

STAC Board/Committee (B/C) Chair Teleconference, May 19, 2017

Call in number: 866-939-8416, Participant Code: 4093786#

Attendees (X indicates dialed in):

Commissioner	Bruce Telfeyan	X
Past Commissioner	Dave Stensrud	X
Incoming Commissioner	Genene Fisher	X
Board on Environmental Information Processing Technologies	William F. Roberts	X
Board on the Urban Environment	Dev Niyogi	
Board on Data Stewardship	Mohan Ramamurthy	X
Board on Atmospheric Biogeosciences	Tim Griffis	
Board on Environment and Health	John Balbus	X
Board on Societal Impacts	Daniel Niefert	X
Committee on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology	Gabe Rothman	X
Committee on Applied Climatology	James Angel	
Committee on Air-Sea Interaction	Dave Richter	X
Committee on Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology	Cecilia Miner	
Committee on Artificial Intelligence Applications to Environmental Science	Philippe Tossot	X
Committee on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics	Tiffany Shaw	
Committee on Atmospheric Chemistry	Jonathan Jiang	X
Committee on Atmospheric Electricity	Geoffrey Stano	X
Committee on Atmospheric Radiation	Jui-Yuan Chiu	
Committee on Boundary Layers and Turbulence	Jeffrey Mirocha	X
Committee on Climate Variability and Change	Sumant Nigam	
Committee on Cloud Physics	Jennifer Small Griswold	
Committee on Coastal Environment	Andre van der Westhuisen	
Committee on Hydrology	John Eylander	
Committee on Laser Atmospheric Studies	Timothy Berkoff	
Committee on Measurements	Alexandra McCombs	X
Committee on Mesoscale Processes	Tom Galarneau	X
Committee on Mountain Meteorology	Ethan Gutmann	X
Committee on Meteorological Aspects of Air Pollution	Paul Bieringer	X
Committee on Meteorology and Oceanography of the Southern Hemisphere	James Renwick	
Committee on Middle Atmosphere	Amy Butler	X
Committee on Planned and Inadvertent Weather Modification	Masataka Murakami	
Committee on Polar Meteorology and Oceanography	Ryan Fogt	X
Committee on Probability and Statistics	Bob Glahn	X
Committee on Radar Meteorology	Ali Tokay	X

Committee on Satellite Meteorology, Oceanography, and Climatology	Fuzhong Weng	X
Committee on Severe Local Storms	Glen Romine	X
Committee on Space Weather	Richard Behnke	X
Committee on Tropical Meteorology and Tropical Cyclones	Zhuo Wang	X
Committee on Weather Analysis and Forecasting	Andrew Molthan	X
AMS Executive Director	Keith Seitter	X
Director of Meetings	Claudia Gorski	X
Coordinator of Executive Programs	Anne McDonough	X

Welcome:

Bruce Telfeyan welcomed all STAC B/C Chairs and representatives. He noted that having STAC teleconferences during the year was instituted last year and discussion at the Annual Meeting in Seattle indicated a desire for us to have several during the upcoming year.

We were honored to have AMS Executive Director Keith Seitter joined the conference call. Keith expressed thanks to all Chairs for their efforts on behalf of the Society and the outstanding work they do as volunteers. He noted that the role we all play in advancing our sector of the science is invaluable for the AMS.

- Bruce thanked those who represented their B/C chairs who were unable to dial in.

Main topics covered were as follows:

1. AMS Annual Award judging

- The work of the awards committees needs to be completed by June 9th
- Awards Oversight Committee can review all the decisions before the July 20 Council call for considering approval of all proposed winners
- Awards we help judge:
 - Outstanding Achievement in Biometeorology
 - Bernhard Haurwitz Memorial Lecturer
 - Walter Orr Roberts Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Sciences
 - Robert E. Horton Lecturer in Hydrology
 - Charles L. Mitchell Award
 - Exceptional Specific Prediction
 - Reichelderfer Award (in concert with Professional Affairs), and
 - Helmut E. Landsberg Award
 - Banner I. Miller Award (later in the year with Tropical Conference)
 - Award for Distinguished Science Journalism in the Atmospheric and Related Sciences (STAC Commissioner review only)
- Thought: use the comments link on the Awards page to share impressions
- <https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/information-for-award-committee-members/awards-report-form/>

2. STAC Board and Committee Awards

- <<https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/stac-terms-of-reference/stac-terms-of-reference-for-awards1/>>

- November 1 is submission deadline this year as the new program went into effect in March. It will be October 1 as per the ToR in future years.
 - These awards are an excellent way to recognize excellence in your discipline.
 - Nominations can be for early career and distinguished career recognition. Boards and committees should discuss potential nominees.
 - Typically, we do not offer a Committee Award to a nominee if he or she has received a higher level award. For example, if someone received a Rossby Award for their research, do not issue Committee award to him or her. If it's completely different kind of work, then it can be considered.
3. Some ideas for increased recognition and credit for Board and Committee Chairs (thanks to Sumant Nigam, CVC Chair, for initiating this discussion).
- Board/committee chairs do a lot of work and recognition can be lacking
 - Options for recognition: ribbon for chairs at Annual Meeting, waiving abstract fee at annual meeting, or free access to online journal closest to sub discipline
 - Recognition can also be for those on a statement drafting committee
 - Keith Seitter noted that currently certificates are sent out to those who have completed service on a board/committee; and chairs will get a small plaque in recognition of their service.
 - Bruce will touch base with Bill Mahoney (CWWCE Commissioner) and Maureen McCann (Professional Affairs Commissioner) to share ideas and find common ground with them. If you have further suggestions, contact the STAC commissioners.
4. Ideas for possibly increasing the AMS monetary support (\$1,500) for larger conferences
- Suggestion: If we assume 300 attendees is benchmark for the current \$1500 allotment. Dave Stensrud's thought is to scale this amount up by roughly \$5 per attendee so that it could reach a maximum of \$3,000 per conference with an attendance of 600 (at which point it would reach that maximum).
 - Can program chair funds be used for lunch sponsorship or student networking event? Bruce will address with the Council.
 - More money for bigger conferences is the goal.
5. New Point of Contact for Board/Committee staff support from AMS:
- Anne McDonough, 617-227-2426, ext 3903, amcdonough@ametsoc.org
 - AMS members need to update their AMS profile online if want to update their addresses
 - However, if STAC members have an address change, let Anne know so it's changed on AMS STAC webpage
6. Guidelines for requested named sessions at conferences and named symposiums:
- Up to two named sessions are allowed per conference (can be waived for three for compelling reasons). You need to fill out the named session

proposal form (<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/named-sessions/proposal-for-named-session/>) and forward to Bruce far ahead of time so named session can be included in your call for papers. A certificate for the honored person will be issued for presentation at the appropriate time (usually at the conference).

- Named symposia are meant for a small number of scientists who have a long, distinguished career and possibly will become (or already are) an honorary member. These requests need to be submitted by May 1st, about twenty months before Annual Meeting. They also can occur at a specialty conference separate from the Annual Meeting. Route these requests to Bruce (<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/named-symposia/proposal-for-named-symposium/>)

7. Do you have suggestions for adding to or improving the [STAC Board/Committee Best Practices](#) document?

- Bruce will add a section on AMS Award judging and on the STAC-level awards.

8. Webmaster issues or questions

- It is really desirable for each board or committee to have a webmaster separate from the Chair
 - Good duty for student representative
- Brian Mardirosian offered video of how to edit webpages available on YouTube at this link: <https://youtu.be/F8TNqpiuyXc>
- Someone noted that Brian (bmardirosian@amesoc.org) is very hard to contact. Bruce suggested sending your e-mail request mark as “high importance” (!). You can also try calling Brian at 617-227-2426, ext. 3962. Finally, feel free to contact Bruce or Genene if you need to get response.

9. Other topics mentioned in open discussion:

- Bruce mentioned that the committees/boards POCs are split among Bruce, Dave, and Genene. Check out paragraph 10 of the [STAC Board/Committee Best Practices](#) for the current lineup. Of course, always feel free to contact Bruce.
- STAC newsletter: consider sending the STAC newsletter to all of your members since our email group may not be up to date
- 5 year plan: This is good way for committees to look to the future and explore innovative ideas (will include in STAC newsletter). In the past this plan used to be a firm requirement, although it is no longer enforced. In Austin, we will discuss whether STAC should continue to pursue the plans. Here is a link to the plans from 2014: <https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/news-reports/stac-five-year-plans/>

- Bruce has been posting conference summaries on the board/committee webpages. Ideally, the webmaster for each B/C should post the summaries under the News and Announcements tab.
- STAC chair meeting at 2018 AMS Annual Meeting (Austin, TX) will occur 11am-3pm. This will not interfere with the Presidential Forum Sunday afternoon (4-5pm), annual review and reception that will follow.
- Ali Tokay suggested that B/C chairs should be someone who has experience in organizing a conference. The point is well taken as there certainly needs to be open dialogue between the conference program chair and the B/C chair.

In the aftermath of this telecon, please email [Bruce Telfeyan](#) with any other comments, suggestions, thoughts that come to you. I fully recognize that some of you may not have a chance to comment during the telecon but would very much like to have feedback from everyone. We'll plan for our next call after the AMS Commissioners and Councilors meeting probably in late September or early October.