

November STAC Newsletter

Program Chair Planning Process for Specialty Meetings: On Sunday, 22 January from 10 to 11 AM, prior to the STAC Annual Meeting in Seattle, a brief overview will be given on the planning process for AMS Specialty Meetings (Conferences and Symposiums). 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, cgorski@ametsoc.org.

STAC Annual Meeting: STAC will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, 22 January, in Seattle from 11 AM to 3 PM. Last year we started hosting this meeting on Sunday and will continue what proved to be an effective practice. It is important that every Board and Committee of STAC have at least one representative at the meeting to help us set the course for 2017. Also, we are developing the agenda for the meeting and seek your input for any topics you would like to have included. Please share your ideas with us! Dave Stensrud, djs78@psu.edu.

2017 Annual Meeting: We are continually updating the 2017 Annual Meeting Web page: <https://annual.ametsoc.org/2017/>. Visit the page to learn more about the Presidential Forum, the listing of short courses that are being offered, and details for our presenting authors. Claudia Gorski, cgorski@ametsoc.org

2018 Annual Meeting: We are starting to work more closely on the 2018 Annual Meeting and are reaching out to participating conferences asking for their Call for Papers. Meghan Summers will be in touch with more details by email. Claudia Gorski, cgorski@ametsoc.org

2017 AMS Award Winners: Congratulations to the 2017 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://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/2017-award-winners-and-fellows/>.

STAC Semi-Annual Report to the Council: The Semi-Annual report has now been posted on our web site at: <https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/news-reports/stac-reports-to-council-and-ec/stac-report-to-the-ams-council-september-2016/>. Bruce.Telfeyan, rbt48@cox.net.

Named sessions approved Annual Meeting in Seattle: The AMS Executive Committee has approved the following Named Sessions for the Seattle Annual Meeting.

- **13th Symposium on the Urban Environment.** Named session: Robert Bornstein
- **13th Symposium on New Generation Operational Environmental Satellite Systems.** Named session: Gary Davis
- **28th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting/24th Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction.** Named session: Ronald W. Przybylinski

2016 September Publications Commission Report to Council: The full report is posted on the AMS web site at: <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/publications/ams-publications-commission-reports/2016-publications-commission-report/> . A total of 3436 manuscripts of all types (including BAMS proposals) were received by the 11 AMS scholarly journals in 2015, an increase over the 3267 submissions in 2014, 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 was 64.8 days, below the PC goal of 70 days. This is the second year the PC conducted an extensive statistical study of this statistic. Author success has maintained a near-constant 63%. Average production time has decreased from a high of 269 days in January of 2008. In April 2016, production time hit an all-time low of 67 days, despite a large increase in submissions during all these periods. In 2015, the number of published pages was 33,412, an all-time record. The number of published articles in 2015 declined from 2014, a result of a reduction in the backlog in production. Expedited contributions (ECs) have been in place for five years. The initial decision for these contributions was 45 days. The full report gives a complete summary of journal statistics and rankings. This report summarizes actions being taken by the PC to 1) differentiate AMS monographs and from special collections, (2) continue progress toward an AMS Journal of Atmospheric Chemistry and Aerosols, 3) increase submissions to WCAS, 4) reduce the tail of distribution of time to initial decision for AMS manuscripts, 5) modify the terms of reference for the journals so that they focus only on journal research topics and have a uniform structure and tone, and 6) diversify the editor pool.

Robert Rauber, r-rauber@illinois.edu .

Upcoming Meetings: <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/meetings-events/> .