Summary
Seventh Conference on the Transition of Research to Operations [7thR2O]
2017 AMS 97th Annual Meeting – Seattle, WA

The 7thR2O Conference was held on January 22-26, 2017 as part of the 97th American Meteorological Society (AMS) Annual Meeting 2017, at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, WA. The 7thR2O Conference partnered with other AMS conferences/symposia in order to provide a lineup of ten (10) R2O-related or allied *Joint Sessions* – two Sessions Hosted by 33EIPT, three Sessions Hosted by 7thR2O, two Sessions Hosted by 13NGOESS and three Sessions Hosted by 8HEALTH.

The 7thR2O Conference included:

a.) Nine exclusive 7thR2O Sessions and two Joint Sessions in the 11 available session slots available in the 7thR2O Host assigned space on Tuesday through Thursday, January 24th through Thursday, January 26th (7thR2O Adjourned at 3:00 PM) consisting of 60 oral presentations filling all of the available slots
b.) *Poster Session* on Tuesday
c.) Joint Memorial Session with 13NGOESS - *The Gary K. Davis Session: National and International Program Overviews for Environmental Satellites* [with 125 participants]
d.) 7thR2O Hosted *Town Hall Meeting: NASA's Earth Science - Flight Program Investments in and Planning for the Next-Generation Earth Observatories – An Update*
e.) Ten partnered *Joint Sessions* over the four Annual Meeting days
f.) 7thR2O Sponsored *Student Competition for both Oral and Poster Presentation Awards*
g.) 7thR2O Joint Sponsorship and Mentoring in the *3rd Annual Student and Early Career Professional Speed Networking Event and Reception*

The 7thR2O Conference Committee in a collaboration with the NASA Earth Science and Technology Office and the NOAA National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service had two Joint Sessions with 13GOESRJPSS on Wednesday, January 25th related to new remote sensing technologies, observing techniques and developments with a strong emphasis on the Annual theme *Observations lead the way*, namely, *"Advances in CubeSats & SmallSats to improve Earth Science and Weather Forecasting" and "Advances in Satellite Observations for Earth Science and Observing Technologies"*. All eleven Sessions including the nine 7thR2O exclusive sessions on Tuesday through Thursday [with over 40 in attendance, on average] in the 7thR2O Hosted spaces were:

- *Testbeds, Models and Data Assimilation to Accelerate the Transition of Research-to-Operations for Weather, Water, and Climate*
- *Select Student Research for New Generation Environmental Remote Sensing and for Transitions of Research to Operations*
- *Considerations and Best Practices for the Transition of Research to Operations*
- *Earth Science Product, Model and Algorithm Improvements for Weather, Water and Climate*
- *Advances in CubeSats and SmallSats to Improve Earth Science and Weather Forecasting*
- *Advances in Satellite Observations for Earth Science and Observing Technologies: Part I*
- *Advances in Satellite Observations for Earth Science and Observing Technologies: Part II*
- *Advances in Satellite Observations for Earth Science and Observing Technologies: Part III*
- *Capabilities Enabling the Transition of Research into Operations Part I*
- *Capabilities Enabling the Transition of Research into Operations Part II*
- *Capabilities Enabling the Transition of Research into Operations Part III*

The 7thR2O Conference hosted a lunchtime town hall on January 24th presenting the annual status of the NASA Earth Science missions. The Town Hall was conducted by Eric E. Ianson, the Associate Director, Flight Programs, Earth Science Division, NASA Science Mission Directorate with over 105 registrants participating in this *Town Hall Meeting: NASA's Earth Science - Flight Program Investments in and Planning for the Next-Generation Earth Observatories – An Update* [with over 105 participants].

The 7thR2O Conference sponsored two student activities within its conference and the AMS Annual Meeting. Firstly, a Student Competition/Awards was included as an integral part of the 7thR2O Conference sessions for

both Oral Presentations and Poster Presentations. In addition, the 7thR2O Conference co-hosted with seven other conferences (including EIPT) and 3 commercial sponsors the *3rd Student and Early Career Professionals Speed Networking Event and Reception*…on the evening of January 23th within the AMS Meeting Convention Center. A special feature of the reception was the Speed Networking Event giving the approximately 55 students and early career professionals an opportunity to network and discuss the experiences of 29 professionals serving as mentors. A kick-off to the Speed Networking and an introduction with some of his own student experiences was given by the NESDIS Assistant Administrator, Dr. Stephen Volz. The 7thR2O Committee provided support and three mentors for the event. The event had about 86 participants including 2 committee members for event support.