



# COAA Newsletter

美華海洋大氣學會

Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

<http://www.coaaweb.org>

December, 2003

## ... From the President, Da-Lin Zhang

### Dear COAA Members:

We just celebrated COAA's 10th anniversary during our annual meeting. As you can see from the several articles in this issue, COAA has accomplished a great deal in the past 10 years, growing from a local technical association to an international professional organization with memberships of over 300. COAA's roles in promoting professional networking and scientific collaborations have been widely recognized both overseas and in our homeland. Undoubtedly, these accomplishments would not have been possible without the tireless effort of so many members involved in serving in various committees and supporting COAA's activities. However, COAA is still at a "child" stage; services to our members and professional activities are very limited. We still have a long way to go to make COAA a "politically" influential association and home to worldwide Chinese scholars.

During the past year, the Board of Directors has worked hard in serving our members; see the Board's reports in this issue. Several major new activities have been conducted. For example, we have established a sister association relation with the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) to enhance the professional prosperity and further promote scientific collaborations among the members in both associations. A delegation of 5 COAA members has been invited to attend CMS' annual meeting which is to be held in Beijing during 7 - 10 December 2003. In addition, we have engaged in constructive discussions of such a sister association relation with the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO). In August 2003, a CSO's delegation, headed by its President, Prof. Wenhe Yang, and Secretary-General, Prof. Jinyu Cheng, visited Washington, D.C., and exchanged information and interests between the two associations. Through the effort of Dr. Quanan Zheng, COAA has assisted CSO in obtaining the Science Citation Index-Expanded (SCIE) status for its journal of *Acta Oceanologica Sinica*.

We continue to support activities to commemorate the 600th anniversary of Zheng-He's achievements in his seven extensive oceangoing explorations. There were several gatherings to publicize Zheng-He's achievements due to the efforts of Prof. Jin Wu, Drs. James Whang and Ben Chao. With the leadership of Dr. James Whang, a

Zheng-He Society of North America was formed, and several its Board members are also members of COAA.

COAA has also been trying to reach out to seek active interactions with industrial leaders. Currently, we have 5 active corporate members, including 2 recently joined; they are Caelum Research Corp., Optical Scientific, Inc., RS Information Systems, and AEPCO, Inc. In the past, we have not interacted with our Corporate members as frequently as we should have. To facilitate our future contacts, the Board has assigned a liaison to each Corporate member. In addition, a special panel discussion was held for Corporate members during the recent annual meeting. Indeed, their technical presentations and discussions enlightened the participants and pointed to the ways of connecting scientific research to industrial development.

Considerable effort had been spent in the first few months to prepare for the Third International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference that was originally scheduled for July 2003. But it was later cancelled due to the outbreak of SARS in China. A total of 198 abstracts were received from overseas scientists, with 2/3 of them in atmospheric science and the remaining in oceanic science. With the commitments of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, CMS, and CSO, this international conference has been re-scheduled and will be held in Beijing during 27-30 June 2004 (COAA2004). Active fund raising by IAP from the Chinese government agencies has been under way, and preliminary news is encouraging. We hope to raise enough funds to cover the local costs of lodging, meal, and transportation for all conference attendees.

Again, the above achievements would not have been possible without the hard work of all Board members, and the active participation of many COAA members. All your contributions, too many to be mentioned, are very thankful. Finally, at this time of the year, it is appropriate for me to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season and a great year of 2004.

Sincerely,

Da-Lin Zhang

November, 2003

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## Board's Summary Reports May 2003 – Oct. 2003

**William Tseng (Treasurer).** [William is on an extended overseas travel. His treasurer's report will be published in a later issue.]

**Long Chiu and Xiaofeng Li (Program).** The program committee organized a Chinese New Year dinner in Oriental East Restaurant in Silver Spring on February 8, a Scientific Workshop on March 25 at the University of Maryland, College Park, and the Annual Meeting in Catholic University of America, District of Columbia. The theme of the COAA Annual Meeting is the celebration of ten year of progress for COAA, and what progress we have made in ten years!

The Scientific workshop was held in a weekday afternoon for the first time. Feedbacks from members are that we need to make the presentation more informative about the presenters, and issues should address a broad audience. These comments have been implemented to some degree in our Annual Meeting.

One of our members commented that the Annual Meeting was the best he has been to so far. We thank our President Dalin Zhang for his leadership and the Board Members for their support. Most of the tasks were coordinated via email and we appreciate the volunteerism and unselfishness of the Board Members, who would volunteer without hesitation to take up tasks that were not originally assigned. Such collaboration generated a very harmonious working environment that definitely contributed to its success. Special thanks also go to Yixiang Nie who put together a very attractive program brochure on very short notice.

The Committee tried to coordinate a summer picnic, collaborating with the Goddard Space Flight Center Chinese American Club. The lack of participation led to its cancellation. Members were either out of town or were committed to their children's activities. Early scheduling and selection of an attractive location may be important factors for this event.

No program is a success without the participation of our members. I urge members to proactively participate in the programs. In the past year, we tried to make the meeting more formal while keeping the format informal. The abstracts are published and hence can be considered part of one's professional accomplishments.

I thank William Tseng, the previous Program Co-Chair and Song Yang, past President for their leadership and mentoring. Now that the new Directors are in place, we look forward to another successful year in COAA's programs.

**Chung-Lin Shie (Publicity and Outreach Committee).** This Publicist, since his election to the Board of Directors in October 2002, has pleasantly and rewardingly fulfilled

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### Board of Directors (Nov. 2002 - Oct. 2003)

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his first year duty of the two-year term. A handful of major tasks, as well as quite a few routine/minor tasks have been performed during this past year. As for the 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 were 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 his serving as the major coordinator in organizing the lunch and banquet events for the COAA2003 Annual Meeting/Workshop that was successfully held on October 25, 2003. In addition, often playing a "sidekick" role - in assisting other board members/event coordinators in arranging/managing major activities such as the Chinese New Year Banquet (February, 2003) and the COAA Spring Workshop (March, 2003), was considered a major task of "the third kind". Making announcements, campaigning for participation, taking pictures, along with a few occasional recruitments of new members were among his usual tasks. In closing, this Publicist has challenged himself by officially retiring from his current Publicity post and assuming a new position as the Treasurer at the Annual Meeting. He has just smoothly completed the transfer of his old Publicity post to his successor Dr. Fung-Chi Ko, as well as assumed his new Treasurer post from his predecessor Dr. William Tseng.

**Yuejian Zhu (Membership).** There are totally more than 350 members by November 2003 in our Association, which include 7 honorary members and 56 life members and 7 corporate members. There are many new faces since May 2003. We would like to extend our warmest welcome to all of you, our new members! We hope you all will be able to participate in COAA's future activities! Please visit <http://www.coaaweb.org> for more information. The new members are: Regular membership (include student membership) - Feng Ding, Shejun Fan, Menglin Jin, Ming Li, Hailong Liu, Wenting Qin, Jianjian Wang, Liqiang Wang, Yukun Xin, Jianping Xu, Ming Xue, Rong Xu, Peiqun Zhang, Rong Zhang and Shunli Zhang, and Corporate membership - RSIS (RS Information System).

**Song Yang (Secretary and Webpage Committee).** During the year 2002-2003, the COAA website (<http://www.coaaweb.org>) has been well maintained and further developed, owing to the great effort by our webpage master, Yixiang (Eric) Nie of George Mason University. Now you can find most COAA related news at the website in a timely manner. The happy faces of many of the COAA-2003 Annual Meeting participants are currently greeting you on the homepage!

Under *What's New*, you will find the much-needed information about many current activities including the planning for the international conference (COAA-2004) in Beijing, 27-30 June 2004. You will also find the current COAA newsletter, in which your activities may be reported. Here, many people may share the breaking news from you about your great achievements in life, your service to COAA, and others that you want to share.

The *Organization* page will certainly enhance your knowledge about COAA: its history, its missions, organization structure, and many others. It is hoped that

the names of the Chinese Meteorological Society and the Chinese Society of Oceanography will soon be added into the list of Sister Associations (under Special Committees).

Did you say that you or your friend wants to become a member or a life member of COAA? Please download a form from the *Membership* page ([http://www.coaaweb.org/htmdir/membership\\_registration.htm](http://www.coaaweb.org/htmdir/membership_registration.htm)). If you are currently an active member (membership due paid) and you want to order a hard copy of COAA Membership Directory or Newsletter, or you want your personal webpage to be linked to the COAA website, you can do both in this section.

COAA members consist of many young, promising students and senior scientists including members of academies of science and engineering. If you would like to assess their talents, you should read about their *Publications* and *Academic Activities*. Do not think these sections are all about science; for example, from the meeting participant list, you may be able to find the names of your best friends, and your memory of them from the past could really cheer you up! And, from the *Photo Gallery*, you may find that your schoolmates do not look very different from when they were twenty years ago when you all sat in the same classrooms.

**Colin Shen (Publication).** It is my continued hope that eventually the contents of the newsletter will be more reflective of the broad COAA community, rather than the activities of the Board. At least one activity that I believe almost all of us share in common is the research and discovery of all things in ocean and atmosphere, or for that matter, anything related to environmental fluids. **On this note, I urge you all the members to make known of your latest findings by way of brief abstracts through the COAA e-Newsletter - even before your findings are published in the open literature!** If you support this idea of science sharing, please let me know by sending me an abstract at [coa.news@cox.net](mailto:coa.news@cox.net) for publication in the next issue of the e-Newsletter. Thank you!

**Ben Chao (Vice President and Zheng-He Committee).**  
[An update on "Zheng-He" will be given in a later issue.]

## Minutes of Board Meetings

From May to October 2003, two Board meetings were held - on Sept. 22, 2003 and on Oct. 25, 2003.

• **Board meeting - 22 September 2003.** College Park, Maryland. (Recorded by Song Yang)

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

- Dalin Zhang reviewed achievements since the last board meeting and proposed new activities for the coming months. In particular, the preparation for the 3rd international conference in 2004 is underway and the first announcement will be issued soon. COAA will establish sister association relationship with the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO) and the Chinese

Meteorological Society (CMS). A COAA delegation will visit China in December 2003 to work on the above issues, among others.

- The Board has discussed various issues related to the COAA 2003 annual meeting, which will be held on 25 October 2003 in The Catholic University of America. The meeting encourages both oral and poster scientific presentations, and includes a panel discussion and/or corporate members' participation, banquet, keynote speech, and other logistic items (see the meeting announcement). COAA will support this meeting with about \$400. An organizational committee including all board members and Prof. Frank Pao has been established.

- The Board has five nominations for the COAA Board of Directors: Jun Du, Joseph Huang, Fung-Chi Ko, Zhanqing Li, and Dongliang Yuan. A vote will be held during the annual meeting in October 2003.

- COAA's membership has increased significantly; and a one-time big jump in recruiting new members occurred in Boulder, Colorado. COAA directory will be updated in the upcoming year.

- COAA will continue to support activities held by local chapters. To facilitate future contacts, the Board has assigned a liaison for each sister association: Quanan Zheng for the CSO, Yuejian Zhu for the CMS, Frank Pao for the Chinese Undersea Technology Association, and Julian Wang for the Chinese Young Atmospheric Scientist Association. The Board has also assigned a liaison for each corporate member: Eddie Shih for Caelum Research Corporation and Optical Scientific, Inc.; and Chung-Lin Shie for Global Science & Technology, Inc.

- COAA's expense is balanced by its income. The Board reiterated the limit in supporting and hosting future guests and visitors.

- The hard copies of COAA Newsletter will be sent out in November 2003. The Board recognized the importance of

submitting news items by Regional Directors and all COAA members.

- COAA is currently exploring a possible collaboration with the International Education Fund (a non-profit agency with offices in Washington D.C., Shanghai, and Taipei) for a two-week summer camp held tentatively in the Washington Metropolitan Area around July-August 2004. Announcement will be sent out when the plan is finalized.

- The Board has also discussed other issues related to membership fee collection, fund raising, and preparation for the modification of COAA's By-law.

• **Board meeting - 25 October 2003.** Pangborn Hall Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. (Recorded by Colin Shen)

Attendees: Jun Du, Joseph Huang, Xiaofeng Li, Zhanqing Li, Chung-Lin Shie, Colin Shen, Dongliang Yuan, and Dalin Zhang. Absentee: Fung-Chi Ko

The Board meeting was held immediately after the new Board of Directors for the years 2003-2004 had been elected in the afternoon of the COAA's annual scientific conference on this date, October 25, 2003. The Board meeting was held solely to select new officers. The result is as follows:

President:	Joseph Huang
Vice President:	Dalin Zhang
Secretary:	Jun Du
Treasurer:	Chung-Lin Shie
Program:	Xiaofeng Li and Zhanqing Li
Membership:	Dongliang Yuan
Publicity:	Fung-Chi Ko
Publication:	Colin Shen

The Board approved the result, and the meeting was closed.

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## ❖❖❖❖ *COAA's Tenth Anniversary* ❖❖❖❖

Our organization, Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA), was founded ten years ago October, 1993 in the Washington, D.C. area. Initially a local organization, the Association has since grown and expanded to include oceanic and atmospheric scientists from across the America as well as from other parts of the world. As noted by Da-Lin Zhang in the President's report, concurrent with this growth are the association's expanding involvement in promoting scientific activities through meetings and conferences and the association's increasing visibility as a professional organization in the oceanic/atmospheric discipline. To celebrate the ten years of progress, Tenth President Da-Lin Zhang and the Board have invited, on behalf of the Association, all former Presidents to share their thoughts on this joyous occasion. All have responded. The following are their remarks, beginning with the creation of COAA ten years ago as recounted by Paul Hwang, from a meteorologist's view, and Eddie Shih, from an oceanographer's view. The rest is given chronologically. At the end is a special report on the Outreach Program, followed by a list of important milestones in the past ten years compiled by Da-Lin Zhang.

**Paul Hwang, 1993-1994.** We know there are quite many Chinese American "meteorologists" in this area because of NOAA, NASA, NRL, NIST, University of Maryland, etc.. Twenty some years ago, most of them were the graduates of National Taiwan University; few were from the National Central University. We had a loosely organized group, met twice a year at someone's home for

social purpose. About 10 years ago, our oceanic friends thought of organizing a formal group for professional purpose. Primary organizers at that time were Eddie Shih, Jin Wu, and Jo Huang. They proposed to the meteorological folks to form an Oceanic and Meteorological Association. The initiation meeting occurred on June 3, 1993, at Hunan Palace. Participants were Jin Wu, Eddie Shih, Joseph Huang, Li Peng, Ming-

Dah Chou, Shu-Hsien Chou, Jye Chen, Man-Li Wu, Bill Cheng, and David Chen. Three more preparation meetings followed; finally we had the first general member meeting with 77 members on October 30, 1993. The association was named Chinese American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA), and bylaw was presented by Eddie and adopted. The first board was elected; they were: Simon Chang, Bill Cheng, Man-li Chou, Joseph Huang, Paul Hwang (President), Tony Liu, Frank Pao, Eddie Shih (Secretary) and Jin Wu (Vice President). Board's first priority was money. The only source of money was the membership fee, which was very limited. We thought Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECO) would be happy to support us financially; especially, they had a person who came to one of our earlier preparation meetings. Eddie and I went to visit the Head of Science Section. We told him that COAA was established, our goal and plan for the future, and that we would like to work with him to bridge science communities at both sides (U.S. and Taiwan). We also told him that COAA is politically neutral and that we planned to visit the PRC Embassy (and we did). We don't know if this is the reason - but the fact is that we did not get any financial support from either side, although we were treated politely.

Thereafter, Eddie spent a lot of time and effort to improve COAA's legal and financial status: March 1, 1994: Incorporation approved by the State of Maryland. September 29, 1994: The IRS granted the Employer Identification Number. March 22, 1995 (applied in 1994): Non-profit and tax exemption status approved by IRS. October 21, 1995: Charitable organization approved by the State of Maryland. March 1996: The first Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) status (No. 7854) approved (but yearly renewal required).

**Hsing-hua (Eddie) Shih, 1998-1999.** *United we stand* -- In a casual occasion in early 1993, Prof. Jin Wu (then with the University of Delaware), Joseph Huang, and I had a discussion about the need of networking among Chinese Americans in the profession of ocean related field. Later, we talked with a dozen or so local friends and received very positive responses. Because of the closeness between oceanic and atmospheric sciences, and the weakness of too many individual groups in the Chinese American community, we all agreed that an united association encompassing both disciplines would be more beneficial to colleagues in both fields. It was through our friends such as Aron Chang, Jeffery Chen, Lesile Cheng, Ming-Dah and Shu-Hsien Chou, Paul Hwang, Li Peng, and Man-Li Wu we got to know many other friends in the atmospheric field. We were then invited to attend their regular social gathering at Dr. Bill Lau's home, and the idea of a joint Oceanic and Atmospheric professional association was discussed and well received at the gathering. This led to the formation of our organization. COAA has succeeded as a united networking professional group. It is amazing to see COAA members and friends from a diverse background working together to help each other and making the organization stronger each day.

*Serve the society* -- In working on COAA's tax exemption status, IRS 501(c)(3), and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) cases, I realized the importance of maintaining our association's obligation to its society. COAA needs to list the services we provide in the educational and scientific areas each year in its yearly Tax report and CFC renewal. Our CFC brochure statement, "COAA uses public forums such as seminars, workshops, conferences, and newsletters to promote scientific education, studies, and awareness of ocean- and atmosphere- related environmental issues", reflects our responsibilities. With such a strong membership, COAA is well poised to provide "science with a purpose" and to serve our residing country. Science summer camp program, school science fairs judging, lecturing and volunteering at local and inner-city schools are examples of services we can offer to our society.

**Norden Huang, 1994-1995.** [In his very brief reply is a simple sentiment, surely shared by all members]" ... really glad to see the continuous growth of COAA to its present state."

**William K.M. Lau, 1995-1996.** Since its establishment 10 years ago, COAA has grown from its relatively humble beginning in the Washington DC area to a premier organization boasting a worldwide membership well known among oversea Chinese science and engineering professionals. COAA has provided not only excellent service to its members through organized workshops, international conferences, and education outreach activities, but also networking among its members and professional organizations in the US, China Mainland, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. We should all be proud of these achievements which are the fruits of labor of the founding fathers, the board of directors and members of COAA. However, we should not be too complacent with our past achievements and expect continued future success by simply staying the course. An organization cannot sustain its continued growth, if it does not adapt to the changing environment. Sure enough, the environment for doing science in the US has changed profoundly, with the increasing emphases on justifying science based on its worth to society.

With respect to the science workforce in the US, a sea of change has been underway. In the same decade that saw the birth and growth of COAA, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of professionals of Asian decent working in the fields of ocean-atmosphere sciences and engineering, thanks to a massive influx of graduate students, scholars from mainland China. Just flip through pages of any major journal in geophysics and earth sciences, you will not be surprised to find that over 80% of papers are authored or coauthored by Asians. At the recent AGU conference in San Francisco, I was amazed to find the huge number of Asian scientists and graduate students attending the meeting and presenting papers on a wide range of topics from atmospheric sciences, oceanography, hydrology, tectonics, volcanology, astrobiology, to societal impacts and environmental policies related to climate change. Nowadays, many Asian-American scientists and



engineers are working for the government, academia and industry. In every research group in academic departments of major universities or institutions in geosciences, you can count on finding a large number of Asian researchers, from students, post-docs to principal investigators. The number of researchers with Asian decent is expected to continue to grow as more graduate students enter the job market, and post-docs and junior scientists get their green cards and citizenship, settling on permanent career paths. Adding these to the many senior level Asian-American scientists/engineers from the past several decades already working in government and universities, you have a large fraction of the workforce in geosciences in the US represented by Asian Americans.

Yet, if one looks at the top echelon of organization in any major institution in the US, rosters of fellows in AGU and AMS, lists of keynote presentations in major conferences, Asian names are far and few, and clearly disproportionate to the large population of Asian researchers and their contributions. I believe this lack of diversity at the science leadership level stems not so much from individual discrimination, but rather from traditional organizational and cultural barrier, political sensitivity to Asia, reinforced by stereotyping of Asian-Americans as hard working, but not particularly aspiring for leadership and senior management. This stereotyping is simply not true, and has been detrimental to the upward mobility of many scientists of Asian decent in major US science organizations.

Besides building a bridge between Asian countries and the US, an organization such as COAA can make a difference in addressing issues of concern and help to alleviate the plight of Asian-American scientists in the US. For starter, COAA can consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring projects with an organization such as the Organization of Chinese-American (OCA) through summertime graduate students to document the aforementioned lack of diversity in leadership representation in the ocean-atmosphere field in the US. The result of such research may be published as an article in BAMS. While keeping its core Chinese-American membership, COAA should expand its membership to reach out to non-Chinese, but individuals with Asian decent, such as Japanese, Korean, Indian and others. To do this, COAA must remain an apolitical organization, promoting an open and inclusive organization. Young Asian professionals should be encouraged into the organization to serve and help out with projects, through rewards and incentives, sometimes as simple as expressions of appreciation. Senior members of COAA should volunteer themselves or nominate willing Asian colleagues to serve on AGU and AMS committees and councils, nominate deserving Asian American scientists for professional awards, and to speak up on diversity issues. By increasing visibility and influence of Asian Americans and forming coalitions between COAA and other organizations, we can make our concerns known to the establishment so that changes can be made to address them. All these will take dedicated effort from COAA members, perhaps not much more than already devoted, if

we can motivate and find additional help. COAA is a voluntary organization. We do not have the time and resources to tackle everything. So we need to define our niche. Work hard and work smart!

**Frank H.P. Pao**, 1996-1997. Shortly after my election as the 4th president in October 1996, it was decided that COAA should expand its membership to Taiwan, Hong Kong and Mainland China. At the encouragement of Professor C.C. Chang, the Board of Directors approved a plan to initiate and organize the First International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference in Washington, D.C. during October 1997. In February 1997, COAA also agreed to co-host the First China-US Marine Remote Sensing Conference to be held in August 1997 in Beijing. Through the effort of Tony Liu, then vice president of COAA, a sister organization with Chinese Underwater Technology Association in Taiwan was established in December 1996. The milestones are:

May 17-18, 1997. "Workshop on Typhoon Research in the Taiwan Area", co-sponsored by COAA, was held at National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder Colorado, with about 100 participants. Dr. Ching-Yen Tsai, then Vice Chairman of National Science Council and Mr. Shinn-Liang Sheih, Director of Central Weather Bureau in Taiwan also participated.

August 11-14, 1997: First China-US Marine Remote Sensing Conference, co-hosted by COAA, was held in Beijing, China, with about 120 participants.

October 18-19, 1997: The First International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference (COAA 1997), chaired by Frank Pao, was held on the campus of Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. with 134 participants.

**Tsann-Wang Yu**, 1997-1998. COAA is a great organization, and through our members' participation in its many activities during the last 10 years, I have come to know many professional friends of various disciplines in geophysical sciences. Together we have all contributed to the COAA's growth, and we are all very proud of its progress. Personally, I felt truly privileged to have served the organization during the past, and I wish the best for COAA during many years to come in the future. Happy 10th Anniversary.

**Wilbur Chen**, 1999-2000. Regarding the COAA organization affairs, a few small steps have been advanced during my tenure. Very briefly, they are:

1) An internet domain address was registered. An official COAAweb.org web site was established. In addition to delivering COAA related news, such as conference and workshop announcements, a few COAA members started to utilize the site to make a link to their home page to promote interactions within the COAA family.

2) A Zheng-He (Cheng-Ho) page was initiated, attempting to publicize the achievements of this great mariner/admiral.

3) The Second COAA Ocean-Atmosphere International Conference was organized and held in Taipei. It was a great success. Dr Eddie Shih was the prime mover/organizer of this international conference.

4) A merger with a Chinese-American geophysical society failed to take shape after a lengthy negotiation. A majority of our members at that time did not want to alter our name, COAA, to reflect a re-organization.

**Antony Liu**, 2000-2001. I have recently been detailed from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center to the Office of Naval research International Field Office (ONRIFO) in Tokyo for a 3-year assignment as the Associate Director for Ocean, Atmosphere and Space Sciences (OAS) to coordinate research programs in Asia.

Starting on September 12, 2003, I have visited and toured around ONR at DC, NRL, NAVO at Stennis, and NRL, FNMOC, NPS at Monterey for 17 days to familiarize myself with Navy's OAS programs and focus. I had a very productive and informative trip to meet with many managers and researchers in the Science & Technology (S&T) community. After the visits, I have reported and worked at ONRIFO Tokyo office since October 2, 2003. In my first month here, I have been struggling to settle down in Tokyo and to overcome the housing, language, and culture issues.

The ONRIFO staff has four main functional programs to carry out its mission: (1) Liaison Visits to attend conferences and meetings; (2) Visitor Support Programs to facilitate visits by foreign technologists with US colleagues for potential collaboration; (3) Conference Support Program for US S&T community; (4) Naval International Cooperative Opportunities in Science and Technology Program to fund international investigators with US academic, industrial or government laboratories. Please check our web site at: <http://www.onrifo.navy.mil> for detailed information.

As a COAA former President, I always feel that we have to help others to help ourselves. That is why I join ONRIFO to help the Navy to help our Asian community. My job at ONRIFO as a Liaison Scientist is similar to the goal of COAA to bring in collaboration from US and Asian countries. COAA has grown from a technical meeting group to an international networking organization in the last ten years; we have come a long way but still have a long way to go. As a Chinese-American, I always hope we can all work together no matter where you are coming from, and COAA is an unique example to accomplish that. In Asia, two of the most important S&T places are Taiwan and Mainland China, and they will be my focus and interest for joint efforts. Hopefully, I can contribute something to help US and COAA in the next three years. Please let me know if there is anything I can help and come to visit me in Tokyo if you get a chance to travel in Asia. My contact information is listed as follows:

Dr. Antony Liu, Associate Director - Ocean, Atmosphere and Space Sciences, ONRIFO Asia  
Tel: 81-3-3401-8924 (o); 81-3-3440-7855 (H); Fax:81-3-3403-9670; E-mail: [liua@onrasia.navy.mil](mailto:liua@onrasia.navy.mil)

**Song Yang**, 2001-2002. Of all the professional organizations that I have associated with, COAA is the one that I am most proud of. During the past several years, many of my friends have asked me why I like

COAA so much. Each time, I have answered this question with the same reasons: its diversity and its professional quality.

One of the unique features of COAA is that its members consist of scientists and other professionals from diverse regions, such as Beijing, Taipei, Hong Kong, and other places. Their careers are in the fields of meteorology, oceanography, geodesy, and others. Many of these members regard the association highly and gather as a big family, collaborating on various activities with great enthusiasm. The association has been developing steadily, with an emphasis on diversity. I still remember that, in the early years, among dozens of participants at a COAA meeting, I was often the only one, or one of the few, who came directly from the mainland. Today, COAA is considered a role model for many associations in the Chinese community for its diversity under the term Chinese-American.

With several hundred members, COAA is much smaller than many other associations, such as the American Geophysical Union and the American Meteorological Society. For this reason, people do not expect thousands of participants to attend a COAA workshop. However, the academic activities of COAA are always organized in a professional way. At COAA meetings, I often come across many promising young scientists, internationally well-known experts, and respectful members of academies of science and engineering. They attend these meetings with well-prepared results, many of the quality publishable in *Nature*, *Science*, and other first-class journals.

A network of COAA's Regional Directors has been set up and enhanced during the past years. I am glad to see that a number of activities have been organized in different local "chapters". As a world-wide association, I believe that the Regional Directors will continue their excellent efforts in sharing the COAA spirit with our members all over the world.

### **A Journey of Chinese S'COOL**

A special report on the COAA Outreach Program  
by Shi-Keng Yang, Chung-Lin Shie, and Ben Chao

We Chinese people pay top attention to education, and it shows. It showed in the preparation of S'COOL Workshop 2003 conducted by Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau, CWB. It showed in the organization of an Atmospheric Science Fair administrated by the Taipei First Girl's (TFG) High School. Everyone who attended these events has noted and praised the thoughtful planning, coordination and execution by the organizers. And these were the events that COAA's Vice-President Ben Chao and Our Outreach Committee Chair S-K Yang had the honor and joy to participate in Taipei in late September, 2003.

S'COOL stands for Student Cloud Observation On-Line. It is the educational outreach subproject of the ongoing NASA EOS/CERES (Clouds and Earth's Radiant Energy System). Currently, there are more than 1600 schools participating worldwide around the globe, and the number has been growing steadily since 1997. Taiwan's

participation in S'COOL started in the spring of 2000 when CWB adopted it as an educational outreach program. In the name of S'COOL, CWB has since organized annual workshops and exhibitions to train teachers and students about observations and presentations of research results. Five high schools in Taipei have been observing and reporting meteorological conditions during the times when the two NASA satellites, Terra and Aqua, overpass the area. These data are collected by the Langley Research Center for validating satellite cloud algorithms.

The July of 2001 was marked with a very special event, COAA S'COOL Summer Camp in Washington, D.C. After months of preparation and coordination by more than 30 diligent members, COAA conducted a wonderful week-long camp participated by 17 students from the Taipei 1st Girl's High School and several local area students. The activities included lectures at the University of Maryland, and field visits to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, the NOAA Museum, and

the Patuxant Wildlife Center, as well as a S'COOL Day conducted by S'COOL Director, Dr. Lin Chambers, and Mr. Doug Stoddard, with an impromptu lecture presented by then the chairperson of NOAA's Meteorology Department, Dr. E. Kalnay. In addition, TECRO and TFG Alumni Association also provided hosts and meals for many students. The event was concluded with a speech by Dr. Jin Wu, Taiwan's former Minister of Education.

In reminiscence, this extraordinary event was successful because we COAA was a dream team. We had great relationships with others agencies. We were willing to share, and we were willing to explore. In the September workshop, we were told by the teachers that our effort has been an essential element in inspiring their activities, and that a few students had chosen Earth sciences as their college majors after participating in S'COOL, we know we have made a difference, an important difference that COAA will continue to cultivate.

## COAA: Ten Years In Retrospective

Compiled by Da-Lin Zhang

**June - September, 1993:** Planning and recruiting. Prof. Jin Wu initiated the idea of this professional association.

**October 30, 1993:** COAA's Inaugural Meeting with 77 members; its By-laws, prepared by Eddie Shih, were adopted.

October 1993: Profs. Shih-I Pai (UMD), Chia-Shun Yih (U.Michigan), Theodore Y. Wu (CIT), and C.C. Chang (CUA) were elected to Honorary Membership.

**March 1, 1994 - October 21, 1995:** Eddie Shih worked on the legal procedures to obtain the Employer Identification Number and Non-profit and tax exemption status from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the Charitable organization status from the State of Maryland.

October 1995: Membership reached 100.

**March 1996:** The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) status (No. 7854) was approved by IRS (Eddie Shih), and it is renewable every year.

May 17-18, 1997: Co-sponsored the U.S.-Taiwan Workshop on Typhoon Research in Boulder (Ying-Hua Kuo).

August 11-14, 1997: Co-hosted the First China-US Marine Remote Sensing Conference in Beijing.

**October 18-19, 1997:** The First International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference (COAA1997), chaired by Frank Pao, was held in the Catholic University of America, Washington D. C., with 134 participants.

October 1997: Membership extended to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Mainland China.

March 1998: Membership exceeded 200.

August 1998: Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou (UCLA) was elected to Honorary Membership.

May 31-June 5, 1999: Cosponsored with the American Geophysical Union on "South China Sea Experiment and Related Geosciences" (William Lau and Eddie Shih), Boston (11 speakers, 35 attendee from China, Taiwan and U.S.).

September 1999: Prof. Jin Wu (NCKU) was elected to Honorary Membership.

**2000:** 3 local Corporate members: Caelum Research Corp.; Optical Scientific, Inc.; and Taipei Economic & Cultural Representative Office in the U.S.

**1999 -2000:** Engaged in joint activities with the Chinese-American Association for Natural Disaster Reduction (CAA-NDR) in an attempt to have COAA and CAA-NDR merged, but no agreement could be reached after one year trial.

July 2-5, 1999: Co-sponsored with Chinese American Professionals Association in Greater Washington Metropolitan Area on "Weather and Marine Forecasts and Natural Disaster Mitigation" in Washington, D.C. (Eddie Shih). 10 speakers from CAA-NDR and 10 speakers from COAA with 40 attendees; COAA received \$3000 from conference income.

December 1999: Set up its website: <http://www.coaaweb.org/> (Wilbur Chen).

July 6-7, 2000: Co-sponsored the Overseas Chinese Ocean-Atmosphere Remote sensing Workshop, Hong Kong.

**July 10-12, 2000:** The Second International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference (COAA2000), co-chaired by Eddie Shih and hosted by the Central Weather Bureau of Taiwan, was held in Taipei, Taiwan with 190 participants (63 from U.S.).



August 2000: Prof. Chiang-Chung Mei (MIT) and Mr. Ta-Tsai Liu (UMD) were elected to Honorary Membership.

2000: A sister association relation was established with the Chinese Undersea Technology Association of Taiwan (Frank Pao).

October 2000: A sister association with the Chinese Atmosphere Young Scientist Association (CAYSA) of Academia Sinica was established (Tony Liu and Jianping Li).

November 17-19, 2000: Co-sponsored the 2000 US-China Conference on Science, Technology and Business at Hilton McLean of Virginia (Song Yang).

**June 2001:** A delegation of 10 COAA members, led by Tony Liu and sponsored by CAYSA, visited Beijing and Qingdao to seek support for holding the Third International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference in 2003. Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng were later charged as Overseas Program Co-Chairs to prepare for COAA2003.

**July 9–13, 2001:** Held an educational S'COOL Student Camp at NASA/GSFC and the University of Maryland (Shi-Keng Yang). About 25 students participated: 17 from the Taipei First Girl's High School, and 8 from the local area.

**September 2001:** Formed the Zhenghe Committee, co-chaired by Ben Chao and Ming-Yang Su, to commemorate Zheng-He's achievements in his seven extensive explorations through ocean routes at the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

September 2001: Formed an Advisory Committee, consisting of all COAA's past presidents.

Song Yang, visited various government agencies to seek financial support for COAA2003, with the assistance of Jianping Li.

August 21-23, 2002: Co-sponsored the Radio Occultation Science Workshop with UCAR/COSMIC (Ying-Hwa Kuo).

August 2002: Worldwide network was established by appointing Regional Directors in different countries and regions.

September 2002: Dr. Norden Huang (NASA/GSFC) and Prof. Qingcun Zeng (CAS/IAP) were elected to Honorary Membership.

March 2003: Began publication of monthly COAA e-Newsletters (Colin Shen).

April 2003: COAA2003 was cancelled due to the outbreak of SARS in Beijing.

April 2003: Membership reached 300.

**August 8-9, 2003:** A delegation of the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO), led by President Wenhe Yang, visited College Park, and discussed the establishment of a sister association relation with COAA (Quanan Zheng and Da-Lin Zhang).

**August 2003:** Established a sister association relationship with the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) (Da-Lin Zhang and Rong-Sheng Wu). A delegation of 5 COAA members, led by Da-Lin Zhang, were invited to attend CMS's annual meeting that will be held on 7-10 December 2003 in Beijing.

October 2003: Global Science & Tech. (GST), Inc., & RS Information System (RSIS) became Corporate members.

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## Meetings and Conferences

### ► COAA 2003 Annual Meeting and Tenth Anniversary Celebration held on 25 October 2003 at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

This is the tenth COAA Annual Meeting as well as COAA's tenth anniversary. The morning session appropriately began with a celebration of this important milestone. COAA's first President Paul Hwang spoke about the early formative years of COAA, and tenth President Da-Lin Zhang presented an overview of COAA's numerous accomplishments in the past ten years. S.K. Yang described one accomplishment, the outreach program in detail to conclude the celebration. The rest of the morning session was devoted to the panel discussion on "Industry trends in research and application of atmospheric, oceanic, and earth sciences". The panelists were Michael Yeh of Caelum Research, Mr. Chieh-san Cheng of General Science and Technology (GST), and S.K. Yang of RSIS, and Tsann Yu was the moderator. The afternoon session was devoted to scientific presentations. There were thirteen posters and eight talks, approximately equally divided between ocean and

atmosphere, all of high quality. During this annual meeting, new Directors for the COAA Board were elected. The names of the new Board members are listed in the Minutes of Board Meeting section in this Newsletter. In the evening, members attended the meeting dinner at a local Chinese restaurant. The invited dinner guest speaker, James Whang, Chairman of the North American Zheng-He Society spoke about the history and achievements of Zheng-He, the great 15th-century Chinese mariner/explorer; on this note, the day of celebration came to a successful end. (Meeting co-chairmen: Long Chiu and Xiaofeng Li)

### ► The Third International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference, sponsored by COAA, to be held in Beijing, China. 28-30 June 2004.

The Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA) has held two successful international ocean-atmosphere conferences in the past years: the first one in October 1997, Washington, D.C., and the second one in July 2000, Taipei. Enlightened by many useful scientific discussions and professional networking, many participants found the two conferences both professional and friendly. As a result, a consensus was reached among COAA members to hold a third

conference to further promote international collaborations.

During the past two decades, we have all witnessed enormous progress in science and technology in China, which has fostered collaborations between many Chinese and overseas scientists. In particular, China is now in an important period of transition during which young scientists begin to emerge as scientific leaders. After our extensive discussions with various agencies and institutions in China, the Third International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference was originally scheduled for July 2003, but it was later cancelled due to the outbreak of SARS. We have now decided to hold this conference during 28-30 June 2004, just prior to the first assembly of the newly formed Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society in Singapore. This conference will be hosted by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), and sponsored by numerous agencies and institutions in China.

The Third International Conference has the goal of promoting scientific and technical communications among, and welcomes the participation of, atmospheric and oceanic professionals around the world, and it is not limited to COAA membership. It will be a forum to present the state-of-the-art science and technology, discuss new developments, and exchange ideas among different disciplines as well as professional networking. The conference papers can be presented in either Chinese or English. Some conference papers will be solicited for publication in a special issue of the journal of *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* that is published by the China Committee for International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences and IAP.

Profs. Huijun Wang, Rongsheng Wu and Wenhe Yang, who are the Director of IAP, the Presidents of the Chinese Meteorological Society and the Chinese Society of Oceanography, respectively, will serve as Program Co-Chairs. Dr. Yifen Pu and Ms. Lu Zhang of IAP will serve as the Co-Secretary Generals for the conference. Drs. Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng will act as overseas Program Co-Chairs. A call for papers will be released in early January 2004, together with more details on the program. We will repeat the similar processes as last year, including submitted abstracts. Please mark down the dates of 28-30 June 2004 in your calendar.

► **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)

► **The Theodore Y.-T. Wu Symposium on Engineering Mechanics**

COAA members are involved in organizing the Symposium Honoring Professor Y.-T. Wu. This symposium is a highlight of the Ocean Engineering Symposium To be held at *OMAE 2004 The 23rd International Conference on OFFSHORE MECHANICS AND ARCTIC ENGINEERING* 20-25 June 2004 Vancouver, BC CANADA.

The Theodore Y.-T. Wu Symposium on Engineering Mechanics: A celebration of Professor Wu's scientific contributions for his 80th birthday (Co-sponsors: The Ocean Engineering Committee of the Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering Division of ASME and the Fluids Technical Committee of the Engineering Mechanics Division of ASCE.)

- Organizing Committee:

Chiang C. Mei (Co-Chair), Allen T. Chwang (Co-Chair) Daniel T. Valentine (Secretary), Alex Cheng, R. Cengiz Ertekin, Norden Huang, Tin-Kan Hung, Michelle Teng, Keh-Han Wang

- This symposium is to be held in Vancouver at the OMAE 2004. The OMAE 2004 web site is ready to receive "Abstracts" for this symposium. If you wish to know more about OMAE 2004, please see the official web site. The official ASME Conference site is: <http://www.asmeconferences.org/omae04>. For further information about the OMAE 2004 Conference (list of local organizers, venue etc) see the web site: <http://www.oaee.org/omae2004/omae2004.htm>. (The above information is provided by Dan Valentine, [clara@clarkson.edu](mailto:clara@clarkson.edu))

► **9th Scientific Assembly of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (IAMAS) of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) Beijing, China August 2 - 11, 2005**

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of the IAMAS Beijing 2005 Scientific Assembly is extremely honored to invite the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences to hold its conference in Beijing, China from August 2-11, 2005.

The LOC is acting on behalf of the Chinese National Committee for IAMAS, Chinese National Committee for IUGG, the organizer of the event, in collaboration with several local and national organizations and research institutes, including: China Association for Science and Technology (CAST); Chinese Association of Meteorology (CAM); Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) of China; National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC); Ministry of Education (MOE) of China; Chinese Academy of Science (CAS); Chinese Meteorological Administration (CMA); Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), CAS; LASG/IAP, CAS.

The Beijing International Convention Center (BICC) will provide a well-equipped set of meeting rooms and a closely located poster area to ensure an effective meeting

for participants. A wide range of hotels and guest facilities are located within walking distance of the Conference Center. Please visit the Website at [www.IAMAS2005.com](http://www.IAMAS2005.com). (Submitted by Mr. Bo Wang [wangbo@cashq.ac.cn](mailto:wangbo@cashq.ac.cn))

► **The Second Circular for The Fourth International Symposium on Asian Monsoon System (ISAM4), Kunming-City, Yunnan Province, China. 24-29 May 2004**

The Fourth International Symposium on Asian Monsoon System will be held during May 24-29, 2004 at Lake-View Hotel of Hongta Sports Center, Kunming-City, Yunnan Province, China. The symposium is organized by the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IAP/CAS), the University of Tokyo (Japan), and Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). It is hosted by the Project of Research on the Formation Mechanism and Prediction Theory of Severe Climate Disasters in China— National Key Programme for Developing Basic Sciences, the IAP/CAS, the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) and the University of Yunnan, and supported by the State Ministry of Science and Technology (SMST) and NSFC.

Symposium topics include : •Variability and Predictability of Asian Monsoon System. •Physical Processes of Monsoon Variations. •Impact of the Asian Monsoon on Droughts and Floods. •Linkage Between Monsoon Climate and Monsoon Weather. •Analysis and Application of Monsoon-Related Field Experimental Data. •Application of Satellite Remote Sensing Technique to Asian Monsoon. •Interaction between Monsoon and ENSO. •Modeling of Asian Monsoon System.

All participants are requested to submit an extended abstract in English of 4-6 pages of A4 size, including tables and graphics. *The abstract should be sent to the ISAM4 Secretariat no later than February 28, 2004 by mail (a copy and diskette) or E-mail.* If possible, title, authors name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address should be included. Microsoft Word format or plain text is highly recommended. A registration fee of US\$150 or RMB (Chinese yen) 1200 yen will be charged for the participants (US\$ 75 or RMB 600 for students only), except for the invited speakers. Please *reply before January 31, 2004* to Prof. Wen Chen, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Fax. +86-10-6256-0390. E-mail: [chenw@lasg.iap.ac.cn](mailto:chenw@lasg.iap.ac.cn) (COAA members contact Dr. Song Yang NOAA/NCEP Climate Prediction Center; Tel. 1-301-763-8000; Fax: 1-301-763-8359; Email: [song.yang@noaa.gov](mailto:song.yang@noaa.gov))

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## Sister Associations

● **Chinese Meteorological Association and COAA have agreed to become sister associations.** (Details forthcoming)

● **Chinese Society of Oceanography and COAA are in discussion about forming 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;
- 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.

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## Visitations

- 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).
- 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 forming sister associations with COAA. (See the section on Sister Associations.)
- A delegation of the China Meteorological Administration (CMA), consisting of the Directors of its major research institutions (institutes and the academy) visited NOAA during the week of September 9, and on September 9, COAA President, Da-Lin Zhang (dalin@atmos.umd.edu) met with the delegation and hosted a welcome dinner party.
- Dr. Bill Kuo of NCAR hosted a delegation of Beijing Meteorological Bureau, consisting of:  
Mr. XIE Pu, Director-General, Beijing Meteorological Bureau, Ms. WANG Yingchu, Director, Institute of Urban Meteorology, CMA/BMB, and Ms. BO Li, Deputy Director, Science and Technology Office, BMB who visited NCAR, UCAR, and FSL during 10-12 November, 2003. The Beijing Meteorological Bureau is responsible for forecasting support for the Beijing Olympics 2008. This is an important and challenging activity. They are currently looking for ways to enhance their observing, data analysis, and forecasting capabilities.
- Dr. Song Yang of NOAA Climate Prediction Center was invited by the Brain Korea-21 Project as the lecturer of summer school at the Seoul National University (SNU), Korea, in July-August 2003. At SNU, Dr. Yang gave lectures on the problems and opportunities in Asian monsoon research, impact of atmospheric hydrologic forcing on tropical upper oceans, Asian-Pacific-American climate teleconnection, and the interaction between mean flow and atmospheric eddies. While in Korea, he also presented several seminars to the Korea Meteorological Administration and the Pusan National University. Also, in March-April 2003, Dr. Yang was invited by the China Meteorological Administration (CMA) as a representative under the official NOAA-CMA bilateral program to participate at the International Symposium on Climate Change held in Beijing.

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## Academic Opportunities

### ► The UCAR-CMA Collaborative Ph.D. Training Program for Chinese Students

UCAR has signed a collaborative agreement with the Chinese Meteorological Administration (CMA), forming a pilot program designed to provide training to Chinese PhD students. A Steering Committee, consisting of Meg Austin (Chair), Bill Kuo, Bin Wang and Da-Lin Zhang has been appointed to oversee this program. The students will study for a limited period of time in the U.S. at a university or federal laboratory. Prior to their overseas studies, the students will pass their required graduate-level courses and complete some technical preparation related to their overseas research. Chinese students will be matched with interested hosts. The host will provide a Graduate Student level stipend to the students during the U.S. visit. CMA will provide round-trip airfare and per diem during travel for each student, and a round-trip airfare and lodging for the U.S. scientists to visit China at the end of the students' projects.

U.S. universities or federal laboratories may administer the stipends through their university, or they may transfer funds to UCAR for administration. UCAR will help the students obtain visas, if the funding is administered through UCAR.

The following seven U.S. scientists have expressed interest in sponsoring Chinese students: Bart GEERTS (Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Wyoming), Junhong WANG (Atmospheric Technology Division, NCAR), Richard ORVILLE (Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, Texas A&M University), Yuegang ZUO (Dept of Chemistry & Biochemistry, University of Massachusetts), Steven COCKE (Dept of Meteorology, Florida State University), Lian XIE (Dept of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, North Carolina State University), and Bin WANG (Dept. of Meteorology, University of Hawaii). More U.S. scientists are needed to sponsor the Ph. D. research of Chinese students.

Please contact Meg Austin at 303-497-8630 or [austin@ucar.edu](mailto:austin@ucar.edu) to express interest in sponsoring a student or contact any steering committee members for further information. UCAR will coordinate the appointment between CMA and the hosting institution. UCAR will also administer stipends, assist in obtaining student visas, and provide health insurance to the students, if requested by the university or federal lab host. See UCAR's website: [www.vsp.ucar.edu](http://www.vsp.ucar.edu) for more details.

### ► Research Programs at the Institute of Hydrological Science, National Central University, Taiwan

The Institute of Hydrological Science, National Central University has embarked on a long-term effort to strengthen and improve their research programs in air-sea modeling and in land processes and hydrological applications, according to Dr. Chung-Hsiung Sui at the Institute. Presently the Institute grants M.S. degrees only but is working towards establishing a Ph.D. program. Noting that COAA has many excellent experts in oceanic and atmospheric research and operational communities, Dr. Sui hopes that communications can be

established with many COAA members with respect to the ongoing efforts to their programs. The following is an introduction of the Institute given by Dr. Sui (sui@cc.ncu.edu.tw):

The Institute of Hydrological Sciences  
National Central University,  
Jung Li, 300 Jung-Da Road, Taiwan  
<http://www.ihs.ncu.edu.tw/>

The Institute of Hydrological Sciences (IHS) is dedicated to research and education in the areas of earth hydrologic cycles, hydro-environmental sciences, and hydro-informatics. Through analysis and modeling of local, regional, and global hydrological cycles within the earth system, the IHS seeks to investigate various processes including the land-ocean-atmosphere interactions, precipitation, ground hydrology, and biogeochemistry. In addition to the above focus on fundamental research, the IHS also emphasizes the application of models and relevant observations for solving hydro-environmental problems in the areas of flood/drought prediction and water resources management, interactions of hydrologic cycles between earth and biota, hydro-environment monitoring and modeling, control and mitigation of surface water and groundwater contamination, and remote sensing applications in hydrology.

#### *Research Programs*

- ◇ Earth Hydrological Cycles
  - Precipitation and land hydrological processes: Investigate precipitation physics to improve rainfall estimates coupled with the study of basin-scale hydrological modeling
  - Ocean-land-atmosphere exchange processes: Study exchange processes of gases, heat, vapor, and momentum at the earth surface, and their impacts on earth hydrologic cycle.
  - Biogeochemical cycles and water quality: Understand the role of biogeochemical processes in determining the water quality in rivers, estuaries, and neighboring seas.
- ◇ Hydro-environment
  - Nowcast models: Improve regional ocean-atmosphere-watershed models for environment monitoring, hazard mitigation, and resource management.
  - Climate prediction and water resource management: Develop climate-hydrology prediction system for drought warning, risk assessment, and water usage
  - Ground water contamination: Apply field observations and model simulations to provide innovative technologies for groundwater remediation.
- ◇ Regional Hydrological Information System
  - Hydrological databases: Collect and analyze hydrological variables for process studies, model developments, and applications
  - Data assimilation: Generate value-added information through assimilation

#### *Faculty*

name (education) expertise: K. K. Liu (UCLA) Isotope geochemistry, Marine Carbon and Nitrogen Cycles; C. H. Sui (UCLA) Atm. Hydrological Processes, climate variability; W. T. Tsai (MIT) Air-sea interaction, computational fluid dynamic; M. J. Yang (U. Washington)

Regional atm. Modeling, Precipitation process; M. H. Li (Penn. State U.) Land hydrology, Hydrogeochemical modeling; S. Jan (NTU) Physical oceanography and coastal processes, Ocean circulation modeling

#### *Adjunct Faculty*

name (education) expertise (affiliation): C. S. Chen (Texas A&M) Ground water hydrology, contaminant hydrology (Applied Geology); G. R. Liu (U. Wisconsin) atmospheric radiation (C. for Space Sci Remote Sensing); R. S. Wu (Cornell) Water resource engineering (Civil Engineering); C. R. Chu (Cornell) Hydraulic Engineering, Wind engineering (Civil Engineering); Y.A. Liou (U. Michigan, Ann Arbor) Remote Sensing (C. for Space Sci Remote Sensing)

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## Community

❖ In *GODDARD NEWS*, June 13, 2003: Dr. Huang, Winner of the NASA Government Invention of the Year Award. "The invention of the year ceremony was held at NASA Headquarters on Thursday, June 5th. This event recognized Dr. Norden E. Huang's mathematical method called Computer Implemented Empirical Mode Decomposition Method, also known as the Hilbert-Huang Transformation (HHT) Method. Dr. Huang is Director Goddard Institute of Data Analysis and winner of the NASA Government Invention of the Year." (To view photos and the full content of Goddard News, please go to: <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/goddardnews/20030613/index.html> OR click a specific top feature article or section of the newsletter you would like to view.)

❖ Congratulations to Dr. Wei-Kuo Tao at NASA Goddard 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. Tao recently presented an invited talk at IUGG 2003 in the "The treatment of precipitation in cloud and climate models" session, Sapporo, Japan.

❖ On 09/26/2003 COAA member Professor C.-P. Chang became the first Asian American to receive the honorary title of "Distinguished Professor" from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School. The news was a part of a very interesting story in the 11/02/2003 Word Journal Weekly. The story can be found at the Chinese Academy of Sciences/IAP LASG forum <http://www.lasg.ac.cn/cgi-bin/forum/topic.cgi?forum=9&topic=2402> and also at the National Taiwan University Synoptic Laboratory WebPage: [http://front.as.ntu.edu.tw/cpchang/20031112\\_cpchang.htm](http://front.as.ntu.edu.tw/cpchang/20031112_cpchang.htm)



❖ 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)

❖ Zheng-He Society of Americas has been established. Prof. Jin Wu's inspiring talk at the Tao-Tao Club has sparked an effort in the Washington D.C. area to organize a Zheng-He (Cheng-Ho) Association/Forum. Dr. James Whang (AEPSCO), a COAA member, took the initiative to hold the inaugural meeting on June 22, 2003, during which the "Zheng-He Society of Americas" was officially established by the attending charter members (about 30). The purpose is to promote the worldwide awareness of the historical significance of Zheng-He's great voyages through research and activities, especially targeted to the 600th anniversary of the first voyage in 1405. Dr. Whang was elected as the first President. Two other members of COAA were elected as officers -- Prof. Frank Pao (CUA) as the Vice-President, and Ben Chao (NASA/GSFC) as the secretary. Mr. Guo-Fu Ma, a member of the Society, kindly hosted the inaugural meeting at his restaurant, Peking Eastern House in Rockville. COAA maintains a Zheng-He Committee and welcomes input, suggestions, and participations from members on Zheng-He-related activities. (Ben Chao, chao@bowie.gsfc.nasa.gov)

❖ "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 to 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>.

❖ Two of our long-time COAA members, Ming-Dah and Sue Chou, are retiring from NASA/Goddard after about 30 years of great service. They both will leave US soon for Taiwan to take research faculty positions at National Taiwan University. A farewell dinner party was held for them at the Oriental East Chinese Restaurant, Silver Spring, MD, on December 23, 2003.

❖ On September 6, 2003, a picnic gathering was held in the Griffith Park, Los Angeles, by the Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA) Southern California Chapter (SCC). This was the first regional activity organized by the COAA SCC. It brought together COAA members, Chinese scholars and students, and their families from UCLA, UC Irvine, Caltech, NASA JPL, and the California State University. About 45 people attended this event. Among them, Dr. Tim Liu of JPL has been in US for decades and is a leading scientist in the field; and Ms. Qing Yue graduated from the Peking University two months ago and has been in US for only one week as a Ph.D. student in UCLA. Prof. Yongkang Xue, Regional Director of the COAA SCC, broke the ice by talking about the history of the COAA and encouraging students and young scientists to join the COAA and participate in the COAA conference in Beijing next year. Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou was not able to make it due to the schedule conflict, but still made contribution to the picnic. Following Prof. Xue's speech, people introduced themselves and started chatting and eating. A variety of oriental food was brought by families. People exchanged research ideas and shared viewpoints on various issues of life. Although Los Angeles' post-labor day weather showed no sign of fall (temperature was nearly 90 F), people enjoyed shades in the beautiful woody Griffith Park and conversations with colleagues. The event lasted about three and a half hours, and ended happily in late afternoon. The photos from this event can be found in <http://www.geog.ucla.edu/~yxue/coaascspphoto> (submitted by Hui Su and Yongkang Xue, yxue@geog.ucla.edu)

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## Other Board business

- No campaign for donations related to the SARS causes will be conducted by COAA. Instead an announcement has been sent out, encouraging members to make donations to existing Chinese organizations that accept charitable contributions for SARS.
- Two letters written on behalf of COAA by President Da-Lin Zhang have been sent to IAP to congratulate the two very prestigious awards they have received: one by Prof. Duozen Ye and the other by LASG/IAP. Prof. Ye received WMO's highest award of the IMO prize. LASG/IAP received a very prestigious award given by ComputerWorld Honors Program for their outstanding achievements in the development of climate models to study and predict global climate change. For more detailed information, please see <http://www.iap.ac.cn/news.htm> and also <http://www.people.com.cn/GB/kejiao/42/index.html>
- Donations made through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) are an important source of income for COAA. Our application to participate in 2003 CFC of the National Capital Area has been approved. The Chair of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) sent COAA a letter on May 23, 2003 regarding its approval of our 2003 CFC application. The letter indicates that "I am pleased to inform you that the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area, Washington, DC, approved your organization's participation in the local 2003 CFC at an open meeting of the full committee held May 1, 2003." The COAA CFC designation number is: 7854, the same as that in the

past years. (For a copy of CFC letter, contact Treasurer William.Tseng@noaa.gov)

- In May 2003, COAA received a CFC's report of the list of individual contributor's names who contributed to COAA through CFC in Fall 2002. The contributor's names are: Alfred T. Chang, Benjamin F. Chao, Wenyuan W. Chen, Paul H. Huang, William K. M. Lau, Xiaofan Li, Yen Li, Antony A. Liu, Hsing Hua Shih, Wei-Kuo Tao, William Y. Tseng, James R. Wang, Fuzhong Weng, Chung-Sheng Wu, Pingping Xie, Song Yang, and Limin Zhao. These names are limited to those contributors who were willing to release their names. We may have other anonymous contributors who made the CFC donation. So please mark the item of your willingness to disclose your name on the CFC Donation Form in the future. COAA highly appreciates those individual contributors listed above as well as other anonymous contributors.
- It has been re-confirmed with the CFC Headquarters in Washington, DC that any one not qualified for the CFC contribution still can make donation to COAA. This donation is also qualified for tax deductible similar to other charity organizations. Your canceled check could be used as the tax deductible receipt, or you can request COAA to issue a receipt. COAA urges its members and friends to make contributions through CFC or directly sending a check to COAA in the future. You could have your tax deducted as well as help your own organization, COAA. Consult your tax adviser for further details on tax deductible laws. For those who contribute your donation through sending a check, please designate your check payable to COAA and send it to: COAA, P.O. Box 4948, Silver Spring, MD 20914-4948.

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*Suggestions or comments? News to share? Please email them to "coaa.news@cox.net".*