

## **Annual Meeting – Asheville, NC – Thursday, July 21, 2011**

New SCs - Dan Leathers (DE) was welcomed back after 5-6 years' absence. Renee McPherson was acting SC last year and is fully on board now. Steve Grey left WY, so Tony Bergantino is acting SC, Don Potts left MT, Jeff Underwood left NV, so Kate Berry is acting SC.

New NCDC liaison - Danielle Swallow has been the liaison since last Fall. Dennis mentioned the importance of her role in the Federal government

Regional Climate Service Directors (RCSD) - Ellen Mecray (east), Dave Brown (south), Doug Kluck (central), DeWayne Cecil (west), James Partain (Alaska) were introduced and welcomed.

AASC Executive Committee - Dennis Todey (President), Nolan Doesken (Past-President), Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux (Secretary), Mike Anderson (Treasurer), David Robinson (ARSCO coordinator). The Secretary/Treasurer position was divided last year, with the Secretary position being replaced this year. The Treasurer transition occurs mid-year (end of calendar year 2012). Ex-officio members are Fiona Horsfall, Marina Timofeyeva (one slot filled by both Fiona and Marina), Danielle Swallow, and Jan Curtis. Harry Hillaker was recognized for his service after stepping down at the end of 2010.

2010-2011 activities - Paul Knight & Dennis Todey attended a NOAA meeting in October, AMS Spring meeting in April. Nolan Doesken attended a NWS HQ meeting in March in Dennis' stead. Dennis attended NOAA regional coordination team meeting in St. Paul in June.

- the AASC membership list has been updated

- the 501(c)3 issue has been resolved, as reported by Harry Hillaker.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

Joint Meeting with AMS Applied Climate – it seemed to be more AMS than AASC, and we missed a lot of state reports, but only 6 states responded as wanting to do their state reports. Some people can only go to one conference, so the joint meeting was helpful for them. Joint meetings with AMS Applied Climatology can only occur once every 3 years. We enjoy meeting alone, so let's not have a joint meeting every time.

Regional lunches with RCCs – SCs – We need a quieter environment as some regional groups are quite large and it's hard to hear and participate. Maybe boxed lunches if they are reasonably priced. Or perhaps an open ended discussion where we adjourn at 3 pm and then break into regional groups. SE has monthly conference calls, so they stay in touch all the time.

ARSCO report - Dave Robinson

- there are currently 47 “state climatologists” - some have yet to be designated. TN, RI, MT do not have programs at this time.
- those who are attending the AASC meeting for the first time were invited to raise their hands. (We did not get a count on these, but Nancy will check the attendance sheet.)
- David Legates (DE), Don Potts (MT), Steve Grey (WY) and Jeff Underwood (NV) have stepped down.
- there are no new ARSCOs in 2011. There are 38 ARSCO states with 37 submitting their reports. Nolan asked Dave to define ARSCO for the benefit of those attending the meeting for the first time.
- Dave thanked the partners for submitting their reports. He also thanked Matt Gerbush and Christina Speciale for working on The State Climatologist publication.
  
- Dennis picked up the thread of what it means to be an ARSCO and if we need to revisit the question of re-defining the ARSCO status requirements and how the MOUs are executed (which parties are involved).

Executive Director - we have had this discussion for the last 2 years.  
 - last year Executive Council was given the approval from the AASC membership to explore an Executive Director. A volunteer has stepped forward to help AASC pilot test an Executive Director without financial obligations. Nolan introduced Scott Archer. Nolan said that we had dozens of opportunities but our officers don't have sufficient time to be able to follow up on the opportunities and issues due to their individual workloads. Scott understands the lay of the land working with state agencies, state-federal issues etc. as he has worked for BLM for 20+ years, and been an associate member of AASC for more than 10 years.

Scott Archer - how the AASC could best work with an Executive Director.  
 - organization had expanded enough and become complex enough that elected officials find it difficult to run the organization and do all the work needed. ED would undertake the administrative activities, provide support and facilitation of all the entities  
 - pointed to the duties on the landscape sheet that was distributed. [see sheet]  
 - he has developed a draft strategic plan to facilitate discussion. He views this as a living document subject to revision  
 - some useful initial functions will be to provide a good archive of all documents, constitutional and by-law changes.  
 - next step is that funding is needed. He is retired and so has taken funding off the table as an issue as we get started. As we move forward and pursue grant funding, the overhead from that would fund the ED position.

Dennis - we currently use SCEP overhead to help SC  
 Nolan - Scott committed to volunteering his time over the next year. “Let’s not worry about that (the funding) now.”

Paul - asked what role would the ED have on the Executive Committee in terms of

- voting
- Nolan - we would need to revisit this issue. The Exec Committee views this as a non-voting position that is very different from an Ex-officio member
- Dennis - Scott is looking to us for direction and will not be providing that
- Keith - when a new ED term comes up, will the person be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- Scott - sees this as a staff function. Organization determines how to hire and fire people
- Mary Knapp - brought up point of length of commitment. 2-3 years would defeat the point of smoothing over transitions
- Renee - linking to legislative educational efforts (aka lobbying) - having a consistent message from a single person would be good. Had we considered this?
- Nolan - would not fund this from overhead from federal grants – as lobbying is a prohibited use of federal funds.
- Scott - EPA has shut down an organization that didn't keep the federal money separate.
- Stu - funding will be an issue in the long term. If we find someone who will be in it for the long haul, will require substantial amount to funding to keep them. Do we have an idea of how much this would take?
- Nolan - 3 or 5 year phase in from local SCOs to contribute to this funding. Believes we need minimum \$50 000 to start up. This will become a stumbling block for some states, but not for others.
- David St - ED could be writing the grants when the AASC is going in as a group. Some of the overhead could be used to pay ED salary. This would be an incentive for the ED to write the grant to pay his/her salary. If they are being paid with federal dollars, they cannot contact Congressional Liaisons, but could provide information. 50% overhead is not unheard of. 30% is not unreasonable. Private companies charge 100%
- Harry - whole concept is an opportunity that we can't pass up especially since Scott has already volunteered. Sees parallels with Lou being webmaster. Lou is looking for the direction of what we want. We need to take the time to give Scott the direction.
- Dev - not clear what the milestones representing the success of this position at various timelines. We need to identify these outcomes clearly laid out
- Nolan - basic documentation, updated membership lists.
- Dennis - constitution is about 4 years out of date. Better communication amongst Exec Comm and membership. Quarterly email updates/webinars to keep us in the loop
- David St - **moved that the Exec Comm acquires Scott's services over the next year, and figure out what the relationship means and have Scott report back to us next year. Harry seconded**
- Marina - asked about Scott's background. Scott left the room for discussion.
- Dennis - Scott has an air quality background. Has worked with Western entities. Was with the Bureau of Land Management.
- we need someone who is not an SC to help us. Someone who has time to commit and can focus on that.
- Karin - where will he sit?
- Dennis - he will be working out of his home. Travel would be covered out of AASC funds

- Paul - amendment to motion - does this require a change in the Constitution?
- Dennis - thought yes
- David Z - doesn't think so
- Paul - non voting member who is not a member of the Exec Comm - not.
- Keith - motion was for this to be a one year position and so no changes needed to the Constitution
- Konstantin - asked if state had a problem

**Call the question - motion to accept Scott as ED for one year and metrics for his success will be evaluated jointly**  
**Motion passed unanimously**

#### NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS

- Paul - Nominating Committee members Hope Mizzell, Tim Brown, Jim Angel in addition to Paul Knight.
  - President-elect (4 year term) & Secretary (2 year term)
  - 2-3 phone calls to select the position. Discuss the wealth of talent in the membership.
- List of candidates submitted to Exec Committee. Latter contact the candidates
- nomination for **President-elect is Stu Foster (Kentucky)** who accepts the nomination. No further nominations from the floor. **Motion to close nominations - made by Steve Hillberg and seconded by Mary Knapp. Unanimously approved.**
- nomination for **Secretary is Nancy Selover (Arizona)** who accepts. No further nominations from the floor. **Motion to close nominations - made by Steve Hillberg and seconded by David Stooksbury. Unanimously approved.**

#### 2012 MEETING LOCATIONS

- 1/ North Dakota
  - Adnan
  - Medora, ND is proposed location, the site of 121°F temperature in 1926
  - located at entrance to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, 30 miles from MT border. Surrounded by the ND Badlands
  - 3 blocks by 5 blocks
  - conference space at the Rough Riders Hotel - 160 people banquet.
  - Medora Musical outdoors, right next to Pitchfork Steak Fondue.
  - next to Little Missouri River. Few people
  - world class golf course
  - Medora has no airports. Bismarck (2hrs), Fargo (5 hours), Rapid City (4 Hours), Billings (4.5 hours), Dickinson TR Regional Airport (40 minutes)
- questions
  - no bowling alley
  - Medora has a reputation for developing their play skills
- 2/ St. Louis
  - Pat Guinan
  - co-host with Jim Angel
  - Hyatt Regency at the Arch (20 minute shuttle ride)
  - close to the Gateway Arch & Museum of Westward Expansion
  - tram up into the arch

- Old Courthouse
- Laclede's Landing - outdoor café style
- Busch Stadium - could time it for Cardinals home game - 10 minute walk from the hotel
- Anheuser-Busch Brewery Tour is free and 3.2 miles away. Beer master tour costs \$25
- Missouri Botanical Garden \$8 entry. Located 5 miles from hotel. Oldest operational garden in US since 1859
- St. Louis Zoo is free -
- St. Louis Art Museum - free 1 mile north of the zoo
- 9-12 July

question - bowling alley. Bowling is big in St. Louis

3/ meeting has never been held in Florida – presented by Melissa Griffin

- Destin
- on the Gulf of Mexico side
  - 9-12 July or 23-26 July suggested dates
  - recreation climatology -
  - airports - NW Florida 30 minutes
    - Panama City Beach - 40 minutes
    - Pensacola
  - Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort - on both intercoastal waterway and Gulf of Mexico
  - Bayside Inn - free internet
  - onsite transportation
  - free bikes, canoes, kayaks,
  - 4 championship golf courses
  - own private beach
  - fishing
  - Baytown Wharf. Silver Sands Shopping Center (outlet). Hurricane Lanes bowling. Eglin Air force Base. Pensacola Aviation Museum
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron - parachute in and could be guest speaker
  - plans in the contract if we have to leave the area for a forecasted hurricane. Do get money back
  - peak hurricane is mid-August
  - dinner boat is present

Paul - can we consider one for 2013 and not restrict ourselves to only 1 for next year

Dennis - discussion of Asheville's being a neutral site. He has no pre-conceived notion of how it will fall out.

Barbara Mayes Boustead - asked about hotel rates

- ND Rough Rider - \$148
- \$100 govt rate and \$106 otherwise in Missouri
- \$149 govt rate in Destin

John Young - what about the joint AMS meeting? – Won't be until 2014 for Applied Climate

David Stooksbury - proposal to vote for the next 2 years

Ryan - this is already in the bylaws

Dennis - asked if all 3 sites would be amenable for planning 2 years in the future? All agreed.  
- proposal on the table to choose places for the next 2 years. Membership agreed to this  
- membership instructed to vote for 2 locations.  
- **motion to adjourn for the day. Seconded by Jerry Stenger.**

**Result of vote announced at banquet – Destin Florida had most votes – will be 2012 meeting site, and St. Louis had second most votes, will be site of 2013 meeting. On Friday, Melissa Griffin took a poll on the choice of dates for Destin, FL for next year. Majority voted for 9-12 July, 2012.**

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Business meeting resumed Friday, July 22, 2011 at 0810

Journal of Service Climatology - David Stooksbury

- several years ago, we had three items that we needed to move forward with:

1/ Dissertation Award - we have now instituted that.

2/ our own professional journal

- Journal started 5 years ago with 3 publications in the 2010-2011.

- One of the articles in 2010-2011 was used in a Federal Court case in the West. The public is more concerned about impacts than peer-reviewed articles.

- David is stepping down as Journal Editor effective 1 January 2012.

- Pam Knox is willing to continue with the reformatting of the articles

- Volunteers are being solicited for the position of editorship. Current volunteers for co-editorship are Nolan Doesken and Jim Angel.

3/ what the professional standards for that profession should be.

-David is continuing to work on this with his committee, and will present the curriculum committee report later.

TREASURER REPORT - Mike Anderson

- received \$99,900 from NCDP for SCEP. Balance in the account is still large due to his not receiving all invoices

- no journal expenses.

-Hired a CPA for assistance with taxes and tax status.

-Have paid \$46,000 to date on SCEP. Total outstanding payments \$74,500.

- we have already received paperwork for this year SCEP funds which is the same as last year.

- he will circulate a hard copy

Harry Hillaker

- Hope Mizzell had done the first tax filing for the organization

- September 2010 received a letter from the IRS that there was no record of AASC being tax exempt organization, dated a year and half before. The letter said we need to prove tax exempt status or pay taxes. We went with the former and neither we nor the IRS had letter proving

exemption status. We felt more comfortable having a CPA review our documents. IRS had no record of our tax exempt status, but we were able to get a copy from our original attorney. CPA suggested that taxes were being filed under a different employer identification number (EIN). Taxes were filed under one EIN and the tax exempt status was under a second EIN. Third phone call to the IRS was able to merge the two numbers. We were able to complete the process within the 3-year window.

#### SCEP UPDATE

- received about \$100,000 again this year
- 15 climate impact monthly assessments were awarded in year 1 and a similar number last year. Report posted on both SCO and AASC website
- part of the funds are used for overhead for Ph.D. award, award (PhD award comes from dues, not SCEP. although we could use the SCEP overhead for PhD award – note from HH), and Exec Council travel to national meetings

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS NOMINATION

- Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux presented list of nominations
- Justin Rawley - has been assisting Jerry Stenger in Virginia
- Rachel Riley - OCS
- Marjorie McGuirk - NCDC
- Kevin Murray - NOAA
- Jess Whitehead SC Sea Grant
- Mike Hayes - NDMC UNL
- Eric Hunt – UNL
- Ned Gutmann – Retired NOAA
- Richard Anyah – Connecticut State Climate Center-
- Molly Woloszyn – Illinois Water Survey
- Michael Brown – Mississippi State
- Zach Schwalbe – CoCoRaHS – Colorado State University
- Chris Fuhrmann - SERCC

**- motion to accept them by David Stooksbury and seconded by Jerry Stenger. Unanimously accepted.**

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT - David Stooksbury

- what are the education standards for our profession?
- this process started at the Grand Rapids meeting with a survey. Results were discussed in Lake Tahoe and the requirements were whittled down. We now propose 60 hours for undergrad and grad, including 6 hours of thesis work.
- last week there was a concern about whether it was climatology or climate science. Consensus is around climatology.
- second issue raised was that the definition was for an Applied Climatologist and not one of the other types
- an Applied Climatologist needs breadth as well as depth in some things. To complete this, a Masters degree is required.

- list of recommended curriculum. AMS requirements do not include basic math and science courses and neither does our recommendation.
- Expanded recommendations. Includes academic experience or equivalent experience.
- the Data Analysis topics separate us from Meteorology. Universities would be free to map out the actual courses, without having to redo their curriculum. Could also be used to advocate for a new hire to cover the missing elements of the curriculum.
- detailed sub-topics are included because of the various methods that we use as climatologists that are not necessarily used in other disciplines.

Jim Zandlo asked about optimization techniques such as non-linear fitting should be included. Climate core topics include Instrumentation, Microclimate (most geography departments already have such a course), Past and future climate, Climate Models (does not include the expectation that students become climate modelers or a standalone course). Kostastin suggested adding “land-surface process models” to the Climate Models topics.

- Secondary area of expertise
- Research project

Ned Guttman concerned that with today’s software you can push a button and get an answer. What is missing is when to use, assumptions and other part of the interpretation.

- what are the assumptions of statistics, how do you test the validity of them - need to be added
- when to violate the assumptions for the purpose at hand
- critical importance of metadata about the data and techniques

Jim Zandlo - homogenization has been a large part of NCDC. Data quality issues are a big deal. This is larger than instrumentation.

Jan Curtis - downscaling always comes up in conferences. Importance and implications of downscaling of models should be emphasized. Important to understand strengths and weaknesses. A good primer is:

[http://www.wucaonline.org/assets/pdf/pubs\\_whitepaper\\_120909.pdf](http://www.wucaonline.org/assets/pdf/pubs_whitepaper_120909.pdf)

Scott Archer - did not see environmental laws and regulations.

- could be added under social dimensions

Henry Reges - public speaking importance.

This is listed under other recommended skills.

Dennis Todey - looking for a better phrasing than Social Dimensions

Renee McPherson - details still came across as a very long, prescriptive list that you must have. One of differences with an applied climatology issue is the ability to problem solve in a way that is very difficult to teach during a class. When you want to teach someone to problem solve, need to decide that all the content and techniques and have the students work through them - only pick a few and work through in a detail. Concerned about a new Assistant Professor coming in and

trying to cram all of this material into a lecture style class.

- important things are how to apply them correctly and how the methods developed.

Ned Guttman - include logic, critical thinking, problem identification and problem solving should be included in the communication skills

Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux - that this broader than the track that most of us have followed and embraces new pedagogies such as service-learning. There are other ways of working through and helping students learn higher order thinking skills that are not always easily captured or defined. Please send suggested terminology.

David Stooksbury - asked the membership to send comments by 15 AUGUST. Mid September committee will send out final version for a vote. Further comments until end of September. Vote on 1 October. The final version will be submitted to EOS for broad outreach. Would like to present results in the Education symposium

Mark Shafer - concerned about only 3 hours of social dimensions. Extension programs include more. Should be on the level of 12 hours of courses. This would better prepare our students. May be better to put it out on our website for further comment (like AMS) before moving forward.

Dev Nyogi - suggests 2 subsets - one core essentials and the second would be relevant to where creating a new program. Would be helpful of 18-20 credit hours that could be added to the modules. Guidance to allow programs to create streams using these recommendations.

Ryan Boyles - as a matter of policy it is good to put it out for public comment. Makes us a professional society. Send to ClimList.

**David Stooksbury - put the final version on the AASC website after 15 September. Lou said that we could figure out a comment section on the website.**

Dave - AMS abstracts are due in a couple of weeks. Also suggested AAG which will meet in February in NYC.

**Motion to adjourn the business meeting at 0916 by Paul Knight and seconded by Renee McPherson. Unanimously accepted.**

Other items for action from the annual membership meeting:

National Climate Assessment:

They are trying to get a coherent picture of what has been happening regionally from a physical climate perspective. Context for regional physical climatology outlooks by attention to climate and societal vulnerabilities and those aspects where trends have been occurring. What is the perception and how do these match the actual trends? - NCADAC decided that the outlooks will be based on the AR4 simulations - A2 emissions scenarios as the primary basis for high climate future B1 as low climate future. Direct GCM output from CMIP3 archive. Maurer et al monthly statistically downscaled data.

### SC involvement

- AASC funding in FY2010 for assessment work. \$200K remains. Can support SC travel to regional planning meeting 2011 and perhaps beyond
- funds must get used and there be accounting of their use
- looking to AASC for additional ways to best contribute to assessment this year and ongoing
- we need to be proactive in reaching out to all players involved. This is a fast track with lots of improvisation due to lack of resources and accelerated timeline.
- Tom Karl challenged AASC - what are the outcomes and measures of how to measure regional variability and then we could try to move this up the line in terms of what needs to be funded.

**Dennis- Tom and Ken have left the door open to AASC on formulating on how to deal with impacts issue, and contributing to the NCA process. Mentioned the use of the climate impacts. Thinks this should be an ACTION ITEM for those interested in working on this to contact him.**

### TV weathercasters teaching Climate Change

The debate about TV weathercaster's being the trusted purveyor of climate change information. We need to be a part of this discussion and re-claim climate. TV weathercasters are subject to the political whims of their station manager or network, and most aren't trained in climate.