Grids, The Impact of Different Microphysics and Boundary Layer Parameterization on Storm-Scale Diagnostics in Convection-Allowing Models, An Introduction to the National Blend of Global Models Project, and Progress, Challenges, and Future Directions in Communicating Uncertainty. Register for the webinar at: <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/2524572523728855042> . Alex Tardy, [alexander.tardy@noaa.gov](mailto:alexander.tardy@noaa.gov) .

**Peter J. Lamb Symposium - Helping Africa to Help Itself:** A one day symposium to honor Pete Lamb's research legacy in Africa specifically and in regional climate studies more generally. will be held on Wednesday, 13 January, 2016, as part of the 96th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana USA (January 10-14). The call for papers can be found at: <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2016/index.cfm/programs-and-events/conferences-and-symposia/peter-j-lamb-symposium-helping-africa-to-help-itself/> . The deadline for abstract submissions is August 17. Randy Peppler, [rpeppler@ou.edu](mailto:rpeppler@ou.edu).

**AMS Web Site:** Take a look at the new AMS Web Site found at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org> . This new, cleaner interface makes it easier to navigate the site. For example, to reach the STAC site, click on “About AMS” on the blue banner, then select Commissions, Boards, and Committees from the list of topics on the left. The links to the six Commissions are the light yellow boxes in the center of the page.

**Annual Meeting Hotel Registration:** Registration for hotels is now open. Go to: <http://annual.ametsoc.org/2016/index.cfm/hotels-travel/> .

**STAC Membership Updates:** All Board and Committee chairs are reminded of the **1 October deadline** for updating their memberships. If you have any questions about membership, visit <https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/chair-member-information/membership/> or **contact me** directly. Dave Stensrud, [djs78@psu.edu](mailto:djs78@psu.edu) .

**Annual Meeting Student Funding Opportunities:** Student travel grants to the Annual Meeting will once again be offered by the AMS. To apply for a travel grant, go to: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/information-for/students/ams-student-travel-grants/> . The application deadline is 6 October. There are also student work opportunities for the Annual Meeting. For additional information, students should contact Donna Fernandez, 617-227-2426 ext. 3907, [dFernandez@ametsoc.org](mailto:dFernandez@ametsoc.org) .