February 2018 STAC Newsletter

Minutes for the STAC Annual Meeting: These are available at **Minutes of STAC Annual Meeting 2018 (Austin, TX)**. Thanks to all who were able to attend our 11 AM to 3 PM meeting on Sunday, January 7th (29 of the 36 STAC boards and committees were represented!). Let me know if you see any errors or omissions in the minutes and I will update them. (rbruce.telfeyan@us.af.mil)

Conference Summaries: If your board or committee had a conference or symposium at the AMS Annual Meeting in Austin, you need to provide us with a short summary of that event. This is typically an action for the conference/symposium Program Chair, though your B/C can determine who authors the summary. You also need to post it on your board or committee's web site in the "News and Announcements" section. I will be glad to post it if you need assistance. Please complete your short summary by March 31st. (rbruce.telfeyan@us.af.mil)

Society Awards: The May 1st deadline for submitting Society Awards and AMS Fellow Nominations is fast approaching. Each STAC B/C should encourage colleagues to nominate deserving individuals or groups for these awards and recognition. Also B/Cs might consider nominating a worthy individual as an AMS Fellow. Further information on AMS awards can be found at https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/

- **Note:** There are no Lecturer nominations this year as the awardees for the Roberts, Haurwitz, and Horton Lectures for 2019 were selected last year. Previous lecturers have indicated that they don't need, and probably would rather avoid, commitments that are over a year in the future. So, nominations will again be accepted starting in January 2019 (and due no later than May 1, 2019) for all three lectures in 2020. https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/lecturers/

STAC Membership: Board and Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs should review their updated 2018 membership rosters on their web pages at http://www.ametsoc.org/stac and report any corrections or omissions to Erica Callahan, ecallahan@ametsoc.org.

Student Membership on Boards and Committees: We still have perhaps three B/Cs without one or more student members. This is an AMS requirement and the commissioners will be glad to help in finding a prospective student member. Submit a CV and nomination form for your student members to your Commissioner. You can find the STAC board/committee nomination form at https://www.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/chair-memberinformation/membership/

Vice Chairs for Boards and Committees: At the STAC Annual Meeting in Austin, we encouraged each Board and Committee to appoint a Vice Chair. As we mentioned at that time, having an alternate to contact is really beneficial both for the Commissioners, the AMS Staff, and for other STAC B/Cs. At times the Chair is simply not available and it really is a bonus to have another person to reach. Happily, 16 of our 36 B/Cs already have a Vice Chair!

AMS Volunteering Program: The AMS Council approved an initiative for the AMS Centennial to create an AMS volunteering program called AMS Volunteering Program and has asked Dr. Tim Spangler (spanglertim@hotmail.com) to form a committee to implement the idea. Tim is looking for volunteers to help create this program by serving on this new AMS committee or offering ideas for what the program might look like. He shares the following as possible activities that the volunteer efforts might comprise:

- *Assisting in creation of web pages or editing documents or proposals;*
- *Replacing faculty or teachers while they are on extended sick leave or travel;*
- *Providing the expertise of AMS members to non-profit organizations that work on earth and environmental science, or on public policy;*
- *Lending expertise to create a new non-profit or professional organization;*
- *Serving on advisory committees or boards;*
- *Assisting local governments as they grapple with issues involving the atmospheric and related sciences;*
- *Foreign travel to assist academic institutions, National Meteorological Services, or international sister organizations to AMS;*
- *Making volunteers available during or after emergency situations including the concept of a rapid response volunteer team;*
- *Working closely with the WMO and other UN Organizations.*

If you are interested in taking part in this effort, please contact Tim directly!

Updated STAC Best Practices: We recently updated the Best Practices, mostly in paragraph 4 on Conferences and Symposia. We've highlighted the AMS Program Chair Website as a good source of information for conference leaders. Also, Program Chairs should complete and submit the Funding Request Form for each conference and plan for any named sessions (submit your request with the Proposal for Named Session form) seven to twelve months prior to your event.

Assistance with B/C Websites: If your B/C webmaster needs assistance with your website, you can get assistance from Evan Perriello, 617-227-2425, ext 3926, (eperriello@ametsoc.org). Evan is in the AMS Communications Department and will be very helpful. Initially, Evan will first check to see if your webmaster has editing privileges to your website and grant them if not already in place. Also, your webmaster can find assistance at this link: https://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/chair-member-information/stac-web-editors/

Greetings from AMS President Roger Wakimoto: "I want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication. As a past Chair of 2 STAC Committees and as the past STAC Commissioner, I am well-aware of your activities which are critically important for the success of the AMS. Please remember that nominations for Society Awards are now being accepted as Bruce has already mentioned. We have also released the Call for Topics for the 99th Annual Meeting in Phoenix (https://ams.confex.com/ams/2019Annual/cfs.cgi) and I hope that you share this announcement with your respective communities. Finally, I should highlight the fact that Bruce Telfeyan has done an outstanding job representing your interests at the Council meetings. It has been a true pleasure working with him. I look forward to seeing all of you in the near future."

Commissioner: Bruce Telfeyan; Past Commissioner: David Stensrud;
Incoming Commissioner: Genene Fisher