

AMS Scientific and Technological Activities Commission (STAC)

Meeting for Chairs & Program Chairs

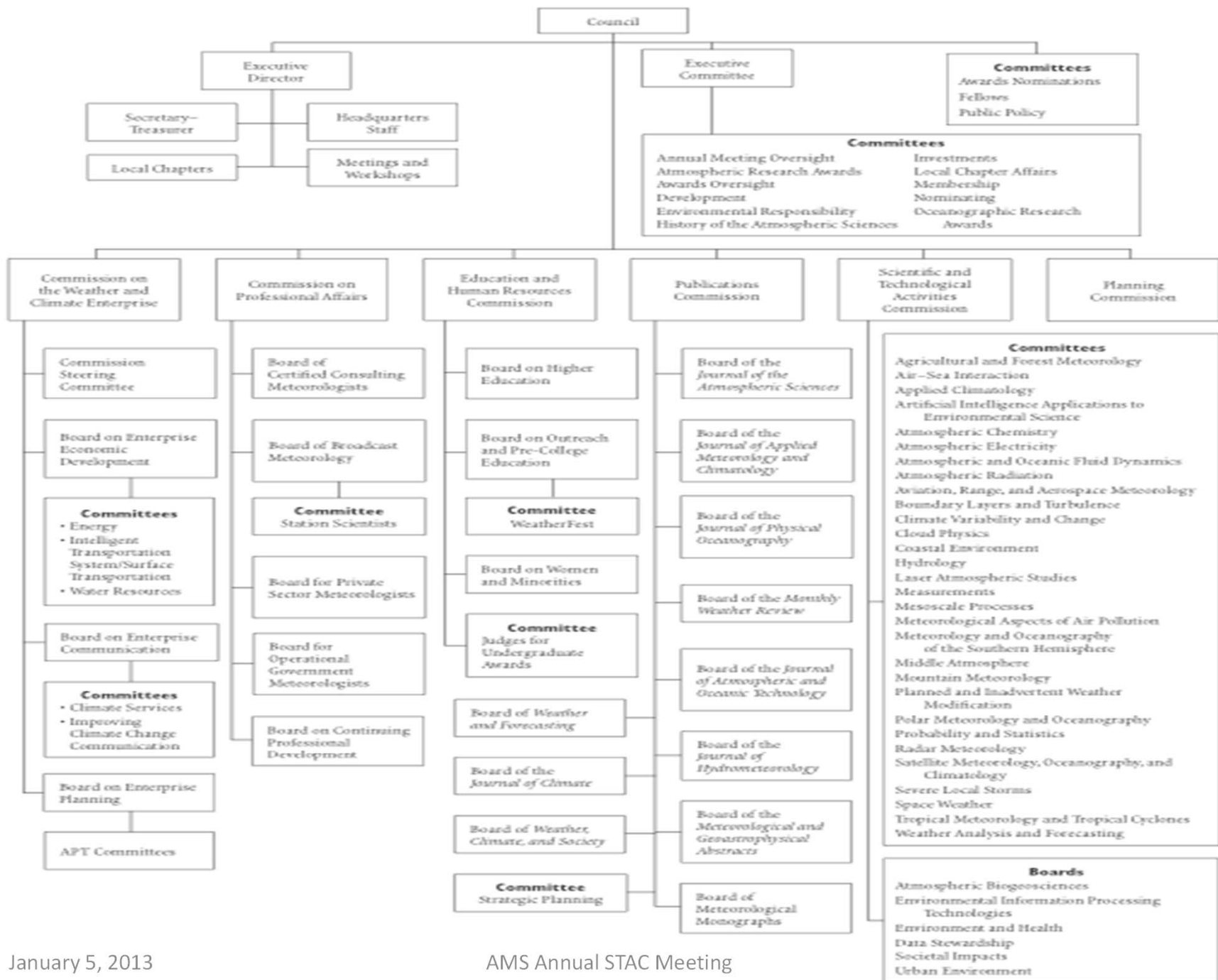
Mary M. Cairns
STAC Commissioner

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Review of Agenda
- Quick Roundtable
- STAC Presentation
- Annual Meeting Themes for 2014 and possibly 2015
- Discussion items
- 2:15p Meeting for Program Chairs

Scientific and Technological Activities Commission

- One of six Commissions (Professional Affairs, *Publications*, Education and Human Resources, *STAC*, Weather & Climate Enterprise, and Planning).
- Member of the Committee on Public Policy (ComPuP) (a continuing committee of the Council).
- Member of the Awards Oversight Committee (AOC) and Ex-Officio on the Annual Meeting Oversight Committee (continuing committee of the Executive Committee).



January 5, 2013

AMS Annual STAC Meeting

Authority and Responsibility of Commissions

- Report directly to the Council (responsibility to the EC).
- Each Commission reports to the Council Annually (mid-year report, except for STAC (December)).
- Commissioners are non-voting attendees at Council meetings.
- Commissions are generally constituted of various Boards and Committees.
- Commissions may establish special ad hoc committees and Boards (e.g., Statements, Ad Hoc Committee on Network of Networks)

STAC Purpose

- Keep watch on progress in research and operations.
 - As part of your current job
- Direct the Council on where additional support seems to be needed.
 - Propose and/or revise statements
- Stimulate activities in any scientific or technological subject of interest to the society.
 - Participate in/lead conferences, meetings, etc.

Overview of Responsibilities

(details to follow)

- Terms of Reference (3 years)
- Membership (yearly)
 - July – September
- STAC reports (yearly)
 - December 1
- Statements (as needed; valid up to 5 years)
- Awards and lectures (yearly with few exceptions)
 - May 1 (awards)/October 1(lectures)
- Named symposiums (as requested)
- Meetings/conferences (as requested)

Terms of Reference

- Statement of a groups focus and interest including responsibilities and actions.
- Reviewed on a regular basis
 - Committees should review yearly
 - STAC Commissioner will ask every 3 years if the TOR is still valid if I haven't heard anything from you
- Approved by the Council.

STAC Committee and Board Membership and Responsibility

- Members serve 1, 2, or 3-year terms (3 being the norm).
 - Can serve no more than 2 consecutive terms.
- **All** Boards and Committees will have student members.
 - Student membership is 1-2 years.
- No ex-officio members (current allowed to complete term).
- Nominations for new members – are made to the Commissioner (nominees do not have to be AMS members).
- Council approves ex post facto.
- Each STAC Committee and Board must report annually to the Council.
 - I provide an abbreviated report to the EC in the summer.

Membership Details

- Terms run from 1 February to 31 January (but you are welcome to entrain them into your discussions as soon as I approve of their membership). Note: there is a small chance that Council will disapprove of my recommendations.
- STAC Nominations/Renewal Process includes:
 - 1-page nomination form
 - Abbreviated CV is also required
- Chair should ask the nominee if they would serve **IF** asked.

Board and Committee Reports

- Due 1 December
- Word format
- Free style
 - Formal
 - Email
 - No length
 - No “musts” of content
- Should we go to a standard format?

Statements

- Three guidelines are now in place:
 - *Professional Guidance Statements* – to alert AMS members to urgent or important AMS, professional or scientific matters. In force at most 5 years. 1000 words.
 - *Information Statements* – intended to provide a trustworthy, objective and scientifically up-to-date explanation of scientific issues of concern to the public at large. They are informational only and do not make recommendations or take positions on issues. In force at most 5 years. 2000 words.
 - *Policy Statements* – policy statements are aimed at representatives of local, state, or Federal government, official of international bodies, and related policy professional. In force, at most 3 years. 750 words.

Statements (cont.)

- There are specific instructions on how a Writing Team can be assembled.
 - See AMS Statements web site
- **8 months** to complete the process.
 - After précis and writing team formed
- Statements in process this year (STAC focused):
 - Drought, Space Weather, Free and Open Exchange of Environmental Data, Social Sciences in the Atmospheric Sciences, Weather Analysis and Forecasting, Lightning Preparedness, Prediction and Mitigation of Flash Floods, Tornado Preparedness and Safety, Mobile Homes and Severe Windstorms

Statements (cont.)

- Brief request to EC, Council, or through me.
- If approved, draft précis posted and request for members at large.
- Proposed Chair(s) of team to Council; Councilor member designated to serve on team.
- Writing Team approved by Council.
- Complete draft.
- Council approves of draft.
- 30 day notice on web site.
- Comments adjudicated.
- Final Council approval and posting on web site.

Statements of the AMS in Force

- Please go to:
 - http://www.ametsoc.org/policy/amsstatements_inforce.html

Awards and Lectureships

- Several originate within specific STAC Committees.
- Specific STAC Chairs serve on a number of selection committees, some are done in collaboration with other Commission's Boards and Committees.
- You should feel free to, and in fact, you are encouraged to promote members from your respective communities for any AMS award.
- Council has asked that words should be added to your Terms that specifically state that your committees should be nominating Members for AMS Awards and Fellows.

Nomination Procedures (AMS Guidelines) – Awards and Lectures

- Nomination may be by any member or group of the Society.
- The nomination is to include a proposed citation and a condensed curriculum vita. Three additional letters of support are submitted with the nomination.
- Nominations will be active for three years, and updated information may be submitted for consideration in the second and third years.

STAC Specific Awards

- Helmut E. Landsberg Award - BUE committee & ex officio members (*BUE past Chair, Chairs of three other STAC committees: Biometeorology & Aerobiology; Boundary Layers & Turbulence; and Meteorological Aspects of Air Pollution*). **May 1 Deadline.**
- Awards for Outstanding Service by a Weather Forecaster:
 - Charles L. Mitchell Award (*WAF*). **May 1**
 - The Award for an Exceptional Prediction (*WAF*). **May 1**
- Reichelderfer Awards (*WAF, BOGM, Hydrology, Coastal Environment*). **May 1**
- Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Advance of Applied Meteorology (*Applied Climatology, Private Sector Board*). **May 1**
- Outstanding Achievement in Biometeorology (*Biogeosciences with input from Chair of Ag & Forest Meteorology Committee*). **May 1**

Specific Awards (cont.)

- Banner I. Miller Award (*Tropical Meteorology & Tropical Cyclones*). **November 1 deadline.**
- Student Prizes – names changed in September 2011
 - Robert Leviton (*Measurements*) Student Prize. **May 1 deadline.**
 - Max A. Eaton Student Prize (*Tropical Meteorology & Tropical Cyclones*). **Presented at the conference.**
 - Spiros G. Geotis Student Prize (*Radar*). **Presented at the conference.**
 - Peter V. Hobbs Student Prize (*Cloud Physics*). **Presented at the conference.**

STAC Commission Board and Committee Awards

- Board/Committee Awards should be designated as “the xxxx Board/Committee Award,” to clarify these are Commission-level, rather than Society, awards.
- Except for Named Student Prizes, Board/Committee Awards cannot be named for an individual and should not include a monetary prize.
- **The Commissioner established written terms of reference for Board/Committee Awards, reviewed by the Council every eight years.** This terms of reference list the general purpose and conditions for awards, such as for an exceptional career or accomplishment, with provisions for extraordinary cases.
- Board/Committee Awards shall consist only of an AMS-provided certificate.

Specific Lectureships

- Robert E. Horton Lecturer in Hydrology (*Hydrology*) **October 1 deadline.** Pending Council approval tomorrow for 2013.
- Bernard Haurwitz Lecturer (*Fluid Dynamics, Middle Atmosphere, Climate Dynamics*) **October 1 deadline.** Pending Council approval tomorrow for 2013.
- Walter Orr Roberts Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Sciences (*Chairs of STAC committees who submit nominations*) **October 1 deadline.** Pending Council approval tomorrow. [Note: No award this year.]

Named Symposia

- Honor our senior colleagues.
- Must be Honorary Member or equivalent status.
- Nominations are made 1.5 years in advance of the Annual Meeting (May 1 deadline).
- At this meeting (Austin) Robert Duce

Meetings – Specialty Meetings

- Claudia Gorski – Director of Meetings.
- Program Chairs meeting starting this afternoon (STAC Chairs are invited to stay).
- Overseen by STAC Committees and Boards.
- Work closely with AMS Staff.
- Some flexibility with budget and registration fees.
- Understand the global view of costs (e.g., some conferences operate at a loss).
- May be asked to consider joint conference or sharing a facility.
- Ask that future Program Chairs be appointed before current conference occurs.
- We host a Program Chairs meeting this afternoon.
- Post conference debriefs are done during Committee meetings as needed.
- **Comments from Claudia Gorski, Director of Meetings**

Meetings (cont.)

- Annual Meeting
- Overseen by STAC Committees.
- STAC Committees may chose to hold their Specialty Meeting at the Annual Meeting if desired, and are encouraged to be consistent with Overarching Theme.
- Alternatively, it is an opportunity to have a smaller symposium that allows STAC Committees to address topics that they often do not have time to discuss at the regular Specialty Meetings (similar to AGU's Chapman Conferences).
- It is an opportunity for several STAC Committees to join together to host a meeting on a topic that is interdisciplinary.
- STAC Committees need to, at the very least, become engaged in the planning process for the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meetings & Themes

- Austin 2013
 - Louis Uccellini, President
 - “Taking Predictions to the Next Level – Expanding Beyond Today’s Weather and Climate Forecasts and Projections”
- Atlanta 2014
 - J. Marshall Shepherd, Incoming President
 - “Extreme Weather – Climate and the Built Environment: New Perspectives, Opportunities and Tools”
- Phoenix 2015
 - William B. Gail, President-Elect

Meeting Discussion Topics

- STAC Commissioner structure changes
- STAC Web Pages
- Meeting funding requests
 - Details are needed
- Tiered abstract fees
- Glossary of Meteorology Update – Wiki format
- Open discussion

STAC Commissioner Structure

- Approved by Council in September 2012
- Added positions due to amount of activity and workload
- Past Commissioner
- Future Commissioner
- 2-year appointments; 6-year commitment
- Ward Seguin next Commissioner

STAC Web Pages

- New web pages
- Suggest all Boards and Committees appoint a “web focal point” within their membership

Meeting Funding Requests

- New request form completed this year, approved by Council
- Details are needed for approval
- Council denied increase in student award amounts (stays at \$200)
- Student awards and travel support should be put into Call for Papers, with additional detail posted to the Meetings web site
- AMS will set up a submission web portal
- STAC Commissioner approves all requests

Tiered Abstract Fees

- Issue: Continuous extensions to abstract submittal dates, taxes Program Committees with date for program publication
- Solutions:
 - Set hard dates, late submittals posters only
 - Charge nominal fees for late submittals (e.g., \$50)
 - Other?

Glossary of Meteorology Update

- Last updated in late 1990s
- Open to general public
- Council created new Chief Editor for GoM
- Wiki-based format
- STAC Boards and Chairs at center of process to accept modifications to, or new definitions, of terms
- More information forthcoming

Commissioner Contact Information

- Dr. Ward Seguin
- E-mail: ward.met@gmail.com
 - Best way to contact me
- Phone: (301) 774-2232

Next Steps

- Program Chair Meeting
 - Begins at 2:15 PM right here!

Questions?

- If no questions, then

– THE END