



COAA Newsletter

美華海洋大氣學會

Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

<http://www.coaaweb.org>

May, 2003

... From the President, Da-Lin Zhang

Dear COAA members:

First, I wish to take this opportunity to thank our past presidents and board directors for their valuable contributions to the growth of our association. COAA now has membership of about 300 worldwide as it marches into its tenth year. In the past few years, COAA has successfully held two International Ocean-Atmosphere Conferences that were jointly organized with other professional organizations: one in Washington D.C. in 1997, and the second in Taipei in 2000. A third such conference was originally planned to be held this summer in Beijing, but it has been postponed to 2004 due to the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). In addition, we have co-sponsored several workshops and conferences in the U.S., Taiwan, and Hong Kong. More significantly, COAA has established a sister association relationship with the Chinese Undersea Technology Association in Taiwan, and the Chinese Atmosphere Young Scientist Association in Beijing. Such a relationship with the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO) is under way. Undoubtedly, COAA has become a prominent association for promoting professional networking and scientific exchanges worldwide and strengthening the friendship between overseas and domestic scientists.

Since the election of the current Board of Directors in October 2002, the Board Directors have worked hard with a team effort to serve for our members. First, COAA co-organized the 2002 U.S.-China Conference on Business and Technology in Arlington, Virginia, during 6-7 December 2002. On 8 February 2003, over 60 COAA members and their families attended a dinner gathering to celebrate the

Chinese Spring Festival, which was successfully organized by Long Chiu and Xiaofeng Li (Program Directors), and William Tseng (Treasurer). Colin Shen (Publication Director) has launched electronic e-Newsletters, starting from February 2003, to supplement our traditional semiannual COAA Newsletters by providing monthly updates of the activities and events occurring within our community. COAA's website (<http://www.coaaweb.org/>) has been completely re-structured with new features and contents due to the skillful design of our webmaster Yixiang Nie and the leadership of Song Yang (Secretary). COAA's Spring Workshop was held on 25 March 2003 with about 40 participants and 12 oral presentations (Long Chou and Xiaofeng Li). Our Publicity Director, Chung-Lin Shie, has cheerfully involved in all COAA's gatherings and workshops, making announcements, taking pictures, and coordinating between the board members. Yuejian Zhu (Membership Director) has been actively recruiting new members. The last, but not the least, is our Vice President, Ben Chao, who has assisted me in various ways in the organization of COAA's activities.

Because of many uncertainties associated with SARS, we have recently made a painful decision to postpone COAA2003 to the next year (COAA2004, see a separate article in this issue). I wish to express my gratitude to many overseas committee members and the Board of Directors for their strong support and valuable advices in the past few months. We will start the processes again in September or later this year after the SARS problem in China is completely controlled. I hope to see more COAA members to participate in COAA2004.

This year we have started publishing the minutes of board meetings, making our planning transparent to our members. Looking ahead, we intend to expand our network to other regional centers, particularly in Boulder, Colorado, and recruit more new members. All COAA members are welcome to submit webpage addresses that would allow our webmaster to link COAA's home page to yours. We will keep close contact in various ways with our Chinese host and sponsors to secure the needed funds and organizational support for COAA2004. Some efforts will be made to raise more funds through corporate donations and the CFC contributions to support COAA2004. We will work with the CSO in Beijing to set up a sister-association relation; similarly the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) will be approached for such an establishment. When it is possible, bilateral collaborations between COAA and CSO/CMS will be sought. Finally, with COAA2003 postponed to the next year, we will plan some new activities in this summer to promote our professional networking. Any of your suggestions to improve COAA's activities is always welcome.

Da-Lin Zhang received his M.S. and Ph. D. from The Pennsylvania State University (PSU) in 1981 and 1985, respectively. After 3-4 years postdoctoral work at PSU, NCAR and University of Toronto, he took a faculty position at McGill University. He joined the Department of Meteorology of University of Maryland in September 1996. His research focuses on the modeling and understanding of fundamental processes taking place in squall lines, mesoscale convective complexes, hurricanes and heavy rain- (or snow-) storms, tropical and extratropical cyclones, gravity waves, frontal circulations and topographically generated weather phenomena.

Board's Summary Reports Oct. 2002 – Apr. 2003 And Introduction of Directors

William Tseng (Treasurer). The two most important activities of the treasury during this period were to complete the Year 2002 COAA income tax report and the CFC application. I spent almost a weekend and several nights to complete the income tax report which is a quite complicated procedure. Then I submitted it to Eddie Shih who completed and submitted the CFC application. COAA financial situation has some improvements due to the participation of many new members, donations

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COAA Newsletter is published twice a year by the *Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association*, P.O. Box 4948, Silver Spring, Maryland 20914-4948, USA. The companion **e-Newsletter** is published approximately monthly. Your submissions of news items of interest to COAA members are solicited. Send your news preferably by email to coaa.news@cox.net, or by postal mail to the above P.O. box address, or contact one of the following Board members.

Board of Directors

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- Ben Chao** - *Vice President*
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- Colin Shen** - *Publication*
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from our corporate members and the CFC, and less spending. The bank balance in the end of Year 2002 has increased by about \$1,300 to about \$17,000.

William Tseng, who specializes in ocean remote sensing and applications, has been working with the National Environmental, Satellite, Data and Information Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as an oceanographer since 1990. Before coming to NOAA, he worked many years for several computer high-tech corporations. He holds a Ph.D. in oceanic sciences from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. He also earned an M.S. in physical oceanography, an M.S. in remote sensing and applications, and a B.S. in physics. He has been a COAA member since 1993 and devoted his time to its activities since then. He was elected to the Board twice and has served as Directors of Publicity, Programs and Treasury.

Long Chiu and Xiaofeng Li (Program). Two major activities have been organized this year. The Chinese New Year Dinner, held on February 8, 2002 at the Oriental East Restaurant, was attended by over 60 members and guests. Thanks to the generous contributions of the Board Members, participants enjoyed good food, good company, and lots of gifts from lucky draws. The COAA Scientific Workshop: Research and Applications in Atmospheric, Ocean and Earth Sciences, held on March 25, 2003 at the Department of Meteorology, University of Maryland, College Park, attracted 37 participants. Abstracts of their presentations are included in the last issue of the e-Newsletter. This is the first time the Scientific Workshop is held on a weekday, and the pros and cons of this change have been voiced by participants. In the next half term, we plan to organize a summer picnic in late June to early July and end this term's activities with our annual meeting in the fall. Please send your suggestions and comments about these two upcoming activities to Long Chiu (lchiu@gmu.edu) or Xiaofeng Li (xiaofeng.li@noaa.gov).

Long Chiu is an Associate Professor of Earth Observing and Remote Sensing at the School of Computational Science at George Mason University. He received his Sc.D. in meteorology from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1980 and completed additional two years of postdoctoral work there. Before joining the faculty at GMU in 1998, he worked at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. He has been involved with the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) since its inception and is a member of the Hydrology Data Support Team at the GSFC Distributed Active Archive Center (GDAAC) and the Global Precipitation Climatology Project (GPCP) Polar Satellite Precipitation Data Center (PSPDC). His research interests include remote sensing, climate diagnostics, statistical analyses, data and information systems and data distribution and dissemination of remote sensing information.

Xiaofeng Li received the B.S. degree in optical engineering from Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, in 1985. He received the M.S. degree from First Institute of Oceanography, State Oceanic Administration of China, and the Ph.D. degree from North Carolina State University both in physical oceanography and remote sensing in 1992 and 1997, respectively. During his M.S. program, he completed the

course work at University of Science and Technology of China, HeFei, China. He currently works at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) Office of Research and Applications, Washington, D.C. His research interests include remote sensing study of oceanic surface and internal waves, marine atmospheric boundary layer processes, sea surface temperature algorithms development and validation from both polar orbiting and geostationary satellites, coastal oceanography, fluid dynamics, and remote sensing physics.

Chung-Lin Shie (Publicity and Outreach Committee). This Publicist since his election to the current Board of Directors in October 2002 has performed two major tasks. First, in December 2002, sixty-six beautiful greeting cards that carried the Board's heartfelt appreciation and seasonal greetings were mailed to our COAA genuine regional directors and dear friends around the world. Among them, 32 are in China, 19 in Taiwan, 8 in USA, 2 in Hong Kong, and 1 in each of the following countries -- Canada, England, Germany, Japan and Sweden. The second major task that this publicist has performed was often playing a "sidekick" role in assisting other board members/event coordinators in arranging/managing major activities such as workshops and gatherings. Making announcements, campaigning for participation, as well as taking pictures were among his usual tasks. This publicist has also been taking part in the Outreach Committee with Shi-Keng Yang (Chair), Chung-Hsiung Sui, and Da-Lin Zhang. According to Shi-Keng Yang, a mutual understanding with International Education Foundation (IEF) for future cooperation has been reached. IEF will provide great efforts in administration, and COAA will concentrate on the educational programs. Idea such as to hold a student camp in Colorado has been discussed. Please contact Chung-Lin Shie (shie@agnes.gsfc.nasa.gov) or Shi-Keng Yang (sk.yang@noaa.gov).

Chung-Lin Shie earned his B.S. from National Taiwan University in the 70's. Was curious about snowy weather and ended up with an M.S. from Penn State in the 80's. Missing the sunshine led him to Florida State where he received his Ph.D. in the 90's. Returned to the cold D.C. Metropolitan area (was he crazy?) and has become a research scientist associated with NASA/GSFC since 1993 – affiliated first with SSAI (1993-2001) and then UMBC/GEST (2001-present). Considers himself a 50% research meteorologist (cloud modeling, air-sea interaction, remote sensing, and dynamics), 20% arts-lover (Chinese calligraphy & others not good at), 20% philosophy-seeker (unknown & little known), and 10% math-hobbyist (only those simple & quick).

Yuejian Zhu (Membership). There are many new faces in our Association since the last annual meeting in October, 2002. We would like to extend our warmest welcome to you, our new members! We hope you will all be able to participate in the

upcoming activities of COAA! Please visit <http://www.coaaweb.org> for COAA information. The new members are: **Lifetime membership** – Laura L. Pan, Houjun Wang,, Liguang Wu, Jin-Yi Yu, and Tingjun Zhan; **regular membership** – Jian-Wen Bao, Celia Chen, Fei Chen, Aiguo Dai, Feng Ding, Xiaoli Ding, Ming Ge, Yu Gu, Yong-Run Guo, Shu-peng Ho, Wei Huang, Menas Kafatos, Fung-Chi Ko, Qingquan Li, Shunglin Li, Tim Li, Charles A. Lin, Changhai Liu, Hanli Liu, Yubao Liu, Chungu Lu, Chin-Hoh L. Moeng, Fanthune J. Moeng, Hui Su, Jenny Sun, Jielun Sun, Junhong Wang, Wei Wang, Wanli Wu, Qingnong Xiao, Fanlin Yang, Xubin Zeng, Chidong Zhang, Qin Zhang, Tao Zhang, Yongsheng Zhang, Dawei Zheng, and Sisong Zhou; **student membership** – Yixiang Nie. (To join, email Yuejian.Zhu@noaa.gov)

Yuejian Zhu is a Research Meteorologist at Environmental Modeling Center of NCEP/NOAA. He received his under-graduate meteorological education from Nanjing Institute of Meteorology, 1978-1981, and his graduate education from the Department of Meteorology, University of Maryland, 1985-1989. In 1990, he joined SAIC in EMC/NCEP/NOAA as a Support Scientist. In February 2003, he joined NOAA as a Research Meteorologist. Presently, he is working on the development and improvement of Global Forecasting System and Global Ensemble Forecasting System, with a main focus on model calibration, verification and probabilistic forecast.

Song Yang (Secretary and Webpage Committee). At the Board meeting on 23 November 2002, COAA established a five-member Webpage Committee: Long Chiu, Eric Nie (Web Master), Colin Shen, Song Yang (Chair), and Da-Lin Zhang. The main task of the committee is to re-design, develop, and maintain the COAA webpage. A new face of the webpage has appeared recently (see <http://www.coaaweb.org>). COAA welcomes your frequent visits to the website, which contains organization introduction, membership services, academic activities, publications, and news. It is a good place to get the latest information about the Association, COAA activities, employment opportunities, and others. COAA also welcomes your personal webpages to be linked and your major news items to be posted to its website. (Song.Yang@noaa.gov)

Song Yang is a Research Meteorologist at the NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, where he conducts activities in climate research and climate service. His research interests include the coupled ocean-atmosphere-land climate system and short-term climate variability. He is currently devoting most of his effort to the development of tools for improving the skill of climate prediction. Dr. Yang received his B.S. and M.S. from the Zhongshan University (Guangzhou, China) and Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University. His professional career has

been linked to his experience with university, private company, and federal government services. He is a frequent participant in various activities of mixed Chinese and American cultures.

Ben Chao (Vice President and Zheng-He/ Cheng-Ho Committee). Prof. Jin Wu has been giving speeches and meeting with many people worldwide about the 600th anniversary (2005) celebration, and beyond, of the Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho's first voyage. On May 3, while in town (in Maryland) during the spring break from his Cheng-Kung University duty in Taiwan, Prof. Wu gave an invited presentation at the Tao-Tao Club luncheon. The presentation was very inspiring; the response from the audience of some 50 people was so great that a Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho Association Washington Chapter was created on the spot, to be organized by Mr. Xia Han-Ping, a local scholar, and heightened activities in the local Washington area would be expected. COAA's President Dalin Zhang and Vice-President Ben Chao attended the luncheon, and offered liaison, initially based on our existing COAA website for the Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho Committee. The Committee (Co-Chairs: Ben Chao and Ming-Yang Su; Wilbur Chen, Jin Wu, and Da-Lin Zhang) was set up within COAA in 2001 to coordinate and promote COAA activities related to the Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho matter. Subsequently a COAA dinner get-together with Prof. Wu was held on May 8, where the encouraging progress was the main topic of conversation. Another member Prof. Ming-Yang Su continues his active research work on Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho's voyages at the National Ocean University in Taiwan, and publishes regular Newsletters (see COAA website link). Prof. Su had prepared to give an invited talk about Zheng-He/Cheng-Ho at the now-postponed COAA2003 Conference. (Ben Chao, chao@bowie.gsfc.nasa.gov)

Ben Chao graduated from National Taiwan University with a B.S. degree in Physics in 1973, and obtained a Ph.D. degree in Earth Sciences from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego in 1981. He then joined NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and currently is the Head of the Space Geodesy Branch. On the side he serves as the head of the Global Geophysical Fluids Center of the International Earth Rotation Service, and the president-elect of the Geodesy Section of AGU, and he helps as Associate Editor for several international journals. His research interests are interdisciplinary, include global geodynamics, gravity change, Earth rotation problems, and data analysis.

Colin Shen (Publication). Communication by electronic mail has become a routine for virtually all of us. It seems unforgivable not to take advantage of this highly efficient medium to communicate COAA news to our members, nation- and world-wide. So

we have started COAA e-Newsletters and tried to update COAA activities on a monthly basis. Now that we can get the news out quicker, we hope that all our members will be more inclined to submit news items related to their activities. And, we hope that eventually the contents of the newsletter will be more reflective of the broad COAA community, rather than the activities of the Board.

Colin Shen presently is the Head of Modeling and Analysis Section in the Remote Sensing Division at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). He has a Ph.D. degree, 1978, in Physical Oceanography from the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. He did postdoctoral work at NCAR and University of Washington and began his federal career at NRL in 1984. He has published research on mesoscale eddies/circulation, internal waves/double-diffusive finestructure, flow instability, nonhydrostatic wave/current equations, and surface-to-subsurface velocity projection. His current research uses space/airborne remote sensing data for ocean processes determination.

Minutes of Board Meetings

The Board held two meetings in the past half year. The first one was held on Nov. 23, 2002, and the second one on Mar. 25, 2003. The following minutes of the two meetings were recorded and reported by Song Yang (Song.Yang@noaa.gov).

❖ Minutes of 1st Board meeting

11:00AM - 2:30 PM, 23 November 2002
6415 Kilbrogan Court, Clarksville, MD 21209

Attendants: Julian Wang, Te-Jung Wang, Song Yang, Ben Chao, Da-Lin Zhang, Yuejian Zhu, William Tseng, Colin Shen, Shi-Keng Yang, Chung-Lin Shie, Quanan Zheng, Long Chiu.
Absentee: Xiaofeng Li.

1. Transfers of duties

- a. The duties of the President and Board members - Treasurer, Secretary, Publication, Program, and Publicity were transferred from the previous (2001-02) board to the current (2002-03) board.
- b. Da-Lin and William to the bank for signature transfer in order to co-sign COAA's checks.
- c. CFC-related activities and COAA's telephone will still be maintained by Eddies Shih.

2. COAA2003 in Beijing

- a. Da-Lin updated information from IAP, including committees and financial sources.
- b. Send information about Taiwan participants to IAP by the end of December 2002 - Ben and Chung-

Lin lead and may ask Regional Directors in Taiwan for assistance.

c. Complete the Website items for all purposes by 10 December 2002

(responsibility of Quanan - in charge, Da-Lin, Ben, Long, and Nie).

d. COAA may consider providing travel support up to \$2,000 for the conference after using up all external funds. (Da-Lin to check with Eddie for CFC regulations.)

e. Organize a session about Zheng-He (Ho) within the 2003 conference (Ben)

3. Planning activities

a. First workshop will be held on the afternoon of Friday, 28 March 2003 at UMD (Long and Xiaofeng). Da-Lin to reserve the room.

b. The first Newsletter will be out in April 2003, and a second one likely in June, before COAA2003. (Colin).

c. Spring Festival gathering on 8 February 2003, maybe co-organized with other groups (Long, Xiaofeng, and William)

d. COAA's banner will be replaced (Da-Lin).

e. Next board meeting will be on 28 March 2003.

f. COAA will contribute \$200 and co-sponsor the 2002 U.S.-China Conference on Business and Technology (Song).

g. Yuejian will prepare membership fee receipts (for life, regular, student members) for COAA2003.

h. Prepare Christmas greeting cards; also to regional directors and corporate members (Chung-Lin, Shi-Keng, and Da-Lin). Cards will be co-signed by Tony, Song, and Da-Lin.

i. Da-Lin and Quanan will finalize the establishment of sister association issue with China's Society of Oceanography.

j. Prepare plaques or others for COAA2003 organizers and sponsors (Shi-Keng, Xiaofeng, Song, Jianping, and Da-Lin; \$30 - \$50 each). Have them made in China.

k. Send another note for CFC contributions (Da-Lin).

l. Membership drive and plan a future non-local workshop in Boulder -subjects for discussion with Dr. Bill Kuo on 3 December 2002.

4. COAA Webpage

a. COAA will pay \$200 for re-design and re-organize the current Webpage. COAA will pay

\$20/month to maintain the Webpage. Long will contact Mr. Eric Nie for this issue.

b. Establish a Website committee: Song (Chair), Da-Lin, Long, Colin, and Eric.

c. Try to use email system in the COAA Website - Song to check with Wilbur.

d. Da-Lin will contact Wilbur for turning off some of the current presentations.

e. Include the following information in the Website: Member's request for Membership Directory (Y/N?)

Links of corporate members

Links of sister associations

COAA committees

5. Others

a. Issues of scholarship and modification of COAA's mission statement were raised but related actions would be delayed.

b. More information, including the minutes of board meetings, will be sent to COAA's advisory committee members (former presidents) and regional directors. A summary of the minutes may be published in Newsletters and COAA's web.

c. Returned checks need to be taken care of (Da-Lin and Song).

d. Issue of summer camp was raised but action would be delayed because of COAA2003.

❖ Minutes of 2nd Board meeting

12:00 – 1:00 PM, 25 March 2003

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Attendants: Ben Chao, Long Chiu, Xiaofeng Li, Colin Shen, Chung-Lin Shie, William Tseng, Song Yang, Da-Lin Zhang, and Yuejian Zhu

Dalin Zhang reviewed the status of all activities planned at the last board meeting and reported the progress in organizing the Third International Conference (previously scheduled in July 2003) with a focus on the budget, program, and other supports. Ben Chao updated the status of potential participants from Taiwan and the Zheng He (Ho) program. The Board voted and passed a COAA support of \$5,000 for the conference. The Board assigned Song Yang to coordinate with the local organizer in China for preparing plaques and new COAA banner and other issues during his trip to Beijing in March-April, and Yuejian Zhu to prepare membership recruitment and service materials for the conference. It also assigned Chung-Lin Shie to public news about the

international conference in national and local newspapers.

The Board reviewed and appreciated the successes in Spring Festival gathering (chaired by Long Chiu and Xiaofeng Li), new COAA Webpage development (chaired by Song Yang), initiation of COAA e-Newsletter (chaired by Colin Shen), and the Combined Federal Campaign activity (chaired by William Tseng).

The Board also discussed the undergoing activity to establish a sister association with China's Society of Oceanography. Yuejian Zhu also reported his meeting with the delegation of Chinese Meteorological Society in February and discussed the possibility of establishing a sister association relationship with the CMS.

Professional Meetings Held

❖ Conference on Earth-Observing and Atmosphere-Land-Ocean Interactions.

Over fifty people participated in the COAA 2002 Annual Meeting: Conference on Earth-observing and Atmosphere-Ocean-Land interaction, held on October 26, 2002 in Enterprise Hall, George Mason University. The full day conference includes four invited talks, twenty poster presentations, and panel discussions by past COAA presidents. Four invited talks include "Sea level changes in HK and its relation with ENSO" by Prof. Zheng Dawei of HK Polytechnic University, Hong Kong, "A coupled atmosphere-hydrological modeling study of the 1996 Ha! Ha! River basin flash flood in Quebec, Canada" by Prof. Charles Lin of McGill University, Canada, "Sediment control of China's Yellow River" by Prof. George Leung of University of Massachusetts, and "A VAccess/MAGIC: remote sensing and GIS for regional environmental applications" by Prof. Menas Kafatos of George Mason University. The three-hour luncheon/poster session provided participants ample opportunities for in-depth discussions and networking. The poster session participants include Universities such as University of Delaware, University of Maryland College Park, Johns Hopkins University, George Mason University, Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere and government agencies such as NASA and NOAA. Eight of the

nine COAA past presidents participated in the panel discussion and shared their visions on research trends and future direction of COAA. In the evening, over thirty members and guests attended the annual banquet, held at China Garden Restaurant in Rosslyn, Virginia. Banquet guests were treated to the humorous and thought-provoking keynote speech "Understanding the impact of cultural behavior to our careers" given by Dr. Paul Chan of USDA Economic Research Services, in addition to good food, good company, and drawing of many gifts. (Long Chiu; lchiu@gmu.edu)

• ***Panel discussion at the COAA 2002 Annual Meeting***

In celebration of entering the 10th year of COAA, the COAA 2002 annual meeting (held in the George Mason University, VA, on October 26, 2002) organized a special panel discussion. COAA's past presidents were all invited to serve as the panelists; and all but one did, including, in chronological order, Paul Hwang (NASA), William Lau (NASA), Frank Pao (Catholic U.), Tsann-Wang Yu (NOAA), Eddie Shi (NOAA), Wilbur Chen (NOAA), and Tony Liu (NASA) (Norden Huang of NASA couldn't make it that day). COAA's Vice President Ben Chao (NASA) served as the moderator.

The panelists were first asked to present their forward-looking views on what the big science issues are and what they see in COAA's future (expanded) roles and directions. The presentations were very lively; the speakers also shared their personal stories and experiences with an enthusiastic audience of about 40 COAA members. The forum was then open to the floor, which saw active participation from the audience. Originally scheduled for 1.5 hours, the discussion had to be cut short at the 2-hour mark.

All panelists and attendees recognizing the tremendous success COAA now enjoys, it was reassuring to see that many COAA issues directed to the future were raised and discussed, sometimes debated, in a very upbeat, pleasant atmosphere. These include COAA's expansion of membership and participation in terms of ethnic background, geographical location, age group, and even gender; expansion in terms of types of COAA activities such as conferences/workshops, scholarships, and

especially outreach activities related to local and Taiwan/Mainland China schools, websites, relationship with other professional societies, and COAA's role in benefiting and feedback to the society. The discussion has provided valuable input and food for thought in future planning of the growing COAA as an organization. (Ben Chao; chao@bowie.gsfc.nasa.gov)

❖ **2002 U.S.-China Conference on Business and Technology in Arlington**

COAA co-sponsored the 2002 U.S.-China Conference on Business and Technology at the Hilton Arlington & Towers in Arlington, Virginia, during 6-7 December 2002. The conference belonged to the annual forum, organized mainly by the Chinese Association for Science and Technology (CAST-DC), to address business and technology issues related to both U.S. and China. The main theme of the 2002 conference, the third one of the forum, was "Challenges and Opportunities in Post-WTO China." Its purposes were to promote a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities in post-WTO China, to enhance international business and technology exchanges between U.S. and China, and to explore collaborative and mutually beneficial opportunities in business and technology between American and Chinese professionals. COAA also co-sponsored the previous second conference of the forum, the 2000 U.S.-China Conference on Science, Technology and Business. COAA member Song Yang, who was a member of the Executive Organizing Committee of the 2002 conference, organized and chaired a session on bio-technology, agriculture, and environment. COAA member Paul Chan was invited to speak to the plenary session. Other COAA members who were invited to speak or participate in the conference included Qingqun Li, Frank Pao, Eddie Shih, William Tseng, and Da-Lin Zhang. (Song.Yang@noaa.gov)

❖ **COAA 2003 Scientific Workshop: Research and applications of Atmospheric, Ocean and Earth Sciences**

Thirty-seven members and colleagues attended the COAA 2003 Scientific workshop: Research and Applications in Atmospheric, Ocean and Earth Sciences held from 1-5 p.m., March 25, 2003, at the Auditorium of the Computer and Space Science

Building at the University of Maryland, College Park. Twelve papers, ranging from topics such as use of renewable ocean thermal energy, techniques, analyses and modeling studies of natural climate phenomena and human induced impacts, contaminant transports in the Chesapeake Bay, breaking waves and rip currents, and satellite retrieval techniques, to enabling IT tools for data access, were presented. These high quality presentations generated enthusiastic discussions and participants enjoyed the workshop overall. This is the first time the COAA workshop is held on a weekday. Many participants had to leave early to attend to family matters and were thus unable to join the workshop dinner. The table of eight at the COAA workshop dinner enjoyed the good food and company that lasted till 8 p.m. Some participants expressed their wishes for future weekend workshops. A participant suggested a new format that would emphasize self-introduction by the speakers, less detail of the research work and more discussions, and the workshop be timed to coincide with releases of major research opportunity announcements. (Long Chiu, lchiu@gmu.edu and Xiaofeng Li, xiaofeng.li@noaa.gov)

Postponement of COAA2003 Conference

The current spread of SARS disease in Beijing and other parts of China is a serious health concern that has necessitated the postponement of the Conference scheduled in July in Beijing. The following is the letter from the Program Co-Chairs detailing the postponement.

Dear Overseas Participants:

This is to inform you that after discussing among the overseas advisory, program, and local organizational committees and after consulting with our Chinese host, a decision has been made to postpone COAA2003 to the next year because of many uncertainties associated with SARS in China. Our decision was based on the following information gathered from the committee members and various sources:

Because of SARS, NOAA and NASA have recently issued a travel advisory against travel to east Asia, including China. A similar advisory

or warning has also been issued by many US universities and private agencies as well as in other countries. In addition, Taiwan government has stopped approving any travel to Hong Kong and mainland China.

Although the SARS issue has received considerable attention in China, it is still uncertain if this problem could be fully controlled and worry-free by July. If not, we have to think about many possible scenarios. For example, many participants may be nervously sitting in conference rooms. If one gets affected, all the participants may need to be quarantined for a few days. According to the current practice in many government labs or private agencies, some participants may be required to stay at home for 2 weeks (even without pay) before going to office after their returning from China. For those participants without the US green cards or citizenship, they may have the risk of their return visas being declined.

Based on the current situation and our limited contacts, much fewer overseas participations would be expected if COAA2003 is to be held as scheduled. Thus, it would be of interest to most of us and our host that this conference be postponed to the next year. This is a painful decision for many of us. We apologize if this decision could cause any inconvenience to you. For those who have purchased tickets to China, you may talk to your airline for a full use of the airfare(s) (without any penalty) within a year because of SARS.

We hope to start the processes again in September or later this year after the SARS problem in China is fully controlled. If you receive this email, you will also receive our announcement in the future. Several dates for COAA's conference have been mentioned: Spring 2004, July 2004 when the First Assembly of the Asian Geophysical Union is to be held in Singapore, and the 80th anniversary of the Chinese Meteorological Society in Beijing. This will be decided after consulting with our Chinese host and overseas committee members. Finally, we wish to thank you again for your

contributions and interests, and hope to hear from you in the future.

Sincerely Yours,
Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng
Overseas Program Co-Chairs
(Da-Lin Zhang, dalin@atmos.umd.edu)

Regional News

❖ COAA gains more new members in Colorado!

A report by COAA President Zhang on his recent trip.

First of all, I wish to thank our Regional Director, Bill Kuo, for his warm-hearted organization of a lunch-time get-together and generous sponsoring a dinner party during my visit.

During the lunch hour of Thursday, April 24th, I gave an introduction of our organization to a group of 30 overseas colleagues at NCAR's foothill lab. These attendees came from various divisions of NCAR, UCAR, NOAA and CU at Boulder, which are about 50% of the total in the region. These attendees began to know better about our organization after my presentation, and became very enthusiastic in joining COAA. Several attendees submitted the application forms right after the meeting. Eventually, both Bill and I collected 25 application forms with 3 life members.

At Friday's evening, Bill sponsored COAA's first social activity in Boulder, i.e., a dinner party by providing 50% discount to all attendees. About 20 overseas scientists attended the party. (Bill was absent because he had to attend Prof. Orville's symposium in South Dakota.) During the party, we discussed various issues related to COAA's organization and activities, and the types of activities they would like to participate. They all realized the importance of having COAA-organized (scientific and social) activities. I believe that more would join COAA and become life members after seeing more COAA-organized activities.

In the future, we need to discuss how to coordinate COAA's activities between the DC and Boulder, and other regions when a critical mass of members join COAA and have regular activities. Any of your suggestions is welcome.

❖ COAA, Washington D.C., hosts visitors.

• On December 3, 2002, COAA hosted a welcome dinner party in Oriental East restaurant in honor of Dr. Bill Kuo during his business travel to DC. A total of 24 COAA members attended the party. Dr. Kuo is UCAR's Program Director of COAMIC (Constellation Observing System for Meteorology, Ionosphere, and Climate) and one of COAA's Regional Directors. After a few introduction remarks by COAA's President, Da-Lin Zhang, Dr. Kuo gave a talk on the possible regional expansion of COAA's activities into the area. Recruiting new members, holding workshops and annual meetings, and enhancing the professional network were also discussed. (Da-Lin Zhang; dalin@atmos.umd.edu)

• Prof. Qin Zenghao, previously affiliated with the Qingdao (Tsingtao) Ocean University and the former Director of the Typhoon Research Center of the Shanghai Weather Bureau, visited the DC area in April, after his lecturing at the Hurricane Research Division/NOAA in Miami. He was accompanied by Prof. Chen Changsheng of University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, who gave a seminar entitled "Finite Volume Approach of Coastal-Ocean Modeling" on April 22 at NOAA's National Ocean Service, Silver Spring, Maryland. In past few years, some overseas oceanic and atmospheric scientists have been grateful for warm hospitalities provided by the Shanghai Weather Bureau. In order to welcome Professors Qin, Chen, and their wives visiting this area, COAA held a welcome dinner party for them in an informal and home-style restaurant at the Caren Co-Op House on April 21. More than ten members attended the dinner party. They all had a very pleasant time to exchange their viewpoints in oceanic and atmospheric research and applications during the dinner. (William Tseng, William.Tseng@noaa.gov).

❖ A brief news from Europe:

A summer school opportunity is available in Europe. The summer school, which addresses "Ecological Coastal Perspectives", is organized by German research labs and will be held on two islands in North Sea in September, 2003. This information is provided by COAA Regional Director, Dr. Jin-Song von Storch (jin-song.storch

@dkrz.de) at Institute of Meteorology, University of Hamburg, Germany. Details about the summer school can be found at “<http://www.awi-bremerhaven.de/Benthic/CoastalEco/Gastforschung/summer-school/first-announcement.htm>”.

New Sister Association

The following is the letter to Prof. Wenhe Yang, President of the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO), concerning the establishment of a sister-association relationship:

April 8, 2003 **Re: Sister Association**

Dear Prof. Yang:

I am pleased to receive a letter dated February 24th, 2003 from CSO, stating that CSO wishes to establish a sister association relationship with COAA. As you know, one of COAA’s objectives is to promote international collaborations, particularly with atmospheric and oceanic scientists in our homelands. Establishing such a sister association relationship will provide a formal channel for our future scientific and technical exchanges, and strengthen the friendship between the overseas and domestic scientists.

Our bilateral collaborations could be performed in various ways. Some examples may include: i) jointly organizing international conferences, such as COAA2003, or specialized workshops; ii) inviting representatives to attend each other’s annual meetings, and become members if necessary; iii) promoting collaborative research between overseas and domestic scientists that could lead to joint publications; iv) encouraging scientific visitations and training of junior Ph. D. scientists; v) exchanging data, software and other related information in a timely manner; vi) holding scientific summer schools for the next generation of scientists; vii) linkage of our websites; and viii) participation of any scientific activity that would be of interest to both associations. To make such bilateral collaborations effective and long lasting, both associations should take appropriate measures to ensure the equality, mutual benefit and

reciprocity between two participating parties.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any question or suggestion.

Sincerely Yours,

Da-Lin Zhang

President and Board of Directors, COAA

Community News

- The Huang-Hilbert Transform (HHT) has been named "NASA Invention of the Year 2003". COAA former President, Dr. Norden Huang of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center has developed a new method, the Hilbert-Huang Transform (HHT) for analyzing nonlinear and nonstationary data. The key part of the method is the Empirical Mode Decomposition (EMD) with which any complicated data set can be decomposed into a finite and often small number of Intrinsic Mode Functions (IMF). With the Hilbert transform, the Intrinsic Mode Functions yield instantaneous frequencies as functions of time that give sharp identifications of imbedded structures. The final presentation of the results is an energy-frequency-time distribution, designated as the Hilbert Spectrum. With his technique we can examine the detailed dynamic characteristics of a nonlinear system through the instantaneous frequency rather than harmonics. Thus it constitutes a new view of the nonlinear dynamics. If you have any questions about IMF, please contact Norden at "norden@neptune.gsfc.nasa.gov". (Antony Liu, Antony.A.Liu@nasa.gov)

- COAA had played a successful and crucial role as an ambassador for S’COOL by hosting a weeklong COAA S’COOL Student Summer Camp in 2001. The majority of the participating students came from Taipei First Girl’s (TFG) Senior High School in Taiwan. We are now so glad to see that their interests and passions for science continue to grow. One of the TFG students was a recent winner of the S’COOL’s April 2003 cloud photo contest. You will find the winning picture, the very first one on cirrostratus, at “http://asd-www.larc.nasa.gov/SCOOL/cloud_contest/”. S’COOL stands for Student Cloud Observations On-Line. It is an educational outreach program that stems from the

NASA/EOS/CERES (Cloud and Earth Radiant Energy System) project. Over the years, students around the world have learned how to observe clouds, as well as have reported their data on-line that have been treated as the “ground truth” for validating CERES cloud retrieval algorithms. Currently there are more than 1450 schools from 62 countries around the world participating. (Shi-Keng Yang, sk.yang@noaa.gov)

- On 11 November 2002 Dr. Deliang Chen was appointed to the position of Science Director of National Climate Center by China Meteorological Administration. Dr. Chen is Professor in Physical Meteorology at Gothenburg University in Sweden. He is also serving as a regional director for COAA. (Delian Chen, deliang@gvc.gu.se, <http://www.gvc.gu.se/ngeo/deliang/ncc/main.htm>)

- Dr. Ming Cai, a COAA member and a research scientist at the University of Maryland, will soon move to the Sunshine State. He will join the faculty of the Florida State University in Tallahassee this August as an Associated Professor in the Department of Meteorology. Ming is an active COAA member. He is an expert on the atmospheric energetics and dynamics and on long-term climate change, especially for the middle and higher latitudes. He will be missed by many who live in the extratropical Mid-Atlantic states. Ming, we wish you a great success with your new career. (Song Yang, Song.Yang@noaa.gov)

Job Opportunities

Job announcements received by COAA are distributed to members via email and posted on the COAA webpage (www.coaaweb.org). Two announcements are still active:

- **Postdoctoral Associate/Climate modeling.** The Atmospheric Sciences Research Center, State University of New York at Albany, invites applications for the position of Postdoctoral Associate in the field of "climate modeling." The applicant will participate in the on-going development and application of global and regional climate models for studying climate changes due to natural and anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and aerosols. An understanding of the

chemical and dynamical processes affecting these atmospheric species, and competence in the use of statistical analysis techniques is essential. Minimum requirements include a Ph.D. in atmospheric science or related fields with experience using global general circulation models as well as experience and proficiency in the use of supercomputers and workstation environments. To be considered submit a resume, copies of papers, a brief statement of research interests, and the names of three references to: Professor Wei-Chyung Wang, ASRC, 251 Fuller Road, Albany, NY 12203. Applications must be postmarked by June 15, 2003. [wang@climate.cestm.albany.edu]

- **Faculty positions in land – atmosphere - ocean interactions, ocean modeling and remote-sensing hydrology.** The Institute of Hydrological Sciences, College of Earth Sciences, National Central University at Jung-li, Taoyuan, Taiwan, invites applications for two tenure track faculty positions at all levels in the areas of land-atmosphere-ocean interactions, ocean modeling and remote-sensing hydrology. Candidates should have a demonstrated record of accomplishment in these areas and strong commitment to excellence in teaching. Faculty members are expected to maintain a vigorous, creative and independent research program. The appointment may start as early as August 1, 2003. Review of applications will continue until the positions are filled. Please send (or e-mail) curriculum vitae including a brief statement of current and future research plans and names of at least three references to: Chair, Faculty Search Committee Institute of Hydrological Sciences, College of Earth Sciences, 300 Jung-da Rd, Jung-li City, Taoyuan, 320, Taiwan (Email: sui@cc.ncu.edu.tw, Tel: 886-3-4222874)

Suggestions or comments? News to share? Please email them to “coa.news@cox.net”. Thanks.