

## STAC Board/Committee (B/C) Chair Teleconference, Oct 20, 2017

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

### Attendees (X indicates dialed in):

Commissioner	Bruce Telfeyan	X
Past Commissioner		
Incoming Commissioner	Genene Fisher	X
Board on Environmental Information Processing Technologies	Woody Roberts	X
	Nazila Merati	X
Board on the Urban Environment		
Board on Data Stewardship	Mohan Ramamurthy	X
Board on Atmospheric Biogeosciences	Tim Griffis	X
Board on Environment and Health	John Balbus	X
Board on Societal Impacts	Daniel Nietfeld	X
Committee on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology	Heping Liu	X
Committee on Applied Climatology	James Angel	X
Committee on Air-Sea Interaction	Henry Potter	X
Committee on Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology	Cecilia Miner	X
Committee on Artificial Intelligence Applications to Environmental Science	David Gagne	X
Committee on Atmospheric and Oceanic Fluid Dynamics		
Committee on Atmospheric Chemistry	Jeffrey Collett	X
Committee on Atmospheric Electricity	Eric Bruning	X
Committee on Atmospheric Radiation	Jui-Yuan Chiu	X
Committee on Boundary Layers and Turbulence	Jeffrey Mirocha	X
Committee on Climate Variability and Change	Sumant Nigam	X
Committee on Cloud Physics	Jennifer Small Griswold	
Committee on Coastal Environment	Andre van der Westhuysen	X
Committee on Hydrology		
Committee on Laser Atmospheric Studies	Sara Tucker	X
Committee on Measurements	Alexandra McCombs	X
Committee on Mesoscale Processes	Erin Munsell	X
Committee on Mountain Meteorology	Dale Duran	X
	Ethan Gutmann	X
Committee on Meteorological Aspects of Air Pollution	Paul Bieringer	X
Committee on Meteorology and Oceanography of the Southern Hemisphere		
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	Elizabeth Satterfield	X
Committee on Radar Meteorology	Scott Collis	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	Becky Selin	X

### Welcome:

I (Bruce Telfeyan) welcomed all STAC B/C Chairs and representatives. I 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 2017.

This will be our last joint discussion until we meet on Jan 7 in Austin TX.

- Thanked all the Chairs who participated today and those who represented their B/C chairs who were unable to dial in.
  - o It is really fantastic to have 30 of the 36 STAC Boards and Committee represented for the call with a total of 34 participants!

Main topics covered were as follows:

### 1. Items from September AMS Councilors and Commissioners Meeting

- o Requests for greater recognition for B/C Chairs
  - We received approval for our Chairs to have a ribbon for their nametag at the Annual Meeting and Specialty Conferences. It will read **BOARD CHAIR** or **COMMITTEE CHAIR**, as appropriate. When you register in Austin, make sure that it is appended to your nametag.
  - Our requests for waiving the conference registration fee and providing free online access to an AMS journal for B/C chairs was denied due to the budget problems that AMS is dealing with.
  - 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.
- o Recognition for drafting committee members for AMS statements was denied in terms of having the names of the authors listed with the statement. The rationale is that the statements are meant to be an AMS position and not attributable to an individual or named group.
  - However, letters of appreciation for the drafting committee chair and members can be provided. It will probably be up to the STAC Commissioner to draft them for the President's signature.
- o Increase in AMS cash allocation for largest conferences
  - o 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).
    - More money for bigger conferences is the goal.
  - o Action: none was taken. I learned the lesson that I need to have a Council Member on-board to advocate for initiatives like this.
  - o Can program chair funds be used for lunch sponsorship or student networking event?

- Yes they can. The STAC Commissioner has reasonable latitude to approve appropriate requests.
- Increased interaction between the six AMS Commissioners
  - Currently, there is very little. We meet once a year for about 3 hours at the September AMS Council Meeting
  - The other commissions are Professional Affairs; Weather, Water, and Climate Enterprise; Publications; Education; and Planning
  - There is a need for more collaboration
    - For instance a new AMS Statement on Water Resources in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century had no involvement at all from our Hydrology Committee
    - Also, we could plan more joint conferences and sessions with coordination between the Commissioners
  - I took the lead in terms of trying to set up an hour meeting for all six Commissioners in Austin and a teleconference during the year

## 2. STAC Board and Committee Awards

- <<https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/stac-terms-of-reference/stac-terms-of-reference-for-awards1/>>
- **November 15** 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.
  - **NOTE:** The next call for award nominations will be in **Jan 2019** as per our agreement with the AMS Council as reflected in the ToR
- 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.
- Zhuo Wang asked what we could do to publicize STAC Award winners
  - Ideas included AMS Soundings and a banner with the STAC winners at the Annual Meeting. Also, I can check to see if the Award Winners can be listed in the Award Banquet booklet.

## 3. STAC B/C membership updates—due **November 15**

- New member requests, use the [STAC Membership Nomination Form](#)
- Add new student members if you won't/don't have one (2-year term)
  - Each Board and Committee is required to have a student member!
- Consider second terms for members completing their initial terms
- New B/C chair designation (if the current chair is departing)

## 4. **STAC Chair Annual Meeting**, Sunday, January 7, 11 AM to 3 PM, Austin, TX) in the Hilton Hotel, exact ballroom to be announced. This will not interfere with the Presidential Forum Sunday afternoon (4 – 5 pm), annual review and reception that will follow.

- Please share your ideas for our agenda with me as the meeting is meant to address your needs and concerns! ([rbt48@cox.net](mailto:rbt48@cox.net))

**5. Program Chair training session for Conferences and Symposia**

- Sunday, Jan 7, 10 AM to 11 AM
- I will work with Claudia Gorski to obtain a soft copy of the training material for those unable to attend (idea from Zhou Wang)

**6. Board and Committee Meetings in Austin**

- The Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity for Boards and Committees to hold meetings. The AMS even provides a snack or meal with your B/C gathering. Even if only a portion of your B/C will be in Austin, this is a great opportunity to gather and discuss plans for the future. If your board or committee has not reserved a room for your meeting, try to get your request placed by **1 November**. Go to this link and fill out your meeting request (Function Type should be AMS Committee Meeting): <https://ams.confex.com/ams/98Annual/nontech/sessions/index.cgi>. Contact Jen Ives, [jives@ametsoc](mailto:jives@ametsoc), with questions.

**7. The Vice Chair position for Boards and Committees**

- Not mandatory but very highly encouraged for each Board and Committee
- The Vice Chair can be the future Chair but this is not required or necessary
- I've found that those B/Cs with Vice Chairs are much easier to contact and can help share the workload of leading your efforts

**8. New Point of Contact for Board/Committee staff support from AMS**

- Anne McDonough, [amcdonough@ametsoc.org](mailto:amcdonough@ametsoc.org), 617-227-2426, ext. 3903
- Erica Callahan, [ecallahan@ametsoc.org](mailto:ecallahan@ametsoc.org), 617-226-3914
- 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

**9. Guidelines for requested Named Sessions at conferences and Named Symposia**

- 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 be become (or already are) an honorary member. These requests need to be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup>, 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/>)

- This past year, there were 7 nominations for Named Symposia and 2 were approved for 2019 Annual Meeting

10. 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.

**11. 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>
- Brian now has an assistant to help with webpage issues. It is Evan Perriello at [eperriello@ametsoc.org](mailto:eperriello@ametsoc.org). Also, feel free to contact Bruce or Genene if you can't get the needed assistance.

**12. Board and Committee Five-year plans:** 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 require these plans. My inclination is to make it an option.
- For some B/Cs it has worked well as a way to plan future activities and to broaden horizons of what can be accomplished. However, I want to avoid adding to your responsibilities if you already have a good planning system in place.
- Here is a link to the plans from 2014:  
<https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/news-reports/stac-five-year-plans/>

**13. AMS Annual Award judging**

- The Awards Oversight Committee was especially appreciative of STAC's efforts this past year and thanked all who took part in judging.
- 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/>

#### **14. Questions or items for discussion that you wish to bring forward**

- The Radar Committee noted revisions to the AMS Statement on “Professional and Respectful Conduct at AMS Meetings” relative to their recent conference in Chicago, especially related to social media. Jen Ives (AMS Meetings Department) pointed me to the revised statement (<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/meetings-events/attendees/>) which the AMS Council approved during the Sept 2017 meeting. The Radar Committee is fairly active in Social Media and we appreciate their sharing news of the new guidelines regarding harassment, intimidation, or discrimination at conferences and on social media. Special thanks to Scott Collis for bringing this to our attention!
- Zhuo Wang asked about how we can publicize the winners of STAC-level Awards (refer to para 2, above for ideas).
- Zhuo also asked about getting training material for conference/symposium chairs for those unable to attend the Jan 7<sup>th</sup> training session. I will try to get a soft copy of the material from Claudia Gorski.

#### **15. Other topics mentioned at various times during our teleconference**

- I again noted that the committees/boards POCs are split among Dave, Genene, and me. Check out paragraph 10 of the [STAC Board/Committee Best Practices](#) for the current lineup. Of course, always feel free to contact me.
- STAC newsletter: consider sending the STAC newsletter to all of your members since our email group may not be up to date
- Please remember that you must create and share a conference/symposium summary shortly after any conference/symposium that you host.
  - I have been posting conference summaries on the board/committee webpages. I don’t mind doing this, but ideally, the webmaster for each B/C should post the summaries under the News and Announcements tab. Please let me know when this is completed and posted.

In the aftermath of this telecon, please email [me](#) 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 look forward to seeing many of you in Austin!

Best regards,

Bruce

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