

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

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

AMS is committed to advancing core values of diversity, equity, and inclusion across all aspects of the atmospheric, oceanic, and hydrologic sciences. For the latest statements and activities, see [here](#).

STAC May Telecon:

Thanks to Board and Committee (B/C) Chairs and Vice-Chairs who took part in our conference call on May 22. The notes from the call are at this [link](#) and the slides are [here](#) for your review.

STAC Level Award Call for Nominations:

The AMS Council approved our request to offer the STAC level awards as an annual opportunity. 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 from which each B/C can choose to submit their single nomination:

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

The nomination must be received by the STAC Commissioner no later than October 1, 2020.

Update on AMS Meetings and COVID-19:

The AMS has a [webpage](#) to share the latest on how the Society is adapting to the pandemic. On this website, you will find an update on AMS Meetings, as follows:

- [2020 AMS Washington Forum](#) will no longer meet in Washington DC 26-28 October 2020. The organizing committee is discussing the option of having a virtual meeting.
- [34th Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology](#) rescheduled to 9-14 May 2021
- [13th Fire and Forest Meteorology Symposium](#) rescheduled to 11-13 May 2021
- [34th Conference on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology/Fifth Conference on Atmospheric Biogeosciences](#) rescheduled to 21-23 June 2021
- [2020 Summer Community Meeting](#) has been cancelled
- [24th Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence](#) has been rescheduled to 12-16 July 2021
- [19th Conference on Mountain Meteorology](#) will now be held in a virtual format 13-17 July 2020
- [30th Conference on Severe Local Storms](#) has been rescheduled to 18-22 October 2021

As AMS plans for the 2021 Annual Meeting in New Orleans, they are taking COVID-19 into consideration and exploring different scenarios. Check this [website](#) for periodic updates. Note that the [Call for Papers](#) is now open through August 3. As a reminder, the theme of the meeting is [strengthening engagement with communities through our science and service](#).

Board and Committee Leadership:

If you are Chair of a STAC Board or Committee and will be rotating off in January 2021, 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) will correct any errors that you find. You will note that Erica has removed e-mail addresses from the member rosters. As some of you are aware, there were many instances of spamming and this action seems to have put a halt to these impositions. Please make use of the AMS Community to reach out to your fellow board and committee members.

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/>

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 allows both seasoned and first-time webinar organizers the opportunity to submit a proposal and receive help with the development, organization, and promotion of their webinar. If you are thinking about offering a webinar, the AMS Community is a great place to suggest topics to solicit help organizing and developing the content. You can learn more about the process [here](#).

Commissioner: [Genene Fisher](#);
Past Commissioner: [Bruce Telfeyan](#),
Incoming Commissioner: [Ankur Desai](#)