

March 2016 STAC Newsletter

Message from AMS President, Fred Carr: I would like to reinforce two ideas I presented to the STAC Chairs and the 2017 Annual Meeting Conference Chairs at the 2016 Annual Meeting in New Orleans. The first one is related to the 2017 theme “Observations lead the Way.” I would like each specialty conference during 2016 and at the Annual Meeting to convene a session on the greatest observational needs for the various disciplines represented at the conference. I recommend that conference chairs solicit presentations for this session from well-known observational or instrumentation experts. An effort will be made to harvest these observational needs from all conferences and produce a document that will be useful to policymakers. I should add that our Annual Meeting Program Committee is planning an Observational Symposium on Wednesday with short, high-level talks on the status of observations in 10-12 different components of the weather, water and climate enterprise. Thus we will be working with you during the year on coordinating the time of the various observational needs sessions.

Second, I would like to encourage conference chairs, in addition to waiting to see what topics arise in the abstract submissions, to proactively solicit special sessions on important or hot topics in the conference disciplines. Rather than increasing the workload of the program committee, you could ask a young scientist who is active in that topic to organize the session and recruit the leading authorities to speak. In this way, your conference would benefit from presentations from top scientists that might not otherwise attend the Annual Meeting. I would be glad to communicate with anyone who wishes to further discuss these suggestions.

Commissioner’s Report to the Executive Committee: The Commissioner’s winter report to the AMS Executive Committee is available at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/news-reports/stac-reports-to-council-and-ec/> . This report summarizes the STAC Annual Meeting in New Orleans in January. During the meeting, Commissioner Dave Stensrud asked the chairs to identify “What Works Well,” “What Needs Improvement,” and “What’s Missing.” The report lists the results of this exercise.

AMS Awards and Fellow Nominations: B/C members are reminded of the rapidly approaching May 1 due date for award nominations. Members should make a special effort to seek nominations. Submit nominations at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/awards/>. **Note that the nominations submission page will be unavailable until 28 March as the AMS upgrades to a new association management system are put in place, but after that date it will be ready to again accept nominations.**

Annual AMS Washington Forum: The Forum will be held at the AAAS Building in Washington DC, April 12-14. This event provides an opportunity to interact with policy makers in the Administration and Congress while exploring topics of relevance to the Enterprise. Under the leadership of Shawn Miller, the Board on Enterprise Economic Development has planned an exciting program, "*Leveraging Environmental Intelligence to Enhance Risk Management*." They have great speakers lined up including a keynote by White House Chief Data Scientist DJ Patil. Please check out the [program](https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/meetings-events/ams-meetings/2016-ams-washington-forum/) at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/meetings-events/ams-meetings/2016-ams-washington-forum/> to find more information and to register for the event. Shawn_W_Miller@raytheon.com

Conference and Symposium Reports: The following are links to 2016 Annual Meeting conference and symposiums summaries sponsored by STAC. Because of the large number of summaries, the Commissioners have chosen to publish links to the individual summaries.

13th Conference on Space Weather sponsored by the **Space Weather Committee:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/committees/committee-on-space-weather/news-and-announcements/13th-conference-on-space-weather-summary/>

11th Symposium on Societal Applications: Policy, Research and Practice sponsored by the **Board on Societal Impacts:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/boards/board-on-societal-impacts/news-and-announcements/board-on-societal-impacts-symposia-summaries-from-96th-ams-annual-meeting/>

18th Conference on Atmospheric Chemistry, 8th Symposium on Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions, and the Mario J. Molina Symposium - Summaries

IMPACTS: Major Weather Events and Impacts of 2015 sponsored by the **Board on Societal Impacts:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/boards/board-on-societal-impacts/news-and-announcements/board-on-societal-impacts-symposia-summaries-from-96th-ams-annual-meeting/>

Fourth Symposium on Building a Weather-Ready Nation: Enhancing Our Nation's Readiness, Responsiveness, and Resilience to High Impact Weather Events sponsored by the **Board on Societal Impacts:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/boards/board-on-societal-impacts/news-and-announcements/board-on-societal-impacts-symposia-summaries-from-96th-ams-annual-meeting/>

18th Conference on Atmospheric Chemistry, 8th Symposium on Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions, and the Mario J. Molina Symposium
18th Conference on Atmospheric Chemistry, 8th Symposium on Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions, and the Mario J. Molina Symposium: Sponsored by the **Committee on Atmospheric Chemistry:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/committees/committee-on-atmospheric-chemistry/news-and-announcements/18th-conference-on-atmospheric-chemistry-8th-symposium-on-aerosol-cloud-climate-interactions-and-the-mario-j-molina-symposium-summaries/>

Seventh Conference on Environment and Health sponsored by the **Board on Environment and Health:**

<https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/boards/board-on-environment-and-health/news-and-announcements/seventh-conference-on-environment-and-health-summary/>

Upcoming Meetings: Go to: <http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/meetinfo.html>