

24th Biennial AMS/AGU Joint Heads and Chairs Meeting

Forward Together: Steering Higher Education in the
Earth and Atmospheric Sciences Through a Period of Rapid Evolution

AGENDA

Monday, October 7, 2024

All times are Mountain Daylight Time Zone

Session 1. Theme: Current Status of Higher Education: Challenges, Strategies for Success, and Future Directions

8:00-8:45 – Continental breakfast, badge pickup

8:45-9:00 – **Welcoming Remarks:** UCAR President Dr. Antonio J. Busalacchi, AMS President Dr. Anjuli S. Bamzai, AGU President Dr. Lisa Graumlich, AGU Assistant Director for Grants & Education Programs Dr. Pranoti Asher, and AMS BHE Chair & Planning Committee Chair Dr. Wendilyn Flynn with Planning Committee Members

9:00-10:00 – **Keynote Talk:** Dr. Lourdes Aviles, Associate Provost & Professor of Meteorology, Plymouth State University

Positioning our disciplines for success in an era of challenges, OR how to work with your University Administrators

This short keynote will cover a big picture overview of the challenges affecting higher education, and more specifically, the pressures currently experienced by atmospheric and earth science programs. We will also explore how departments and programs can navigate these challenges with the greatest chance of success and explore ways in which to productively advocate with institutional administrators. The talk will be followed by a brainstorming discussion and Q&A.

10:00-10:30 – Coffee Break

10:30-11:45 – **Mini-Sessions**

10:30-10:45 – Dr. Kathy Licht: Implementation of a strategy for program culture change regarding DEI

10:45-11:00 – Dr. Zachary Handlos: Reflections on using an "ungrading" pedagogy in atmospheric dynamics

11:00-11:15 – Dr. John Knox: Demographic trends in atmospheric sciences graduates

11:15-11:30 – AMS Board on Broadcast Meteorology: The broadening communications skillsets required of meteorologists

11:30-11:45 – Open Forum

11:45-12:45 – **Working Lunch**

12:45-1:00 – *Informal presentation as lunch concludes*: Dr. Wendilyn Flynn: Updates from the AMS Board on Higher Education

Session 2. Theme: Preparing Students for Life Post-graduation and a Diverse Variety of Career Opportunities

1:00-2:00 – **Keynote Talk**: Dr. Maureen Long, Professor and Chair of Earth & Planetary Sciences, Yale University
Student and Faculty Mental Health

2:00-2:15 – Break

2:15-3:30 – **Mini-Sessions**

2:15-2:30 – Dr. Teresa Bals-Elholz: Accommodations - how do we prepare our students for life/grad school/stress?

2:30-2:45 – AMS Mind the Gap Committee: Identifying skills desired for private sector careers

2:45-3:00 – Alicia Wasula: Forthcoming AMS Best Practices Statement: Preparing Students for the Private Sector

3:00-3:15 – Adam Hirsch, COMET: Resources for introducing students to private sector skills and careers

3:15-3:30 – Lt Col Jim Hughes, Director of Meteorology at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs: Preparing USAF cadets for weather and environmental science careers

3:30-3:45 – Open forum and wrap-up; meeting adjourned

3:45-4:00 – Coffee Break

4:00-6:00pm – **Town Hall Discussion** on potential revisions to GS-1340 with invited NOAA, NWS, USAF representatives