

Remote Sensing Committee – 2010 Annual Report

A. Membership Roster

Last	First	Affiliation	Email	Term Ends
Ferraro	Ralph	NOAA/NESDIS (Chair)	Ralph.R.Ferraro@noaa.gov	2011
Buecheler	Dennis	Univ. Alabama - Huntsville	Dennis.Buechler@msfc.nasa.gov	2011
Bunin	Stacy	Noblis, Inc.	sbunin@noblis.org	2011
Ellrod	Gary	Retired NOAA (Webmaster)	Gary.Ellrod@gmail.com	2011
Gurka	Jim	NOAA/NESDIS	James.Gurka@noaa.gov	2011
Heinselman	Pam	NOAA/NSSL	Pam.Heinselman@noaa.gov	2010
Lee	Tom	NRL	lee@nrlmry.navy.mil	2011
MacKenzie	Wayne	ERT Inc.	Wayne.Mackenzie@noaa.gov	2011
Martinelli	Jay	AFWA	jason.martinelli@offutt.af.mil	2010
Motta	Brian	NOAA/NWS	Brian.Motta@noaa.gov	2011
Nelson	Craig	Retired, NOAA	cnelson5@rochester.rr.com	2010
Santos	Pablo	NOAA/NWS	Pablo.Santos@noaa.gov	2012
Stanga	Michael	Saint Cloud State Univ. (Student)	Michael.Stanga@gmail.com	2012
Underwood	Jeff	Univ. Nevada - Reno	jeffu@unr.edu	2010
Yoe	Jim	NOAA/NESDIS	James.G.Yoe@noaa.gov	2012

With the upcoming end to the terms of Pam Heinselman, Jay Martinelli, Craig Nelson and Jeff Underwood (who we thank for the dedicated service), we would like to add the following new members to 3-year terms beginning in January 2011:

- Sheldon Kusselson (NOAA/NESDIS) - vast experience with operational satellite precipitation applications and development, and training (including WMO, COMET and NWA workshops)
- Rob Cifelli (University of Colorado) - Field Operations Coordinator for the NOAA Hydrometeorological Testbed (HMT) program. Vast experience in

radar meteorology, and has planned and participated in numerous field experiments around the globe.

- Peter Rohr (NOAA/NWS) - Office of Science and Technology at NWS, works to infuse new technologies at NWS with focus areas of fire weather and lightning. Former editor of NWA Digest.
- Les Lemon (Univ. of Oklahoma/CIMMS) – Former member of the Remote Sensing Committee, Les is a world renowned expert in radar meteorology and developed many of the algorithms in use today by weather forecasters.

We also want to congratulate Pam Heinselman for receiving the WMO Prof. Vaisala award for an outstanding research paper in 2010! As a final note, I plan to complete my term in 2011 and then move on to other endeavors, so I will be focusing on finding a replacement (from the current membership) to lead the committee beginning in 2012.

B. Goals for 2010 and Current Status (these are essentially our goals for 2011)

- *Raise awareness of the value of remote sensing capabilities, to include use of radar, profiler, lightning, satellite and GPS Meteorology (GPS-Met) data network sensors*

STATUS: We have made great progress and several initiatives are underway to promote the value of remote sensing capabilities which include:

- (1)** Publication of remote sensing articles and newsworthy items in the NWA newsletter and in EJOM
 - (2)** Promoted and developed a promotional flyer for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Award for outstanding undergraduate satellite studies and research.
 - (3)** Through a joint effort with the Professional Development Committee, engaging with NWA 2011 and GOES User Conference organizers, as well as NWA staff, on the planning for a joint meeting in Birmingham in 2011 to better engage the forecaster community in the GOES-R program. Jim Gurka and Wayne MacKenzie are our focal points.
 - (4)** We would like to consider developing another remote sensing workshop for the 2011 Annual Meeting.
- *Publish regular articles on remote sensing training and education topics in the NWA newsletter, on the NWA web site and in NWA journals, as appropriate. Have at least one joint article with another committee.*

STATUS: Nearly every committee member has contributed to the creation, review and co-authorship of monthly articles submitted for publication in the NWA newsletter. Since October 2009, the following articles were written, submitted (blue) and were published (green) in the Newsletter and posted on our web page (expanded versions). At least one article has been jointly written with another committee:

Authors	Issue	Title
Stanga	Nov-09	High Resolution Surface Station Network in Severe Weather Forecasting
Lee and Motta	Dec-09	Emerging new tools - Cloudsat
Carey and Ferraro	Feb-10	Enhancing Professional Development - Proposed Newsletter Articles
Bunting, Ferraro, Carey, Gerth	Feb-10	METSAT Award Promotion
Gurka	Apr-10	Summary of the GOES-R Workshop
Schott, Bunin, Yoe, etc.	Jun-10	NPP and Data Services
Jones and Ambrose		Remotes Sensing/Decision Support
Stanga		internet based GIS remote sensing through integration with the GRLevel3 Program and real time forecasting
Martinelli		PLOWS

In addition, an article lead by committee members was published in the Bulletin of the AMS: “NPOESS -Next-Generation Operational Global Earth Observations” by Thomas F. Lee, Craig S. Nelson, Patrick Dills, Lars Peter Riishojgaard, Andy Jones, Li Li, Steven Miller, Lawrence E. Flynn , Gary Jedlovec, William McCarty, Carl Hoffman, and Gary McWilliams

- *Promote and solicit applications for the NWA Meteorological Satellite Applications Award Grant (for undergraduate students). Be more proactive in our promotion of this award and get at least three applicants in 2010 and in 2011.*

STATUS: We developed and aggressively marketed a professionally-developed brochure that encourages applicants for this prestigious award. We have sent this advertisement to AMS, NWA and multiple educational list serves to attract maximum exposure. In venues of opportunity, NWA staff has taken brochures along with them. Web page hits have been very high from our committee web site and we have worked with the IT Committee to gain more visibility for this award. Unfortunately, we still only had one mature submission again in 2010 and this application was found to be subpar for an award (we did give the applicant a free year of student membership to the NWA). There were 4 other incomplete submissions on the web page. We will do our best to try to get more submissions in 2011.

- *Participate and support scientific and technical exchanges at conferences and symposia focused on remote sensing*

STATUS: Our committee members have participated in numerous technical conference/symposia that include the following:

Papers presented at the 2010 AMS Annual Meeting (Phoenix, AZ)

Papers presented at the 17th AMS Conference on Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography (Annapolis, MD, September 27-30, 2010)

Chairman of the Meteorological Section of the 2010 Nebraska State Science Olympiad (April 2010).

Presentation at the 2010 Lubbock Severe Weather Conference (Invited)

Presentation at the Albany NWSFO (Invited)

Presentation at the High Plains Conference in Dodge City, KS (Invited)

Presentations at the 17th International TOVS Science Conference (Monterey, CA, April 2010)

Presentation at the TECO Conference in Helsinki, Finland (Invited)

Abstracts submitted to the 5th Meeting of the International Precipitation Working Group (Hamburg, Germany)

Several abstracts submitted to the 2011 AMS Annual Meeting (Seattle, WA, January 2011).

- *Support the NWA awards process by developing and submitting at least one NWA annual award nomination package*

STATUS: Two submissions for the 2010 NWA awards were developed and submitted by the July 1 deadline.

- *Continue to keep committee web page up to date with relevant information for NWA membership*

STATUS: Our committee webmaster (Gary Ellrod) continues to do an outstanding job maintaining our committee web site. He has added copies of the newsletter articles published so far in 2009-10, links for the METSAT award, etc. We also continue to maintain a great relationship with Brad Herold of the IT Committee. Brad points us to interesting tidbits on remote sensing, which we post on the web page, as does Kevin Lavin. Most recently, Gary worked with the NWA leadership to post links and information regarding the April 2010 Iceland volcano. Gary reports that the page gets approximately 200-250 hits each day.

- *Develop possible partnership and leverage relationships with like-minded committees and boards such as the AMS Satellite Meteorology committee and international partners like EUMETSAT*

STATUS: Had a very successful discussion with Phil Ardanuy, chair of the AMS Committee on Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography. One of their representatives participated in our April telecom and the web pages of both committees will be cross linked. Phil encouraged our participation at their next conference (Annapolis, MD, September 27-30, 2010); a poster describing the NWA Remote Sensing Committee's activities was presented. Several committee members served as session chairs at the Annapolis meeting.

EUMETSAT was also contacted and invited to participate at our 2010 Annual Meeting. Although they declined this year, we will keep in close contact to seek their participation at the 2011 meeting.

- *Develop advocacy letters, if needed, to ensure that the operational forecasting community has the needed remote sensing tools to monitor and predict life threatening weather events.*

STATUS: We reviewed our past advocacy letters and determined that some contributed to the success of new sensors (e.g., GOES lightning mapper, NOAA's commitment to a follow on ocean wind vector sensor) while others are potentially still relevant.

In a rather quick fused issue in June, our committee coordinated a response to an FCC request for comment on the potential impact of the FCC opening up a bandwidth that is presently used for weather satellite communications. This letter was eventually sent in by the NWA leadership.

C. Action Items from Council

None.

D. Items of Concern for Council

We would like to commend the 2010 Annual Meeting Organizing committee for putting together an excellent program. Although not a serious concern, we would like to offer our services once again for the upcoming meeting in Birmingham in 2011 as we are a resource that can only improve upon the great job that the program committees have done on their own. In particular, as we try to expand our collaborations with AMS and EUMETSAT and potentially offer invited papers, we would have to work closely with the 2011 Program Committee.