

## December 2017 STAC Newsletter

**AMS Annual Meeting:** Please visit the AMS website to learn about the changes to the Annual Meeting in Austin. Presidential Forum speaker Richard Alley will give his talk on Sunday 7 January at 4 PM, shortly after the STAC Chair Meeting. There will be a special session on Monday during the lunch break on the recent hurricane season, as well as numerous other changes suggested by the community to enhance the quality of the annual meeting.

**STAC Membership Update:** We are well past the 15 November target date, but Dave, Genene, and I are still working with several Boards and Committees to pin down new and renewing members and student members. Especially important are the changes in leadership (Chair and Vice Chair) and we still await this information from several Board and Committees. Please work with us to finalize these updates. You will find the link to the STAC Membership Nomination Form at this site: <https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/chair-member-information/membership/> Please finalize your updates with Bruce, Dave, or Genene (the primary contact for your Board or Committee).  
Bruce Telfeyan, [rbt48@cox.net](mailto:rbt48@cox.net).

**STAC Annual Meeting:** The STAC Chair Annual Meeting is set for Sunday, 7 January, in Austin from 11 AM to 3 PM. It is absolutely vital that every Board and Committee of STAC have at least one representative at the meeting to help us set the course for 2018 (Vice Chairs are certainly welcome and encouraged to attend). Two years ago, we started hosting this meeting on Sunday and will continue what proved to be an effective practice. Also, we are developing the agenda for the meeting and seek your input for any topics you would like to have included. Please share your ideas with us! In order to foster collaboration and allow for synergy, we have arranged for the five other AMS Commissioners (Professional Affairs; Weather, Water, and Climate Enterprise; Publications; Education and Human Resources; and Planning) to give brief overviews of their activities.

**Program Chair Planning Process for Specialty Conferences and Symposia:** Also, on Sunday, 7 January from 10 to 11 AM, prior to the STAC Annual Meeting in Austin, Claudia Gorski will provide a brief overview on the planning process for AMS Specialty Meetings (Conferences and Symposia). This session is designed for conference program chairs (or those who would like to be). The meeting will cover the steps from the initial planning and site selection process through the conference and will cover the roles of the program chair, program committee, and the AMS Staff. The agenda and meeting location will be provided in December. Claudia Gorski, [cgorski@ametsoc.org](mailto:cgorski@ametsoc.org)

**Board and Committee Meetings in Austin:** Hopefully, your Board or Committee arranged to have a meeting while in Austin. Dave, Genene, and I (especially for the B/C for which we serve as your primary contact) will plan to stop by each meeting to answer any questions or help resolve any problems you may be experiencing. Our brief visits are not intended to intrude but rather be supportive. We are glad to serve as a conduit to the AMS Staff and help you accomplish your goals for advancing your piece of our science.

**AMS Elections:** The results have been announced and congratulations to the 2018 President-Elect, Jenni L. Evans. We also welcome the newly elected AMS Councilors: Melissa Burt, Jen Henderson, Gary Lackmann, Shirley Murillo, and Robert Henson. View the results at this link: <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-election-information/>.

**STAC Commission Awards:** A total of 9 boards/committees submitted nominations for the first-ever STAC Commission Awards (Air-Sea Interaction, Artificial Intelligence, Atmospheric Chemistry, Environment and Health, EIPT, Mountain Meteorology, Space Weather, Tropical Meteorology and Tropical Cyclones, and Weather Analysis and Forecasting). All of the nominations were of very high quality and were approved. Thanks to everyone who made the effort to recognize individuals doing outstanding work in your science community! Remember that these awards can be for outstanding early career, distinguished scientific/technological accomplishment, or outstanding service. The next opportunity to nominate worthy individuals in your community will be in 2019, with awards to be given out in 2020.

**STAC Fall 2017 Telecon:** Thanks to all who participated in our 20 Oct teleconference. It was great to have 30 of our 36 boards and committees represented. You can view the minutes at this link: [STAC B/C Chair Telecon, 20 Oct 2017](#)

**Conference Summary Reminder:** Please send summaries of your conferences and symposia to the Commissioner and post them on your B/C website. We will continue to share these summaries in this newsletter.

**Changes to AMS Awards for 2018:** AMS is initiating a streamlined award system starting in January. The new system is designed to be easier to use for both the nominators and award committees. There is an immediate impact on STAC the award committees for the eight awards for which we are responsible. Specifically, we will need to have our award committees formed by February 1, 2018. The awards/Boards and Committees involved are as follows:

The Charles L. Mitchell Award	WAF
The Award for an Exceptional Specific Prediction	WAF
The Francis W. Reichelderfer Award	WAF, BOGM, Coastal Env, Hydrology
The Helmut E. Landsberg Award	Board on Urban Environment
The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Biometeorology	Board on Atm Biogeosciences

Therefore, the Chairs of WAF, Coastal Environment, Hydrology, Urban Environment, and Atmospheric Biogeosciences should be recruiting members to serve on the award committees in January.