

COAA e-Newsletter. Issue 4 (July and August). August 22, 2003.



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Members please submit news to "coaa.news@cox.net".

Some examples of news items are:

Meeting/conference report/announcement
Research work/activity
Honors/Award/research grant
Promotion/graduation/change of position/employment/sabbatical
Latest publication/abstract
Job/research grant opportunity
Visit/exchange/collaboration
New member
Community outreach
Social event

- (1) CMS November meeting and sister-association agreement
- (2) Discussion with CSO on establishing sister associations
- (3) First Conference being organized by AOGS
- (4) "Terrestrial, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (TAO)" included in the SCI
- (5) "Shivering in the Surf"
- (6) Community news
- (7) Job opportunities

(1) Invitation to attend the Chinese Meteorological Society's annual meeting and the signing of sister-association agreement

The Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) will hold its annual meeting during 26-29 November 2003. They have so far received over 600 abstracts under the following topics: urban meteorology and Olympia, agricultural meteorology, aerosols and its impact on climate, climate system and climate change, tropical meteorology and monsoon, and remote sensing of the earth system. Although the deadline for submitting abstracts has passed, they welcome the participation of COAA members. If you are interested in attending or presenting your work, please contact Da-Lin Zhang (dalin@atmos.umd.edu; Tel. 301-405-2018) as soon as possible. CMS and COAA have agreed to become sister associations; an agreement will be signed during the CMS annual meeting. We may organize a COAA delegation to participate in their meeting if we have a few interested members.

(2) Discussion with delegates of the Chinese Society of Oceanography on establishing sister associations

A delegation of the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO), consisting of Prof. Wenhe Yang (President), Prof. Jinyu Cheng (Secretary General) and Prof. Li Zhang, visited Washington, D.C.

during 8-9 August 2003. One of the major objectives of their visit was to discuss various issues related to the establishment of a sister association relationship between CSO and COAA. Thus, a meeting was held on August 9, 2003, between 3:30 and 6:00 pm, in the Department of Meteorology, University of Maryland. About 15 COAA members, including some Board members and past presidents, attended the meeting.

Both sides realized that establishing such a sister association relationship would facilitate international collaborations in oceanic and atmospheric sciences between the two sides, which is consistent with the missions of both organizations. After extensive discussion, all attendees agreed that the bilateral collaborations between CSO and COAA might include the following activities:

- linkage of websites, and exchange of newsletters;
- jointly organizing international conferences, such as COAA2004, or specialized workshops;
- inviting representatives to attend each other's annual meetings, and become members if necessary;
- promoting collaborative research between overseas and domestic scientists that could lead to joint publications;
- encouraging scientific visitations and training of Ph.D. students and junior scientists;
- informing each other of any collaborative opportunity or research activity/conference of interest;
- exchanging data, software and other related information in a timely manner;
- providing assistance in improving the quality of the Chinese Society of Oceanography's scientific journals through editorship, peer reviews and submission of research papers;
- holding summer camps for the next-generation scientists or scientific summer schools/workshops; and
- participation of any scientific activity that would be of interest to both association/society.

The CSO delegation indicated that the CSO-COAA sister association relationship and the above collaborative areas would have to be discussed and approved by their Standing Committee at their next meeting. Then, an agreement that establishes the sister association relationship will be signed at a time that is convenient to both CSO and COAA after being approved by CSO's superior authority.

(3) First Conference being organized by The new Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS)

The new Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS) is to launch its first conference in Singapore July 5-9, 2004. An evening meeting was held during the IUGG2003 meeting in Sapporo, Japan. Prof. Wing Ip (of the National Central University in Taiwan) updated the conference arrangement status, reporting the strong responses in proposing special sessions and stressing the importance of participation from the community. The organization and charter of AOGS is to model after the successful European Geophysical Society, with the goal of becoming the scientific forum for geosciences and natural hazards studies in the Asia-Oceania region, which encompasses the largest area and population in the world. Complete information can be found in <http://www.asiaoceania.org/>. (submitted by Ben Chao)

(4) Acceptance of "Terrestrial, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (TAO)" for coverage in the SCI.

The journal "Terrestrial, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (TAO)" published in Taiwan in English has been accepted for coverage in the SCI; coverage began with vol. 14(1) March 2003. Coverage continues in Current Contents and the SCI-Expanded. This is truly a milestone for the journal started some 17 years ago. The local members of the earth science community are all excited. The impact factor of TAO for 2000-2002 is 0.420, 0.850, 0.966, respectively. By Prof. Kon-Kee Liu's account, TAO's current rating is better than many international journals, such as Geo-Marine Letters. Its rank is about right in the middle in both oceanography and geosciences categories, according to the Journal Citation Report of 2002. For more information, please contact Prof. Lin (who led the effort in founding this journal) at Dept. of Atm. Sci., National Taiwan University, TEL: 02-23636775; FAX:02-23636775. Email: linho@linho1.as.ntu.edu.tw, or Prof. Sui (sui@cc.ncu.edu.tw)

(5) "Shivering in the Surf" - Sources of cold water explained for the *Washington Post* in a front page article.

Dr. William Tseng, who works for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as an oceanographer, was contacted by John Kelly, a reporter from *The Washington Post* newspaper in Washington, D.C. Mr. Kelley was doing a story on low water temperatures (~10-20 degrees F below normal) along the U.S. eastern coast recently. Because of the many inquiries regarding this phenomenon, William was engaged in many discussions with several NOAA/Office of Research and Applications (ORA) and NASA ocean scientists, and provided Mr. Kelley with detailed explanations of scientific possibilities leading to these conditions. However, since he did not have immediate access to water analysis samples and enough ground data to support his conclusions, he could not definitively state the main mechanism causing the unusual low water temperatures at beaches along the U.S. eastern coastal regions. The three possible conclusions regarding the mechanism for the colder beach water, were (1) colder and heavy runoff from rivers due to lower air temperatures and heavy rains; (2) coastal upwelling due to constant southerly winds; and (3) cold current invasion to the area. These conclusions were outlined in the article, "Shivering in the Surf", which appeared on the front page of *The Washington Post*, 7 August 2003; the article may also be found on the webpage: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A25865-2003Aug6.html>.

Subsequent to this news article, COAA member Dr. Xiaofeng Li at NOAA shared his thoughts with Dr. Tseng and the rest of members "... I was going to Outer Bank for vacation, but I was disappointed to notice from our satellite images that the water there was as cold as that of the Great Lakes last week. Believe it or not, the water temperature off Duck NC was only 12 degree C in late July. The July 2003 mean wind off Outer Bank is very strong, about 3 times the July average of previous 10 years. The mean wind direction is about 200 degree which is very favorable for coastal upwelling. It is very positive to say the coastal upwelling is the dominant factor for cold water off Carolina and Virginia coasts."

"Although the wind is pretty much coherent over South Atlantic Bight, I did not find any wind magnitude/direction anomaly off Georgia and Florida coasts, which made me wonder, why 'and where' does the cold water come from. Basically there are 3 sources: water from north, water from bottom and water from river. Since rainfall set the record in July for these areas (see NOAA home page), the river runoff would be a natural guess. But then again, it's only a guess. To analyze this, you would need to analyze the Gulf Stream north wall position, the water mass movement on the shelf, etc. I don't think any of these measurements were made, so it is next to impossible to identify the origin of these cold waters off Georgia and Florida coasts ..."

Another member, Dr. Long Chiu at the George Mason University, provided his interesting observation: " I was out in Monterey CA vacationing and witness the year of the invasion of sea lions. In normal years, the sea lions would come and are gone in about 2 weeks. This year they stay and invade the coast, sleep on docks and rack boats on the dock, hence causing grief and financial damages. I am also looking at the QuikSCAT wind and SST from Frank Wentz's site. I wonder if this is a much larger scale weather pattern that produces the anomaly in both coasts of US."

(6) Community News

6a. Dr Robert Hwang of National Taiwan Ocean University visited with COAA members in Washington D.C. on July 24, 2003. His visit was hosted by Prof. Frank Pao of the Catholic University of America (pao@cua.edu).

6b. Congratulations to Dr. Wei-Kuo Tao at NASA Goodard Space Flight Center, who has been selected to receive the Earth Science Achievement Award. This award recognizes individual who has made the most significant Center contributions in Earth Science. He has also been selected to receive the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Award. This medal is awarded for unusually significant scientific contributions toward achievement of earth science, aeronautical or space exploration goals. This is the second time Dr. Tao has received the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Award. Dr. Wei-Kuo Tao recently presented an invited talk at IUGG 2003 in the "The treatment of precipitation in cloud and climate models" session, Sapporo, Japan.

6c. Two more new members have joined COAA. Welcome to Dr. Ming Li and Dr. Jingping Xu.

Dr. Ming Li is an Associate Professor at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. He studies upper-ocean processes, air-sea interaction, estuarine and coastal circulations, and biological/physical interactions. Ming did his undergraduate study at Hohai University and obtained his Ph.D. degree from the University of Oxford. Before moving to Maryland in 2001, he worked at the Institute of Ocean Sciences on the west coast of Canada. Ming looks forward to getting to know the new colleagues and the Chinese community on the east coast.

Dr. Jingping Xu is an oceanographer at the U.S. Geological Survey, at Menlo Park, California. His expertise of research is sediment/pollutant transport and coastal oceanography. He received his Ph.D. from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and M.S. from Shandong College of Oceanography (now Ocean University of China).

(7) Job Opportunities

Institute of Hydrological Sciences, College of Earth Sciences
National Central University at Jung-li, Taoyuan, Taiwan

The Institute of Hydrological Sciences of National Central University invites applications for postdoctoral or research scientist positions in the areas of land-atmosphere-ocean interactions, climate analysis/prediction, and hydrology. The institute offers an excellent research environment for potential candidates to carry out a vigorous, creative and independent research program. The appointment may start no later than January 1, 2004. Review of applications will continue until the positions are filled. Please send (or e-mail) curriculum vitae including a brief statement of current research plan and names of at least three references to:

Dr. C.-H. Sui

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