

**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY  
NEWS RELEASE**

Headquarters  
45 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108-3693

1120 G Street, N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20005-6115

**Contact(s):**

Stephanie Kenitzer, AMS  
(425) 432-2192  
[Kenitzer@dc.ametsoc.org](mailto:Kenitzer@dc.ametsoc.org)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
21 July 2005

**AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY  
JULY SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS**

This monthly tip sheet is designed to give you story ideas and tips about upcoming AMS meetings, papers in our nine peer-reviewed journals, and other happenings in the atmospheric and related sciences community.

**"Satellites and the City"** As millions of the nation's city dwellers descend from high-rise apartment buildings to hail cabs or use local transit systems to dine at trendy restaurants, attend art exhibits, commute to and from work, or to head uptown to catch a championship ball game, many are unaware of the possible impact of urbanization on climate and weather. Just how does society's desire to live in densely populated areas have the potential to change our *Earth's* climate? According to a paper in the May issue of the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, satellites can help us answer that question. The paper, co-authored by J. Marshall Shepherd, Deputy Project Scientist of the Global Precipitation Measurement Mission at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, Md., and co-author Menglin Jin, a research scientist at the University of Maryland-College Park, suggests that satellite-observed urban information is extremely useful for advancing our ability to simulate urban effects in climate models. They go on further to propose that satellite data is the only feasible way to represent the expanse of global urban surfaces and related changes to the Earth's surface, vegetation and aerosols. The paper's authors believe that the story of satellites and the city deserves further review, and can be of great value to our understanding of how our global inclination to be urban dwellers can also change the climate of our home planet. For more information about this research see [http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/urban\\_effects.html](http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/urban_effects.html) A copy of the paper is available online at <http://ams.allenpress.com/amsonline/?request=get-abstract&doi=10.1175%2FBAMS-86-5-681> or contact Stephanie Kenitzer.

**Seminar Series: "The Future of Oil -- Will Supply Meet Demand?"** This is the topic of the third AMS Environmental Science Seminar Series taking place on Monday, 25 July from 2:30 – 5 p.m. in the Hart Senate Office Building, Room 216. The speakers are Jack Zagar, Independent petroleum reservoir engineering consultant and a director of ASPO (Association for the Study of Peak Oil) Ireland; Matthew Simmons, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Simmons & Company

International, a Houston TX-Based energy investment banking firm; Dr. Herman Franssen, President of International Energy Associates, a Washington, DC-based energy consulting company; Dr. Robert L. Hirsch, Senior Energy Program Advisor at SAIC in Alexandria, VA, and a consultant in energy, technology, and management. They are going to address challenging questions about the future of oil including – are oil reserves peaking and if so, when, what is the evidence for it, and what are the implications? Is this issue sufficiently serious so as to warrant immediate attention or will market dynamics alone adequately address the matter without intervention? What are the options on the table for dealing with this issue? For details see

<http://www.ametsoc.org/atmospolicy/EnvironmentalScienceSeminarSeries.html>

Media are invited. Reception to follow.

**A Glossary of Meteorology?** Rain, precipitation, sleet, barometric pressure, isotherm! If you cover the atmospheric science beat, you've certainly stumbled across these words in press releases and at scientific conferences. Did you know that the AMS has a *Glossary of Meteorology*, a must for every science desk. The glossary contains more than 12,000 terms. It is available in hard copy for \$80 and on CD-ROM for \$95. You can order by calling (617) 227-2426 ext. 204 or 237 or via email to [amsorder@ametsoc.org](mailto:amsorder@ametsoc.org)

**Broadcaster Meteorologists to Meet in Washington, DC.** More than 200 broadcast meteorologists will meet in Washington, DC, the week of August 1 for their annual conference. The five-day conference includes sessions and discussions on the latest products and services the broadcasters use daily to deliver the weather to viewers. There will also sessions highlighting the most recent scientific research and findings. The 34<sup>th</sup> Conference on Broadcast Meteorology is being held jointly with the Conference on Weather Analysis and Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction both featuring hundreds of science discussions on these topics. The conferences will be held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert Street. Media are invited to attend sessions. All media must register at the main AMS Registration Desk. Details for all the meetings are online at <http://www.ametsoc.org/meet/fainst/dc.html>

# # #

The AMS (<http://www.ametsoc.org>) is the nation's leading professional society for those in the atmospheric and related sciences.