ARAM Report, 2010

The Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology (ARAM) Committee held the four-day 14th Conference on Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology at the AMS annual meeting in Atlanta in January of 2010. Program chairs were Cecilia Miner (NOAA/NWS HQ) and Chip West (FAA Air Route Traffic Control Center, Atlanta).

There were joint sessions with Presidential Forum (for which ARAM arranged as keynote speaker Captain Stephen Dickson, Senior Vice President of Flight Operations for Delta Airlines), the Seventh Symposium on Space Weather, 22nd Conference on Climate Variability and Change, the 14th Symposium on Integrated Observing and Assimilation Systems for the Atmosphere, Oceans, and Land Surface (IOAS-AOLS), the First Symposium on Planetary Atmospheres, the 12th Conference on Atmospheric Chemistry, the 20th Conference on Probability and Statistics in the Atmospheric Sciences, the 24th Conference on Hydrology, 18th Conference on Applied Climatology, the First Environment and Health Symposium, the Third Annual CCM Forum, the Fifth Symposium on Policy and Socio-economic Research, the Second AMS Conference on International Cooperation in the Earth System Sciences and Services, 8th Conference on Artificial Intelligence Applications to Environmental Science. ARAM also held a committee business meeting at the Atlanta AMS meeting.

ARAM prepared for its Second Aviation, Range and Aerospace Meteorology Special Symposium on Weather-Air Traffic Management Integration, to be held at the 91st AMS Annual Meeting in Seattle. Program chairs are Marilyn Wolfson (MIT Lincoln Lab) and Craig Wanke (The MITRE Corporation). Preparations also began for the 15th Conference on Aviation, Range, and Aerospace Meteorology to be held in Los Angeles in August of 2011 in conjunction with the 14th Conference on Mesoscale Processes.

At the Atlanta conference, ARAM introduced its first ARAM Best Student Paper Award competition. This award recognizes outstanding student contributions based on an evaluation of both the submitted written paper and corresponding oral or poster presentation. Contenders for the award will have to be enrolled at a University (either at the undergraduate or graduate level), be the lead-author, and personally make the presentation of their work.

The inaugural ARAM Best Student Paper Award was won by Alexander Matus of Texas A&M University for his contribution “The impacts on air traffic of volcanic ash from the 2009 Mt. Redoubt eruption” (paper J3.1). Alexander received a certificate and prize of $200 for placing first in this competition. The runner-up, Jung-Hoon Kim of Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea received a certificate for placing second with his paper “A Numerical study of clear-air turbulence (CAT) encounters occurred in Korea” (11.2).

Matthias Steiner facilitated the best student paper award with a handful of volunteer judges. Each contender was evaluated by at least two judges independently utilizing an evaluation sheet and providing scores based on various criteria. The winner and runner-up were assessed based on the overall scores among all contenders. The intent is to have such an award for each full ARAM conference -- i.e., the next will be during the summer 2011 ARAM conference in Los Angeles.

ARAM Committee members in 2010 included Ryan K. Decker, Bjarne K. Hansen, David I. Knapp, John R. Mecikalski, Cecilia A. Miner, John Murray, Timothy D. Oram, David J. Pace (Chair), Rodney J. Potts, Matthias Steiner, James G. Stobie, Edward H. Teets, William W. Vaughan, Joanne Volk, Jeffrey A. Weinrich, Charles A. West, Katherine Winters, and Marilyn M. Wolfson.