



Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

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About the COAA

COAA is a member-led, all inclusive, non-profit, professional association supporting its members and promoting excellence in oceanic and atmospheric sciences and related activities. Members have many opportunities to share information, news, studies and concerns related to the fields of oceanic and atmospheric sciences through board work, submitting correspondence or articles to the COAA Newsletter, leading workshops and making presentations at the Annual Meetings, making contributions to the COAA website, and networking with people in a wide variety of careers (from well-known senior professionals to young environmental enthusiasts).

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Renew membership and donate to COAA through Paypal online at

<http://www.coaaweb.org/donate.php>

1. COAA 2013 AMS Reception

January 2013 - On January 8, 2013, COAA held a reception during the American Meteorological Society (AMS) Annual Meeting at the Hilton Austin hotel, Austin, Texas. More than 100 participants from US, Mainland and Taiwan attended the reception. COAA (2012) President, Dr. Peter Kunghwa Wang, chaired the Reception. Among many honorable guests, Dr. Wenjian Zhang (Director, Observing and Information Systems Department, WMO), Dr. Meiyun Jiao (Deputy Administrator of CMA), and Academician Guoxiong Wu (Academician and Director, Academic Committee of LASG, CAS) gave warm speeches about their connections with COAA, their experience in the past COAA activities, as well as their expectations to COAA for future development and their Chinese New Year wishes to COAA members. They joined the former and current COAA presidents and announced the winners of the first COAA Chinese Doctorate Students Thesis Competition 2012 (See next item for details).

The new COAA (2013) President, Prof. Zhanqing Li, introduced the upcoming COAA International Conference on Atmosphere, Ocean, and Climate Change. It will be held in Hong Kong on 19-21 August 2013, and co-organized by Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK).



COAA president addressed the crowd

Like the first AMS reception held in New Orleans last year, this event attracted many

new members to COAA and is believed to be one of the highlights during the AMS annual meeting. As a non-profit organization, COAA also received donations from generous guests. COAA will strive to improve and serve the community in a better way in the New Year and years to come.



Participants of COAA AMS Reception

The reception is sponsored by COAA, ERT and IMSG.

(news provided by Dr. Jingfeng Huang)

2. COAA Best Chinese Doctorate Dissertation Award in 2012 and Call for Nominations for 2013

January 2013 – COAA strive to develop the scientific ventures in oceanic and atmospheric studies. Through this award, we endeavor to support the research of tomorrow's leading Chinese scientists. We intend to award the high-quality thesis work of the best Chinese doctorate students of today. COAA received 10 applications from recent graduates with doctorate degrees in the United States. After panel review and anonymous voting, 4 awardees were selected. On January 8, 2013, the winners of COAA Chinese Doctorate Student Thesis Award 2012 were announced in the AMS reception.

1st Award, \$500:

Feng Niu, PhD, University of Maryland (supervisor, Prof. Z. Li)

2nd Award, \$300:

Baoqiang Xiang, PhD, University of Hawaii at Manoa (supervisor, Prof. B. Wang)

3rd Award, \$200:

Zhe Feng, PhD, University of North Dakota (supervisor: Prof. X. Dong)

3rd Award, \$200:

Xiaolei Niu, PhD, University of Maryland (supervisor: Prof. R. Pinker).

Thanks COAA ITEC for sponsorship.

Please see announcement and appendix for details about call for the 2013 Best Dissertation Award.

3. COAA 2013 board members and Chinese New-Year luncheon

February 2013 - On February 10, 2013, COAA held its annual Chinese New Year meeting and luncheon celebration at the Hunan Manor Restaurant in Columbia, MD.

Exiting President, Dr. Kung-Hwa (Peter) Wang, summarized COAA's achievements during his tenure and expressed his best wishes and optimistic outlooks for the new board. Four new board members were elected for the 2013-2015 term, including the new President-elect Dr. Chung-Chu Teng from NOAA, Drs. Xiaozhen Xiong (Program for Atmosphere), Lihang Zhou (Publicity), and Dr. Jingsi Gao (Webmaster) from NOAA. The new board will be led by the new President, Prof. Zhanqing Li. Each exiting board member received a Certificate of Appreciation for their service to COAA in the last two years.



Lion dance during COAA Chinese New Year Luncheon



Dr. Kung-Hwa Wang passed COAA's official seal to new President Prof. Zhanqing Li

After an official handover of COAA's presidency, new president Prof. Zhanqing Li welcomed all the new board members and discussed his perspective and major plans for the coming year. COAA's previous presidents, Drs. Fuzheng Weng and Charles Sun, also attended the luncheon and meeting and offered many suggestions for COAA's development.



COAA Board 2012 and 2013

President Zhanqing Li represented COAA to wish all members over the world a happy and prosperous Chinese New Year. The luncheon was filled with warm greetings and friendship. It ended with a fun raffle that symbolized good luck for the winners in the Chinese Year of Snake.

4. COAA Distinguished Scholar Symposium 2013

May 2013 - The COAA Distinguished Scholar Symposium 2013 was held on May 4 2013 at the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center (ESSIC), University of Maryland. Dr. Fuzhong Weng, Prof. Ming Cai, and Prof. Xin-Zhong Liang gave three keynote talks on leading scientific research and application in the fields of Satellite Meteorology, Climate, and Earth System. About 50 people attended the symposium.

Dr. Fuzhong Weng, the acting chief of Satellite Meteorology and Climatology Division of NOAA/NESDIS/STAR, gave a talk entitled “Uses of Suomi NPP Data for Improving Hurricane/Typhoon Forecasts”. He told the story of how Suomi National Polar-Orbiting Partnership (SNPP) satellite was named after Prof. Verner E. Suomi and presented the latest progress on its research. Both the Advanced Technology of Microwave Sounder (ATMS) and the Cross-track Infrared Sounder (CrIS) on board SNPP satellite are well calibrated and will be ready for user applications.



Dr. Fuzhong Weng (NOAA)

Using Hurricane Sandy and Isaac as examples, Dr. Weng demonstrated that direct assimilation of satellite sounding radiance to Hurricane WRF (HWRF) improves hurricane intensity and track forecasting skills. The critical role of the newly available data from the instruments shows that SNPP

could be very promising for the hurricane forecasting community since there has been very little improvement in the hurricane intensity forecast in the past two decades.

Different from the first one, the second talk given by Prof. Ming Cai of Florida State University takes a more theoretic perspective. It targets to understand the radiation and dynamic balances and feedbacks of the Earth under the circumstance of doubled atmospheric carbon dioxides concentration. The title of the talk is “Factors Contributing to Polar Surface Warming Amplification”. In this study, Prof. Cai and his co-author developed a new climate feedback analysis method and examined the partitioned contributions from both radiative and non-radiative feedback processes. Using some humorous layman analogy and sophisticated scientific methodologies, it is very interesting that Prof. Cai showed how the behavior of the Earth’s complicated climate system could be explained through a simple 4-box model and linearized radiative transfer equations.



Prof. Ming Cai (Florida State Univ.)

Prof. Xin-Zhong Liang of University of Maryland presented the research carried out by his group in the past decade. His talk is entitled “Regional Climate-Weather Research and Forecasting (CWRf) Model Development and Application”. His group is determined to solve the puzzle of regional

climate, weather, hydrology, ecosystem dynamics, air quality and water quality in an integrated modeling system with an extended capability of characterizing a large variation in physical processes. Prof. Liang's work could be applied to answer a farmer's concern -- "How much fertilizer the corn field would need under a certain day's weather condition 20 years later?" -- part of which was a compelling question asked by agriculture community in Illinois when he first started the group's research scope more than a decade ago. Now, their model system has demonstrated great capability and excellent performance in predicting weather and climate variations as well as assessing environmental consequences at regional-local scales over U.S. and China.



Prof. Xin-Zhong Liang (Univ. of Maryland)

During the symposium, attendees from nearby universities, research institutions, companies and federal agencies have shown great interest and enthusiasm through many questions and discussions. Dr. Weng, Prof. Cai, and Prof. Liang received "COAA Distinguished Scholar" plaques as recognition to their individual scientific achievements. This symposium has successfully facilitated professional interaction among established and young scientists in the COAA community.

5. COAA Convened the 6th International Conference on Atmosphere, Ocean, and Climate Change in Hong Kong

August 2013 – The 6th International Conference on Atmosphere, Ocean, and Climate Change was held successfully in Hong Kong from August 19-21, 2013. The conference brought together over 150 scientists from around the world to share their latest scientific findings and technological breakthroughs in the broad disciplines of atmospheric, oceanographic, climate change and earth system sciences. Eight conference themes were presented: Climate Change and Our Actions; Asian Monsoon; Aerosol and Climate; Cloud and Precipitation; Weather Forecasting and Data Assimilation; Ocean, Air-Sea Interaction and Climate; Climate Variability and Modeling; Remote Sensing. A main theme of the conference is on global change and regional responses. These topics of wide public interest drew much attention and coverage by the local media.



The conference participants

The conference was organized by the Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA, <http://www.coaaweb.org/>) and hosted by the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). 45 leading researchers from US, China, Canada, and Australia delivered invited talks to provide state-of-the-art overviews of various topics concerning the weather, climate, environment and global changes. They include 7 academicians from China and US.

We are indebted to the Jockey Club of Hong Kong, US National Science Foundation, University of Maryland, Sun Yat-sen University, Beijing Normal University for their supports to make the

conference a big success. (provided by Zhanqing Li)



Representatives of the conference organization committee, local host and sponsors including the former minister of Science and Technology of China, Presidents of the Chinese University of Hong Kong and COAA, Chairman of the HKJC foundation, etc.



Distinguished senior guest speakers



All invited speakers

President, Zhanqing Li, greeted all the attendees and highlighted the success of COAA Hongkong conference. After picnic a board meeting was held to make plans for several future activities including COAA AGU and AMS receptions, a new round of the COAA best dissertation award selection, and a Chinese New Year event (see announcements below)



Picnic



COAA Family and Friend Day group picture

6. COAA Family and Friend Day

October 2013 – The 2nd annual COAA Family and Friend Day took place on October 12 in Cabin John Regional Park, Bethesda, MD. It was an overcast day following several days of continuous rain. While the weather was cool and misty, the minds of all attendees were warm and sunny. About 50 people, including many long-term and new COAA members from the Washington D.C. area and visiting scholars from China, attended this event. Everyone enjoyed the gathering with old and new friends in a very relaxed atmosphere. Families of COAA members also participated with great enthusiasm. The

7. Announcements

COAA 2013 AGU Dinner Party

COAA and the atmospheric alumni of Peking University will co-organize a banquet dinner party during the AGU Fall Meeting in San Francisco. The dinner party is intended to foster friendship, communication and networking among the fellow Chinese professionals attending the conference and to celebrate for those who are honored in the AGU:

Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou (UCLA) --- Roger Revelle Medal, AGU Union Award

Prof. Ping Yang (TAMU) --- AGU Atmospheric Section Award

Prof. Zhisheng An (Member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences) --- AGU New Fellow

Prof. Bin Wang (U. Hawaii) --- AGU New Fellow

Dr. Ruby Leung (PNNL) --- AGU New Fellow

COAA is proud to have two distinguished members, Dr. William Lau (NASA/GSFC) and Rong Fu (UT Austin) serving as the chairs of AGU's Atmospheric Science Section and Global Change Section, both being endorsed by COAA during the election.

It is also worth noting that several COAA members just received a team award, the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, led by Dr. Jonathan Jiang of JPL with the following Chinese team members: Dr. Hui Su, Dr. Chengxing Zhai, Dr. Janice Shen.

With gratitude and honor, COAA cordially invites its members and friends to join the AGU dinner party. COAA and Peking University will subsidize the cost. Please sign up in the website (doodle.com) through the link:

<http://www.doodle.com/hin5fbxnruttdua5>

Time:

6:30 pm – 9:30 pm, December 12, 2013

Location:

**Canton Seafood and Dim Sum Restaurant
655 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94107**

COAA 2014 AMS Reception

After the great success of previous COAA AMS Receptions, COAA is very pleased to organize the COAA 2014 AMS Reception at the 94th AMS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, to thank you very much for your kind and continuous support to COAA's development.

Please save the date and time: **6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, February 4, 2014**. More information will be available through COAA emails.

COAA Best Dissertation Award 2013

Following the successful launch of the COAA's best dissertation award last year, we will continue to select the best dissertations and make it annually with the following revisions:

(1) The candidates are limited to newly graduated PhDs who graduated within the past year (from Oct 1 2012 to Sep 30 2013) based on the date of defense certified by the supervisor. The deadline to apply is **December 1, 2013**.

(2) To sustain the event financially and to enhance its impact, COAA is seeking for permanent sponsorship with promising progress. The sponsor (to be disclosed later) may provide fund for the cash award and publish the award dissertation as a monograph. The number of award is limited to two without ranking, preferably but not mandatory, each in atmospheric and oceanic sciences.

(3) The award will be announced at the annual AMS conference.

8. Call for support to vote the AMS Councilor

COAA would like to call for your support to vote for Dr. Ruby Leung (PNNL), our long time COAA member, for the AMS Councilor (Government) 2014-2016.

The candidate profiles can be found at:
<http://www.ametsoc.org/elections/2013candidates.pdf>

The online election is located at:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/elections/>

Please cast your vote at your earliest convenience before the voting ends (**December 2, 2013**). Your kind support is greatly appreciated!

9. Annual donation drive to COAA through CFC

COAA is a non-profit organization striving to serve the Chinese-American oceanic and atmospheric professional community. COAA rely on supports from its members, friends and sponsors. All donations are used to support activities organized by COAA to benefit its members.

During the 2013 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) solicitation period (September 1st to **December 15th, 2013**), COAA calls for your donation through CFC. COAA's CFC Agency Designation Number is 60027.

COAA local chapters are encouraged to

initiate local CFC campaigns to seek support for activities in their chapters. The same CFC account may be used with information of local contributors. Should the total donation amount by the members of any regional COAA chapter exceeds \$1000, the whole amount will be reserved for supporting any local activities by the COAA regional chapter.

10. Call for contributions to COAA newsletter

Please let us know if you have exciting news to share with other COAA members, including awards, promotions, important publications, etc. We will post them on the COAA website and newsletter.

Please send your announcements to:

news@coaaweb.org

For current job listings, visit the COAA website:

<http://www.coaaweb.org/career.php>

11. Appendix



Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA)

COAA Best Dissertation Award 2013

Purpose: We at COAA strive to develop the scientific ventures in oceanic and atmospheric studies. Through this award, we endeavor to support the research of tomorrow's leading Chinese scientists. We intend to award the high-quality thesis work of the best Chinese doctorate students of today.

Qualifications:

1. Students graduated from an accredited university in the United States with a PhD degree in oceanic and atmospheric research.
2. Passed PhD defense within the period of October 1 of last year to September 30 of the current year certified by the department.

Application:

1. Please email awards@coaaweb.org with the thesis (PDF) and a 1-page CV attached, including education, experience, honors, and publications by **December 1st 2013**
2. Two recommendation letters are highly recommended with one from the supervisor.
3. Applicants need to register at the COAA website (<http://www.coaaweb.org/join.php>) when applying.

Award:

1. Two rewards will be bestowed each year, preferably but not mandatory, each in atmospheric and oceanic sciences.
2. The awardee will receive a certificate of "Excellent Dissertation Award" as well as a cash prize (amount TBD);
3. Winners will be announced at the annual AMS meeting as well as on the COAA web site. Award notifications will also be sent to the advisor and department chair.
4. Awarded papers will be posted on the COAA web site (<http://www.coaaweb.org>) and is likely published as a monograph with no cost to the awardee (details in progress).

Selection:

1. The quality of dissertation judged by various factors such as publications, recommendation letters, solicited reviews by experts in the field, etc.
2. The selection will be made following anonymous voting by all board members with numerical ranking.