

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual business meeting of the American Association of State Climatologists was called to order by AASC president David Robinson (NJ). After a short welcome, Dave clarified the proxy vote rule, which allows voting by designated representatives of eligible state climate offices and the regional climate centers with eligibility determined by dues payment.

#### OLD BUSINESS

The published minutes of the last annual meeting (in the *State Climatologist*) were accepted unanimously. Mark Shafer of the Oklahoma Climate Office was thanked for his work in organizing the publication. Ryan Boyles of North Carolina Climate Office was also acknowledged for his assistance in this effort and Ryan volunteered to publish the 2005 edition. Two points were made by the meeting chair that the deadline will be earlier (April, 2005) due to the earlier annual meeting in 2005 and a state's report could also serve as its ARSCO annual report provided it covers the required elements.

The proposed 2004-2005 AASC budget was presented by Paul Knight. An amendment was proposed by Ryan Boyles and seconded by Steve Hilberg (Midwest Regional Climate Center) that the expenses associated with the annual meeting guest speaker be incorporated into the registration fee. After a short discussion, this amendment and the budget were approved unanimously.

The composition of the AASC's executive committee was discussed and Roger Pielke of the Colorado Climate Office proposed that a representative of the National Weather Service, specifically the Chief of the Climate Services Division, be made an ex-officio member. John Nielsen-Gammon of the Texas Climate Office seconded this motion. After a discussion, it was agreed to have the current AASC president finish the word-smithing of Article V, section 2. The vote was 26 in favor, no opposed and no abstentions.

A proposed climate services journal for the AASC and the potential of adding an applied climatology editor and new emphasis to the AMS Journal of Applied Meteorology were discussed. Dave Robinson requested suggestions on a possible editor for the AMS journal and a committee within the AASC to consider the timetable, frequency and content of the AASC climate services journal. After some deliberation, the following volunteered for the committee: Dennis Todey (South Dakota), Ryan Boyles (North Carolina), George Taylor (Oregon) and Tony Bergantino (Wyoming) with a suggestion that the immediate past president (Dave Robinson) serve as the committee chair.

#### NEW BUSINESS

An upgrade to the AASC web site was discussed. It was proposed that the Oklahoma Climate Office lead the redesign of the site with Derek Arndt as the focal point. Tim Owen (NCDC), Ryan Boyles (NC) and Jim Zandlo (MN) volunteered to serve on the web page committee with Derek.

Dave Robinson encouraged the membership to write an article for either EOS or BAMS describing the purpose of the AASC. It was also suggested that a generic AASC PowerPoint presentation promoting the AASC be created for use by its members.

The origins and criteria for AASC's Helmut Landsberg award were discussed along with criteria for honorary membership. It was decided that the new Nominating Committee be commissioned with the task of recommending nominations for either or both awards.

Dave Robinson then presented a proposal submitted anonymously by an AASC member to create an award for a worthy dissertation in the applied climatology discipline. After some discussion, it was recommended that the full AASC membership be given a copy of the proposal (see the last document in the minutes) to review it with further action waiting until the next meeting.

The afternoon meeting concluded with a discussion on the voting timetable for new officers, but this was tabled until Friday morning.

The meeting resumed shortly before 8:00am on Friday, August 13. Dave Robinson explained the dilemma of a potential six-year commitment for the president-elect unless the president-elect only served one-year president elect. John Nielsen-Gammon raised the issue of the composition of the executive committee as a result of this change. After further clarification, it was moved that the president elect be elected in odd years and only serve one year before becoming president. The vote was unanimous in favor of this amendment with no further discussion.

The issue of dues payment by some state climate offices was then discussed. Jim Zandlo (MN) mentioned specific restrictions placed on his office. Further discussion was focused on the joint AMS-AASC meeting next year and the potential complications of dues being included in the registration costs. It was recommended that the executive committee find a flexible approach to this matter.

Steve Hilberg (MWRCC) asked about the tangible benefits of associate membership in the AASC. Roger Pielke (CO) expressed that all members should pay annually and Ryan Boyles (NC) also favored a required annual payment for associate members. Jim Zandlo suggested that there would be a service climatologist membership for the AASC with an attesting certificate. It was agreed that this issue would be taken into consideration by the executive committee.

New associate members were then nominated from the floor. They include:

David Legates – Delaware Associate Climatologist

Laura Edwards – Western Regional Climate Center

John Hayes – Salem State College

Jim Weyman – Service Climatologist

Gary Hoffert – Service Climatologist

Warren Knapp – NRCC Director Emeritus

Brian Ayers – Pennsylvania State Climate Office

Chad Bahrmann – Pennsylvania State Climate Office  
Andrea Bair – National Weather Service Western Region  
Mike Brewer – Climate Services Division (NWS)  
Michael Brown – Mississippi State Climate Office  
Stephen DelGreco – NCDC  
Joseph Elms – NCDC  
Paul Franscione – Information Manufacturing Corp.  
Daniel Graybeal - NRCC  
Holly Hartmann – University of Arizona  
Douglas Kluck – NWS – Central Region  
Robert Leffler – Climate Services Division  
Robert Livezey – Chief of Climate Services Division  
Glenn Lussy – NWS  
Sergio Marsh – NWS – Eastern Region  
Barbara Mayes – Climate Services Division  
Victor Murphy – NWS – Southern Region  
Mike Wyatt – NWS

All were accepted as associate members and will receive a letter of greetings from the AASC executive committee.

The next meeting in Savannah, GA from June 20-25, 2005 was discussed. Details of joint AMS-AASC presentations and a poster session allowing AASC members to exhibit their office accomplishments were suggested, perhaps sponsored by one of the meeting vendors. A brochure about the AASC was also recommended. Dennis Todey volunteered to explore the options of hosting the 2006 annual meeting in South Dakota and the Oklahoma Climatological Survey volunteered to host the 2007 annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee will consist of the following three volunteers; Al Dutcher (NE), George Taylor (OR) and Barry Keim (LA). They are commissioned to nominate candidates for the following positions: Secretary/Treasurer (2005-2007), President-Elect (to serve as president elect in 2005-2006 and president 2006-2008), honorary members and possible candidates for the Landsberg Award. All these would be presented at the next meeting.

With no other new business, Dave Robinson concluded the annual meeting with remarks of appreciation for the opportunity to serve as president.

Submitted by –  
Paul Knight  
Secretary/Treasurer  
September 27, 2004

**August 2004**

**A proposal:**

### **AASC Applied Climatology Dissertation Medal**

#### **Purpose**

The AASC Applied Climatology Dissertation Medal is given each year to a recent recipient of the Ph.D. degree in North America or US territories whose research is considered unusually important to applied climatology.

#### **Eligibility**

To be considered for the AASC medal, a nominee's Ph.D. must have been awarded within the 3 years prior to the medal submission date (January 15) and most or all of the thesis must have been published in a recognized journal.

#### **Nominations**

Nominations are solicited from North American and US territories universities. The department chair should submit an original and seven copies of a letter of nomination, supporting the selection and discussing the extent of independence exhibited by the nominee in the choice and execution of the dissertation research.

Eight reprints of the thesis (as published in a recognized journal, galley proofs will also be accepted) must accompany the nomination.

Nominations received for the current year's competition remain under consideration for each subsequent year of eligibility.

#### **Due Date**

Letters of nomination and the required reprints must be received in the offices of the AASC on or before **15 January 2005**.

#### **Selection**

The award recipient will be selected by the Medal Committee appointed by the Executive Committee. If, in the opinion of the Committee, none of the nominees is sufficiently outstanding, the award will not be given for the year in question. In February or March, the secretary of the AASC will communicate with the nominee and, if the medal is accepted, it will be announced in the spring of award year.

#### **The Medal**

The medal consists of a plaque and a check for \$500. The award includes paid attendance at the AASC annual meeting.