

## November STAC Newsletter

**Election results:** The results for the election of the 2015 AMS President-Elect (President in 2016) and Council are posted at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-election-information/>

**Best Practices Board:** The Commission on Professional Affairs has been charged with creating and establishing a Board to consider ratification or endorsement of standards and practices related to issues, products, services, needs, or concerns of interest to the American Meteorological Society and the sciences and constituencies it represents. The Board of Best Practices (BBP) will consider best practices across sectors of the weather, water, and climate enterprise; to identify and promote statements of scientifically-based standards and practices deemed sufficiently worthy of the credibility and reputation of the Society. Lans Rothfus will represent STAC on the new Board. Lans is a member of the Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee of STAC and Deputy Director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory. Jay Trobec ([jay@trobec.net](mailto:jay@trobec.net))

**Publications Commission Report:** The 2014 Publications Commission Report is posted at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/publications/ams-publications-commission-reports/2014-publications-commission-report/>. It provides a wealth of information on AMS publications including: annual submission rates for the last ten years, total submissions to journals for earlier this year, graphics showing declining processing and acceptance times, editing times, trends in articles and pages published, plus much more. It also includes a discussion of a Proposal to the Commission from the STAC Board on Data Stewardship on data citation, and progress toward developing a Journal of Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols. There is a section that discusses plagiarism and the forms it can take, and a tool that is being used to check for plagiarism. Bob Rauber ([r-rauber@illinois.edu](mailto:r-rauber@illinois.edu))

**Named Symposiums:** Last year a named symposium for Mario Molina was approved for 2016 Annual meeting. This symposium will be sponsored by STAC Committee on Atmospheric Chemistry. At the Council meeting in September, named symposiums for Peter Lamb and for Marvin Geller were approved. The STAC Board on Societal Impacts will host the Peter Lamb symposium. Normally, the AMS only has room for two named symposiums per annual meeting, but the program will support three in 2016.

**Severe Local Storms Conference:** The 27th AMS Conference on Severe Local Storms was held 3-6 November 2014 at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, WI. Program chairs were Karen Kosiba and Curtis Alexander. The conference was attended by 338 people, making 27th SLS the most attended SLS conference going back the inception of severe local storms as a specialty discipline within the AMS in 1960. There were four invited presentations, which included National Weather Service Director Dr. Louis Uccellini (Weather-Ready Nation), Dr. Morris Weisman and Dr. Louis Wicker (Modeling of Severe Storms), Dr. Howie Bluestein and

Dr. Josh Wurman (Radar Observations of Severe Storms), and Jim LaDue (EF-Scale Forum). Other conference sessions were dedicated to data assimilation, storm-scale modeling, storm-scale ensemble prediction, risk assessment, mesoscale convective systems, microphysics of severe storms and dual-pol radar, in situ observations of severe storms, lightning, and convective initiation. Other highlights of the conference included a special named session: “The 31 May 2013 El Reno, Oklahoma Tornadoes: A Tribute to Tim Samaras, Carl Young, and Paul Samaras,” which was dedicated to the legacy of Tim, Carl and Paul, who tragically lost their lives while deploying field instruments near one of the tornadoes on that evening. An informal tribute session was also held on Tuesday evening to honor the legacy of 10 people within the severe local storms community that had passed away since our previous conference in 2012: Dr. Ken Crawford, Alan Moller, Tim Samaras, Carl Young, Paul Samaras, Liz Quetone, Jon Racy, Jim Leonard, Dr. Pete Lamb, and John Cater. The informal tribute session was followed by and SLS conference tradition - “storm video night,” which was organized by Robin Tanamachi and Dan Dawson. Finally, awards were presented for the top three student oral and poster presentations. For the Student Oral Presentations: first place went to Alicia Klees from Penn State University, second place to James Kurdzo from the University of Oklahoma, and third place was awarded to Jeffrey Duda of the University of Oklahoma. For the Student Poster Presentations: first place was awarded to Eli Dennis from Lyndon State College, second Place to Bryan Burlingame from the University of Wisconsin, and third place to Christopher MacIntosh from North Carolina State University. The next AMS Conference on Severe Local Storms will likely be held sometime in late 2016. -Dan Miller, Chair, AMS Severe Local Storms STAC, ([dan.j.miller@noaa.gov](mailto:dan.j.miller@noaa.gov))

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

STAC Annual Meeting, January 3, 2015 in Phoenix, AZ.

95th AMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ, January 4-8, 2015.