

American Meteorological Society (AMS)
Scientific and Technological Activities Commission (STAC)
June 2019 STAC Newsletter

STAC April Telecon: Thanks to board and committee (B/C) chairs/members who took part in our conference call on April 30. The notes from the call are at this link for your review:
<https://www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/stac/news-reports/monthly-stac-newsletter/april-2019-stac-teleconference/>

Invite AMS Award Winners to Talk at your Conferences:

AMS has again accelerated the award approval process in order to give conference program chairs the opportunity to invite award winners and new Fellows to present invited talks. If you have a conference later this year or at the AMS Annual meeting in January 2020, then be ready to involve AMS Award Winners in your conference schedules. With AMS Council approval pending, we expect the award winners to be public information by mid-to-late July.

STAC Level Award Call for Nominations:

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>

There are three types of awards for which each B/C can submit a nomination:

- Outstanding Early Career,
- Distinguished Scientific/Technological Accomplishment, and
- Outstanding Service.

This is a once every two years opportunity to recognize an outstanding performer in your particular sector of our science. This is our second instance of offering this biennial award opportunity. The nomination must be received by the STAC Commissioner no later than October 1, 2019.

Student Membership on Boards and Committees:

Boards and Committees without one or more student members should be actively seeking student members. Submit a CV and nomination form for your student members to your Commissioner. You can find the STAC board/committee nomination form at

<https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/chair-member-information/membership/>

Safe and Inclusive Meetings:

AMS is fully committed to safe and inclusive meetings for all – harassment, intimidation, or discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated. Please review the AMS statement on Safe and Inclusive Meetings during your next board or committee meeting and be sure to apply due diligence when you are approached by other science societies to participate in joint conferences. We need to be certain of their commitments regarding safe and inclusive meetings before developing any partnerships.

<https://annual.ametsoc.org/2019/index.cfm/about/safe-and-inclusive-meetings/>

Board and Committee Leadership:

If you are Chair of a STAC Board or Committee and will be rotating off in January 2020, now is a good time to begin identifying your successor. We all know that the Chair is the key for B/C activities. Identifying a new Chair at the last minute leaves the successor with little opportunity to learn the many responsibilities. Often a logical successor is the Vice-Chair, which is one reason why we encourage every board and committee to have a Vice-Chair as a way of training the next Chair. In terms of identifying the new Chair, there is not a set method and you have flexibility in how your B/C goes through the process. A current Chair might inquire among several members to see who is willing to take over as the new Chair. Other groups ask each member if they are interested in becoming the new Chair and then find a consensus across the B/C membership. Regardless of the approach you take, be thoughtful in developing a succession plan if you are stepping down as Chair next January.

STAC Board/Committee Rosters:

It is a good idea to check your B/C roster on the AMS STAC website. Erica Callahan (ecallahan@ametsoc.org) is the expert at AMS who will correct any errors that you find. We have noticed that some members are listed twice or have their status incorrectly shown (e.g., Member versus Vice Chair, etc.). Erica can fix this type of issue quickly. Also, for some members, their home address is listed instead of an office or department address. This is probably not what we want to have displayed and Erica will make any updated roster information you provide her.

New Member Orientation:

We recommend you send a copy of the Suggested Best Practices for STAC Boards and Committees document to any new/incoming members for their review. You will note in paragraph 8b of our Best Practices that this is already a suggested action. [STAC Best Practices Document](#)

AMS Webinar Program:

The AMS Webinar Program is now open for webinar proposals ([you can learn more about that process here](#)).

We would like to encourage you to use the AMS Community to brainstorm webinar topics and, perhaps, to connect with other subject matter experts who might help you put together a webinar proposal ([which you can submit here!](#)).

Commissioner: [Genene Fisher](#);

Past Commissioner: [Bruce Telfeyan](#),

Incoming Commissioner: [Ankur Desai](#)