

November STAC Newsletter

STAC Annual Meeting: The STAC Annual Meeting for Board and Committee Chairs will be held on Sunday, January 10th, from 11 to 3 PM. Traditionally this meeting was held on Saturday. This change was made after a survey revealed more than twice as many Board and Committee chairs will be able to make the Sunday meeting. Agenda and the meeting location will be provided in December. Dave Sensrud, david.stensrud@psu.edu.

Program Chair Overview: A brief overview will be given on the planning process for AMS Specialty Meetings. This will be held on Sunday, January 10th from 10 to 11 AM, prior to the STAC Annual Meeting. 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, Director of Meetings, cgorski@ametsoc.org.

2016 AMS Award Winners: Congratulations to the 2016 AMS Award Winners! Several STAC committees played important roles in reviewing nominations of some very deserving individuals. The full list of award winners and new Fellows can be seen at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/2016-ams-award-winners/>.

2016 Annual Meeting Conference and Symposium Programs: The Programs are now posted at: <https://ams.confex.com/ams/96Annual/webprogram/start.html>. For additional information about the program, contact Claudia Gorski, Director of Meetings, cgorski@ametsoc.org.

Forum on Observing the Environment: The 2-day Forum on Observing the Environment from the Ground Up will be held in Washington D.C. on March 8-9 2016. The Forum will be jointly sponsored by the American Meteorological Society and the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology (OFCM). Watch the AMS website for details in the coming weeks. Mary Glackin, glackinmm@gmail.com.

Ronald (Ron) W. Przybylinski Named Session Approved: A named session honoring the late Ron Przybylinski, former Science and Operations Officer, National Weather Service, St. Louis, MO was approved by the AMS Executive Committee. The Session will be hosted by the Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee at the 28th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting. The conference be held at the 97th AMS Annual Meeting, 22-26 January 2017, in Seattle, WA. Ron was committed to discovering more about the atmosphere through research, and applying newfound knowledge to improve the forecast process. Ron was primarily interested in bow echoes and quasilinear convective systems, along with heavy rainfall and winter storms. Ron helped test and evaluate the WSR-88D radars in the 1980s, and helped organize the 2003 Bow Echo and Mesoscale Convective Vortex Experiment. Ron received the NWA Operational Achievement award in 1989, the NWA Fujita Award for research in 2003, the Charles L. Mitchell Award from the AMS in 2012 for outstanding service by a weather forecaster, and the NOAA Distinguished Career Award in 2013. Ron was active in both the AMS and NWA, serving a term on the Severe Local Storms Committee of AMS, and two terms as a Councilor of the NWA. Andrew Molthan, andrew.molthan@nasa.gov.

2015 September Publications Commission Report to Council: The full report is posted on the AMS web site at: <https://www2.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/publications/ams-publications-commission-reports/>. A total of 3267 manuscripts of all types (including BAMS proposals) were received by the 11 AMS scholarly journals in 2014, an increase over the 3128 submissions in 2013, repeating last year's achievement of setting an all-time record high for yearly submissions to AMS journals. The average time to first editorial decision has remained below the PC goal of 70 days, but this year the PC conducted an extensive statistical study of this statistic, the results of which are summarized in Sec. 17 and Appendix F. Author success has maintained a near-constant 64%. Average production time has decreased from a high of 269 days in January of 2008 to 97 days in January of 2015, despite a large increase in submissions during the same period. In 2014, the number of published pages was 33,118, an all-time record. The number of published articles reached 2000, an all-time record. Expedited contributions (ECs) have been in place for four years. Of the ECs, about 65% remain ECs after first review and 35% are converted or rejected. Bob Rauber, r-rauber@illinois.edu.

2015 Mid-Year Report from the Commission on the Weather, Water, and Climate Enterprise to Council: The full report is posted at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/cwwce/index.cfm/reports-and-studies/cwwce-report-to-council-sept-2015/>. Highlighted activities include: the Board on Global Strategies (BGS) efforts to increase engagement with international community and to raise awareness of international opportunities, the International Committee on Weather and Climate Services (ICWCS) efforts to focus on developing countries, and the Forecast Improvement Group's (FIG) focus on making significant improvements in model forecasting. FIG recommendations including those which encourage focusing on a single global model and embracing more joint collaboration influenced the recent report from the NCEP review group. See: https://www.earthsystemcog.org/site_media/projects/umac_model_advisory/20150424_UMAC_Background_August_Meeting.pdf . Mary Glackin, glackinmm@gmail.com .

Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) and the AMS meet: One of the goals of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) as we approach our centennial celebration is to become more fully engaged and establish collaborations with international colleagues through interactions with their respective meteorological societies. During the week of October 12-18, 2015, representatives of the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) and the AMS met in Tianjin, China to promote future collaboration and information exchange between our societies, as well as common endorsement of statements, meeting cooperation, reciprocal membership, representation at each other's annual meetings, and publications. The CMS was very interested in learning more about our peer review and production process, and how we maintain high quality across our suite of journals. Much of the discussion at the meeting focused on journal publications. The AMS invited CMS representatives to attend our annual meeting and the Publication Commission meeting in Boston in May 2016. Bob Rauber, r-rauber@illinois.edu.