



# COAA Newsletter

美華海洋大氣學會

Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

<http://www.coaaweb.org>

July, 2004

## ... From the President, Joesph Huang

### Dear Members and Friends:

Greetings to all our members! Hope all of you are having a great summer. I have been reminded that, as the COAA's President, I should be submitting my semi-annual report by the end of July.

Yes, we do have several events to report to our membership. First, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the current Board of Directors and several of our former presidents and board members for their dedication and hard work. Together, we have been working on COAA's strategic planning and implementation of several key programs. Now, let me outline the major activities of the past six months:

**A. Important COAA Pending Issues:** Our Board has set up the following Committees to study several major tasks determined as important by COAA:

1. COAA By-law modifications;
2. Criteria for COAA financial support for co-sponsorship of conferences;
3. Name recognition and networking;
4. COAA's roles in national and international communications and exchanges;
5. Legal issues regarding service in fiduciary position of COAA;
6. Recent activities and plan of the COAA Zheng-Ho Committee.

Based on our extensive discussions, both at our Board meetings and via COAA emails, on each and every committee task, we were able to draft several recommendations. We plan to finalize these resolutions for submission, discussions and adoption upon approval in our next annual meeting.

**B. COAA Spring Workshop:** COAA held successfully a Spring "Workshop on Research and Applications in Atmospheric, Oceanic and earth Sciences", at the University of Maryland on April 3, 2004, organized by

two Program Directors, Dr. Li Zhanqing (atmospheric sciences) and Dr. Li Xiaofeng (ocean sciences). Many papers were presented. The authors / presenters of the two top papers chosen by the meeting attendees were awarded a prize of \$200 each. The winners were: Merglin Jin from UM and Fulung Chang of ESSIC, UM. Both participated in the international COAA2004 in Beijing.

### C. International Conferences with Sister Associations:

1. COAA sent a Delegation of four members, Drs. Da-Lin Zhang, Sham-Pu Shen, Quanan Zheng and I to participate in the Annual Meeting of the Chinese Meteorology Society (CMS) in December, 2003. We were well received and treated as honorable guests. On behalf of COAA, I signed the Sister-Association agreement with the CMS and visited the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO).
2. COAA2004, the 3rd International Ocean-Atmosphere Conference was successfully held in Hongxiang Hotel, Beijing, from June 27 to 30, 2004. Over 114 of the 330 attendees came from overseas, including two newly elected Academicians, Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou and Dr. Norden Huang of COAA. All COAA members were well treated. On behalf of COAA, I gave welcome remarks emphasizing the importance of mutual communications and exchanges between the USA and China. COAA members are dedicated to serve as catalysts for such exchanges so that scientists from all sides can mingle together.

COAA's appreciation goes to the local conference-host organization, the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, especially to Ms. Lu for her hospitality and to Drs. Jiang Zhu and Yifeng Pu for their leadership in organizing the conference. We also thank our own two Board Members, Drs. Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng, for their diligence as co-chairs in organizing the overseas program and arranging logistics for overseas participations. Details on

the COAA 2004 will be reported by Dr. Da-Lin Zhang.

3. The current President of the Chinese Society of Liminology and Oceanography (CSLO), Academician Dunxin Hu, has expressed his favorable intention to develop a sister association relationship for CSLO with COAA. We will follow up with a plan to develop an additional sister association in China.

**D. COAA Co-sponsored Coming Conferences:**

1. COAA Board meeting in Beijing on June 27, 2004 was mainly to discuss the next COAA international conference. In this meeting, an unofficial agreement was established to hold the conference every three years rotating among China, Taiwan and the United States. The next international conference, the COAA2007 is supposed to be held in the U.S. It was unanimously agreed to have the conference in the U.S., and the first site chosen is NCAR in Boulder, CO. I have announced this news in the COAA 2004 reception. Several of us have also communicated with our sister associations and their responses are positive to participate in COAA 2007 to be hosted by COAA in US. More planning steps will be outlined in our next Board meeting.
2. COAA is a co-sponsor for the International Symposium on Tropic Weather and Climate, to be held in Quanzhou, China, November 7 – 11, 2004, together with Sun Yet-sen University and other institutes in the Chinese Meteorological Administration. More about the Symposium will be reported by Dr. Song Yang.

Based on the feedback received from our Board members, the most convenient time for the next Board meeting appears to be the week of July 26. I am, therefore, calling our next Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, July 28, 2004 to discuss all pending issues, including preparation for COAA2007. We will keep you informed of our progress in the next Monthly Report.

As always, we welcome constructive input from our members on any COAA related activities.

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**Board’s Summary Reports  
Nov. 2003 – June 2004**

**Chung-Lin Shie (Treasurer).** In addition to the routine management of financial issues (e.g., issuing/receiving checks and performing bookkeeping), there have been two primary tasks performed by this Treasurer since his appointment in October 2003. First, the COAA Income

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Tax Report for the Year 2003 was prepared and filed to IRS (Internal Revenue Service) in mid-March 2004. The second major task was to continue our COAA association with the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Based on the COAA 2003 annual financial report provided by me, Dr. Eddie Shih (the COAA CFC Representative) has successfully completed a CFC application for the next year (Year 2004-2005) and submitted it in late March 2004. The preparation work for these two major tasks was tedious and time-consuming. Thanks to the kind and precious help from both Dr. William Zseng (my predecessor) and Dr. Eddie Shih, the tasks were accomplished in a shorter period of time (about two weekends and a few nights during weekdays) than I had expected. COAA has currently been in a sound financial situation thanks to the large number of incoming new members, generous donations from our regular/corporate members and the CFC, as well as a well-budgeted spending. The bank balance has increased by an amount of \$1,400 from \$17,400 (by the end of Year 2002) to \$18,800 (by the end of Year 2003).

**Xiaofeng Li and Zhanqing Li (Program).** The COAA 2004 spring workshop: Research and applications in atmospheric and oceanic sciences, was held at University of Maryland on April 3. COAA president, Joseph Huang, first gave a COAA 2004 report, and vice-president Da-Lin Zhang reported the COAA Beijing conference preparation status. There were eleven oral presentations covering wide range of climate, atmosphere, and ocean topics are presented. Drs. Fu-Lung Chang and Menglin Jin are winners of the two best presentations. They each received \$200 toward reimbursing their air tickets to attend COAA Beijing conference this summer.

**Fung-Chi Ko (Publicity).** He has conducted two major activities since the election of new Board of Directors in October 2003. First, he updated the contact information, as well as the current title and address, of COAA's friends around the world and mailed them "COAA's Ten Years in Retrospective" and Christmas cards that carried the Board's heartfelt appreciation and seasonal greetings. More than sixty cards were signed by the current director and two previous directors and mailed. Secondary, the Chinese New Year luncheon was held jointly with the Zheng-He Association on February 7 at Tony Lin's Kitchen. About 50 members and guests attended the banquet. Thanks to the participants for the good food and excellent atmosphere. Special thanks to President Joe Huang for providing the lucky money of the monkey year as the lucky draws for the party.

**Dongliang Yuan (Membership).** As a board member in charge of membership information for the year of 2004, my efforts have focused primarily on this area. In 2004, our directory has increased from twenty-some pages to as much as 56 pages. I have been updating and maintaining

an accurate membership dataset. I have also inputted the Chinese characters of all of our member's names for the publication of the membership directory of year 2003-2004, making the computer files compatible with the Windows system. This will greatly facilitate future maintenance and updating of the membership directory. In the past, the softcopy is an Apple computer file, which is not compatible with most of the home personal computers. With the help from Fungchi Ko to convert and modify the Chinese characters, we now have two versions of the membership directories, one in the traditional Chinese characters and one in simplified characters. I have also arranged to have the directory printed out by the Duke Printing service in time to allow our board members to bring some of the directories to the COAA 2004 International Conference in Beijing. At present, 300 copies of the membership directories are in my hands ready for distribution. Besides managing the membership information, I also attend the board meetings regularly and participating in decision making. I helped to identify and introduce Dr. Menglin Jin to attend our COAA Spring workshop. According to Xiaofeng Li, she has been awarded as one of the two best presenters of the COAA Spring 2004 workshop, winning \$200 reimbursement for her trip to attend the COAA 2004 International Conference in Beijing.

**Jun Du (Secretary).** I have been serving on the COAA Board of Directors as Secretary for more than a half year now (Nov. 2003 - June 2004). My main duties are (1) assisting COAA President Joe Huang and (2) serving as a bridge between COAA board and COAA members. Joe Huang told me recently in Beijing that he likes me a lot. It might prove that I did okay in assisting him by communicating among board directors for him, providing help/thoughts to him as well as writing/reporting meeting minutes and documenting COAA-related business (my COAA folder gets thicker!). Again during this COAA2004 Beijing conference, I was told by many unfamiliar faces that they knew of me because they received lots of email announcements about COAA activities from me. Hopefully, it's another sign saying that I did an okay job by bridging between COAA board and COAA members. Finally, I would like to thank all COAA members for trusting and giving me this opportunity to serve you and hope to do a better job in the remaining 2nd half of year 2004.

**Colin Shen (Publication).** The electronic newsletter publication has entered its second year. We have been able to put an issue out approximately once a month. The newsletter contents are still mostly concerned with the board's activities and scientific conferences. Nevertheless there is a dribble of community news that is on a more personal level and makes interesting read. It is our

continuing hope that more members will participate in contributing news to COAA newsletters.

**Da-Lin Zhang (Vice President).** See his report under the Professional Meetings section.

## Board Meetings

A total of five Board meetings were held between Nov. 1 2003 and June 30, 2004, and one special meeting held in Beijing in June. The following are the reports of the six meetings by Jun Du:

**1. Nov. 9, 2003.** 2:00-5:00pm. Bethesda, MD. Eight (8) current board members ( Joseph Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Dongliang Yuan, Jun Du, Zhanqing Li, Chung-Lin Shie, Fung-Chi Ko and Colin Y. Shen) and three (3) retiring board members (Long Chiu, Song Yang and William Tseng) attended the meeting. The main purpose of the meeting is the transition of responsibility from retiring board members to newly elected board members. Besides the transition, several new decisions have also been reached. Bellow is a summary of meeting outcomes.

- Two awards are set for "best presentation (both oral and poster) presented in the Spring workshop by junior scientists (less than 5 years from their graduation). One is for atmosphere and another for ocean/earth/environment. The best presentation should be voted by the audience. Each award is \$200 toward his/her flight ticket for participating in the Beijing 2004 Conference (no cash for other purposes!). Note: award selecting category (atmo, ocean etc.) is subject to change depending on actual number of submitted papers and participants then.
- This year's (2004) COAA Summer activity is cancelled due to the COAA 2004 Beijing Conference.
- Elect Dr. Ming Xue, associate professor at University of Oklahoma, as COAA's regional director for Oklahoma region.
- Update the COAA member directory (2004) and distribute hard copies to members.
- \$5000 to support COAA 2004 Beijing Conference
- A 3-person committee (Da-Lin -- Chair, Song Yang and Eddie Shih) has been established to modify the current COAA's By-Law.
- Recruit a no-pay intern to be COAA's legal consultant (please recommend if you have any candidate).

**2. Jan. 24, 2004.** 10:00am-12:00pm. Univ. of Maryland. Eight (8) board members (Fung-Chi Ko, Jun Du, Joe Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Chung-Lin Shie, Zhanqing Li, Dongliang Yuan and Xiaofeng Li) and three (3) invitees (Jin Wu, Williams Tseng and Eddie Shih) attended the meeting. The following agenda was discussed and some agreements were reached:

- The COAA 2004 New Year Banquet will be held at Tony Lin's Chinese Restuarant at 12:30pm, Feb. 7, 2004, jointly with Zheng-Ho Association of North America.
  - A COAA delegation (Da-Lin Zhang, Joe Huang, Quanan Zheng and Sam Shen) attended the 1st Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS) annual meeting and received warmly welcome, as reported by Da-Lin and Joe. CMS welcomes COAA members to attend the CMS's 80th anniversary conference (sometime in Oct. or Nov. 2004, Beijing). A sister association agreement was offically signed by COAA and CMS, while a similar agreement was verbally reached by Chinese Society of Oceanography Society (CSO), pending for approval by CSO's board. COAA delegation presented CMS and CSO each a beautiful plaqua.
  - Da-Lin reported the status of the COAA 2004 Beijing conference. Chinese host has promised to obtain some funds to cover all local expenses (hotel and meal) for all oversea participants during the period of conference. The Institute of Atmospheric Physics/CAS's web will soon be ready for the submission of abstracts. Various committees will also be formed shortly.
  - A special "COAA name recognition" committee of five (5) persons (Zhanqing Li -- Chair, Xiaofeng Li, Bill Lau, Da-Lin Zhang and Song Yang) has be established to promote COAA's influence in the fields of meteorology and oceanography.
  - Two local scientific workshops will be organized by COAA as usual: Spring (U. of Maryland, early April) and Fall (combined with COAA's annual meeting). During the Spring workshop, two (2) presentations (oral or poster by junior scientists) will be selected to receive awards (\$200 each toward attending the COAA 2004 Beijing conference -- for more details, please see the 1st meeting report of the COAA Board 2004).
  - COAA's financial status has been reviewed. The current situation is quite healthy. COAA's financial support is believed increasing via CFC, United Way etc. channel. Thanks to all donors! A small imbalance (surplus) has been adjusted upon the approval of the Board.
  - The COAA member directory is planned to be updated and its hard copies will be distributed during the Spring workshop and provided to members upon request. The possibility of establishing a member-information database is under consideration now.
  - Information about COAA's corporate members as well as sister associations will be added to the COAA web site. Finally, the Board reassure that anyone who donates \$100 or more including via CFC and United Way etc. will be eligible to become COAA's life member status.
- 3. Feb. 7, 2004.** Rockville, MD. The 3rd board meeting was held right after the COAA annual New Year's banquet in the afternoon at Tony Lin's Kitchen, Rockville,

MD. The board directors, Joe Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Colin Shen, Chung-Lin Shie and Dongliang Yuan attended the meeting. After an active and constructive discussion, Board members voted to decide how much COAA should sponsor financially the International Conference of Tropical Weather and Climate (Guangzhou, China, November, 2004), at the request of COAA former president, Song Yang. Two absent Board directors Jun Du and Zhanqing Li also sent their votes via email in a later time (afternoon, Feb. 9, 2004) while Program director Xiaofeng Li didn't give his vote. Based on the final vote result, Board decided to contribute \$1000 to that conference.

**4. March 13, 2004.** 2:00pm-5:00pm. President Joe Huang's residence, MD. Six board members (Joe Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Colin Shen, Fung-Chi Ko, Dongliang Yuan and Jun Du) and two invitees (Williams Tseng and Eddie Shih) attended the meeting. Three board members (Chung-Lin Shie, Zhanqing Li and Xiaofeng Li) were absent from the meeting. The following two issues (By-Law modification and Financial Support Rule) were discussed:

- Eddie first reviewed the history of the COAA By-Law. Some modifications have been suggested including (a) creating a "President-Elect" position as AMS does; (b) Changing "regional director" to "vice president" -- In a region where there are more than 30 members, a vice-president could be set --; (c) immediate past-president acting as advisor only but not board member (no voting right); (d) special meeting chairperson(s) (not necessary board members) could be appointed when needed. Da-Lin and Eddie were assigned to make those changes and then forward the draft to all board members later for a review.
- A new rule about Financial Support from COAA (drafted by Chung-lin and Colin etc.) was discussed. More modifications are needed before the final approval. This rule as well as other similar rules/regulations will be used as COAA operation guideline but not as Bylaw to make it easier for any further changes by future COAA boards.

**5. April 3, 2004.** 5:15-5:45pm. University of Maryland. Here are some issues discussed at the meeting:

- The Operational Guideline for COAA to finance and co-sponsor meetings needs further modification and to be submitted to the board for approval in future board meeting;
- COAA treasury Chung-Lin Shi reported the 2003 tax filing and financial situations of COAA;
- The Board reiterates the importance of updating the membership directory and the commitment to publish the directory this year (Thanks to Dongliang Yuan, it's available now!);

- Song Yang reported the preparation of the COAA co-sponsored International Symposium on Tropical Weather and Climate (Guangzhou, China, Nov 8-12, 2004).

Present – Joseph Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Chung-Lin Shie, Zhanqing, Li, Xiaofeng Li, and Colin Shen  
Absent – Fung-Chi Ko, Jun Du, and Dongliang Yuan.

**6. Special meeting. June 27, 2004.** 12:00-1:30pm. Hong Xiang Hotel, Beijing. This chaired by Joe Huang, was held prior to the beginning of COAA2004 conference. Present at the meeting were five Directors of current Board: Joe Huang, Da-Lin Zhang, Jun Du, Fung-Chi Ko and Chung-Lin Shie, as well as three past COAA Presidents: Eddie Shih, Hsien P. Pao and Song Yang. Additionally, IAP/CAS deputy director ZHU Jiang was invited to the meeting.

During the meeting, Deputy Director of IAP/CAS, ZHU Jiang, first reported the budget deficit situation of the COAA2004 conference. Then Da-Lin talked about travel supports from COAA to some COAA participants.

The subject for the site for our next COAA International Conference was put on table for discussion. After many exchanges, the Board chose the following cities to be the candidate sites for the 4th COAA International Conference (COAA2007):

Boulder, CO (1st choice),  
Stony Brook, NY (2nd choice),  
Norman, OK (3rd choice), and  
Washington DC (as backup).

Details of the conference chairs and committee members will be discussed in future board meetings. It is especially pointed out that the COAA president-elect of 2006 should be carefully considered based on his/her relation to the local host of COAA2007.

Finally, Joe's speech content at COAA2004 representing COAA was overviewed. It was suggested that part of the welcome speech would be better delivered in Chinese on this occasion.

The meeting also decided to set up a COAA membership desk at the conference registration desk for recruiting new members.

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## Professional Meetings

### ☞ COAA2004 held in Beijing on 27-30 June 2004.

The following is a report from the Conference co-Chair, Da-Lin Zhang:

Here I would like to take this opportunity to report on the organization of the Third International Ocean-

Atmosphere Conference COAA2004, that has been held in Beijing on 27-30 June 2004. As most of you know, we have experienced several unexpected situations during the course of conference preparation, particularly the SARS in Spring 2003, the fire of Jingmin Hotel on 9 June 2004, and the reduced conference budgets. We have made some painful decisions in order to hold the conference as planned. On behalf of the program committee, I apologize to many of our COAA members and conference participants for any inconvenience that has been caused.

Despite the above-mentioned unfortunate events, we held a rather successful conference with a good turnout. We received over 150 and 200 abstracts from overseas and Mainland China, respectively. There were over 330 participants registered, of which about 126 (96 in atmosphere and 30 in ocean) were from overseas. Many felt useful scientific discussions and professional networking during the conference. Hongxiang Hotel, selected by our host after Jingmin's fire, provided suitable rooms for most sessions, and accommodations for all overseas participants. Nevertheless, I wish to mention two major problems with the organization of COAA2004: a) cancellation of several social activities owing to the reduced conference budgets, and b) speakers' cancellation of their presentations without informing the program chairs.

COAA2004 would not have been held successfully as scheduled without strong support from COAA's Board of Directors, local and overseas program committee members, and many agencies in China. In particular, we wish to express our gratitude to our host, the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), for all their conference support, including human resources, conference equipments and especially for their bearing the overspending budget. We are also grateful to our sister associations (i.e., the Chinese Meteorological Society and the Chinese Society of Oceanography), funding agencies (i.e., the Natural Science Foundation of China, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences), and the Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology (Nanjing Institute of Meteorology) for their sponsorship. Finally, we should foremost thank Ms. Lu Zhang of IAP for her laborious work and patience, and Drs. Jiang Zhu and Yifeng Pu for their leadership in organizing COAA2004. Of course, the commitment and active participation of many overseas and domestic scientists were key to the success of COAA2004.

While COAA2004 has been put behind, we will send an email soon to all participants asking for their contributions to a special issue of "*Advances in Atmospheric Sciences*," as mentioned in the previous conference announcement.

#### ☞ COAA Spring Workshop held on 3 April 2004 at Univ. of Maryland

The COAA 2004 spring workshop: Research and applications in atmospheric and oceanic sciences, was held at University of Maryland on April 3. COAA president, Joseph Huang, first gave a COAA 2004 report, and vice-president Da-Lin Zhang reported the COAA Beijing conference preparation status. There were eleven oral presentations covering a wide range of climate, atmosphere, and ocean topic. Drs. Fu-Lung Chang and Menglin Jin are winners of the two best presentations. They will each receive \$200 towards purchasing their airplane tickets to attend COAA2004 Conference in Beijing this summer. (Reported by Xiaofeng Li and Zhanqing Li, Program Co-Chairs)

##### List of presentations:

- Potential Predictability of U.S. Summer Climate with "Perfect" Soil Moisture, Fanglin Yang, GEST/UMBC
- Detecting and Simulating Urban-induced Climate Changes via EOS observations and NCAR Community Land Model, Menglin Jin, Department of Meteorology, University of Maryland, College Park
- Impacts of Satellite Measured Precipitation on GEOS Assimilation System, Song Yang and Li Tao, George Mason University, NASA/GSFC, Greenbelt, MD
- Developing and Characterizing Cloud Vertical Structures Using Satellite Data, Fu-Lung Chang, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland, College Park
- Validation of MODIS aerosol optical depth and evaluation of potential cloud contamination in East Asia, XIA Xiang-Ao LAGEO, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing
- Potential Mechanism for Response of ENSO Variability to Change in Land Surface Energy Budget, Zeng-Zhen Hu, Edwin K. Schneider, Uma S. Bhatt, and Ben P. Kirtman, Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies.
- Using Hyperspectral Imaging to Help Study Algal Blooms in Chesapeake Bay, Yixiang(Eric) Nie, Ruixin Yang, School of Computational Sciences, George Mason University
- Validation of range correction algorithm using real-time radar data from sterling, va, Feng Ding Office of Hydrologic Development National Weather Service, NOAA
- Diagnostic Studies of Recent Variations of Oceanic Evaporation Using Satellite Data, Yukun Xing, Long S. Chiu1, Alfred T-C. Chang, SCS/CEOSR, George Mason University.
- Laboratory Measurements of Low-Grazing-Angle Radar Backscatter and Crest Profile of Breaking Waves, Xinan Liu, Mark Sletten, James H. Duncan, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland

The Flying-leap Experiment and the Earth System Model at University of Maryland, Ning Zeng, Department of Meteorology and Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland

**⌘ COAA's co-sponsorship of the International Symposium on Tropical Weather and Climate in Guangzhou, China: An update**

COAA members Drs. Donghai Wang and Song Yang traveled to Guangzhou recently for the COAA co-organized International Symposium on Tropical Weather and Climate, which will be held in Guangzhou during 7-11 November 2004 (for details, see <http://www.coaaweb.org>). On 14 May, the first group meeting among all symposium organizers was held at the Institute of Tropical and Marine Meteorology, China Meteorological Administration. Academic Committee vice-chair Huibang Luo, all three Organizing Committee co-chairs (Yong Yu, Haiyan He, and Donghai Wang), and Secretary General Zhiping Wen attended the meeting. Other participants included Tianqing Jia, Yanming Yi, and Yingchang He, Maoqiu Jian, and Song Yang. During the meeting, participants discussed and/or decided a number of issues including meeting places, hotel, registration, abstract submissions, finance, publication, and social activities. They also defined the structure of the symposium and set the time lines for the critical stages in the coming months. Prof. Zhiping Wen of Zhongshan University was assigned to lead a group for financial management. (Reported by [Song.Yang@noaa.gov](mailto:Song.Yang@noaa.gov))

**⌘ APA Federal Career Advancement Summit attended by COAA members**

A number of COAA members including Joseph Huang, Nancy Huang, Eddie Shih, James Su, Charles Sun, William Tseng, Chung-Sheng Wu, and Song Yang attended the 3rd Annual Asian Pacific American Federal Career Advancement Summit, which was held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia, on 10 May 2004. The Summit was hosted by the Department of Labor and the Office of Personnel Management. President Bush sent his greetings to the nearly 900 participants.

The Summit was organized to address the shortage of Asian Pacific Americans in senior executive and management positions in the federal government, with a focus on providing management insights, skills training, and other career opportunities to help Asian Pacific American government employees maximize their potential and acquire the skill sets that will increase their chances of advancement in the federal sector. It consisted of opening and closing plenary sessions, 34 exhibitions by various government agencies, and several workshop sessions. The workshop sessions are: The Unwritten Rules of Organizational Success; Managing Conflict in a

Diverse Workplace; The Key to Cross-Cultural Communications; Marketing Yourself: Take Charge of How Others See You and Your Work; Competitive Federal Applications: Preparing for Your Next Federal Job; Executive Core Qualifications: What Are They and Why Are They Important? Distinguishing Yourself: Knowing the Federal Budget Process; and Pathways to Success: Developing Leadership Skills for Career Advancement.

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor, and a number of sub-cabinet members from different government agencies attended and/or addressed to the Summit. COAA member Nancy Huang, Chief Information Officer of NOAA Research, was a panelist of the Opening Plenary Session. She and other Asian Pacific American leaders shared their stories about achieving success in the federal government services. ([Song.Yang@noaa.gov](mailto:Song.Yang@noaa.gov))

**Other Conference Announcements**

► **The 2004 Annual Meeting of the Chinese Meteorological Society, 18-21 October 2004, Beijing**

The Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS), COAA's Sister Association, will hold its annual meeting in Beijing during 18-21 October 2004. The deadline for submitting abstract is July 31, 2004. A few days late submission may be acceptable. Over 550 participants attended its annual meeting last year. CMS will also hold various activities during the annual meeting to celebrate its 100th Anniversary. *All COAA members are encouraged to attend.* See CMS' website [www.cms1924.org](http://www.cms1924.org) for more details.

► **Third International Workshop on Monsoons (IWM-III), 1-5 November 2004, Hangzhou, China**

IWM-III is sponsored by the WMO Committee of Atmospheric Science/Working Group on Tropical Meteorology Research (WGTMR). This series of quadrennial workshops emphasizes the interactions between researchers and operational forecasters on issues of common interest. The third workshop is organized jointly by the WGTMR International Panel for East Asian Monsoon, Project M2 for Asian-African Monsoon and Project M3 for American Monsoon, The topics will include all monsoon regions and time scales (meso-, synoptic, intraseasonal, climate). The deadline for short abstract is 15 June 2004. An extended abstract for papers accepted for oral or poster presentations will be required by 31 August 2004. Contact Prof. C.-P. Chang, [cpchang@nps.navy.mil](mailto:cpchang@nps.navy.mil), or Prof. Renhe Zhang, [sunrui@cams.cma.gov.cn](mailto:sunrui@cams.cma.gov.cn)



► **The 4th International Conference on Mesoscale Convective Systems and Heavy Rainfall in East Asia, 16-19 November 2004, Beijing**

This conference will be hosted by the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, and The Key Severe Storm Laboratory of China Meteorological Administration. There will be 20-30 scientists from Korea and Japan, 80-100 domestic participants, and some invited speakers from the U.S., Canada and Europe to attend. The deadline for submitting abstract is September 15, 2004. Please see the conference website:

[www.cams.cma.gov.cn/icmcs/icmcs-iv.htm](http://www.cams.cma.gov.cn/icmcs/icmcs-iv.htm)

for more details.

► **The Ninth Assembly of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (IAMAS2005), 2-11 August 2005, Beijing**

Please browse our website <http://www.iamas2005.com> or <http://www.web.lasg.ac.cn/iamas2005/> to get more information.

► **The International Symposium on Tropical Weather and Climate, 8-12 November 2004, Guangzhou, China**

Dr. Song Yang ([Song.Yang@noaa.gov](mailto:Song.Yang@noaa.gov)) is COAA's point of contact and will be COAA's representative at the symposium. The complete announcement can be found online at <http://www.coaaweb.org>. Please visit this COAA website for details

During the CMS annual meeting, the delegation had several friendly meetings with the CMS's President, Prof. Rongsheng Wu, its Secretary-General, Prof. Chunyi Wang, and the other Board members of the CMS. On behalf of COAA, the delegation signed a memorandum with the CMS on the establishment of a sister association relation. Both sides expressed interests in promoting scientific collaborations among the members in both associations. The joint organization of COAA2004 was also discussed. The delegation was also warmly received by the Administrator, Dr. Dahe Qin, and the Deputy Administrator, Dr. Guoguang Zheng, of China Meteorological Administration.

The delegation also paid a visitation to the Chinese Society of Oceanography (CSO) on December 11th, and had a warm discussion with the CSO's Secretary-General, Prof. Junyi Cheng and the other CSO's personnel. We discussed further the establishment of a sister-association relationship between COAA and CSO, and the CSO's support for COAA2004.

With the assistance of Ms. Lu Zhang of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics, the Overseas Program Co-Chairs of COAA2004, Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng, have contacted various government agencies in order to obtain necessary financial support for the upcoming international conference; see the 2nd announcement of COAA2004 in this issue. Their responses are all positive and they welcome as many overseas participations as possible. In general, the funding prospective is promising. (Submitted by Da-Lin Zhang)

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## Visitations

● **COAA Delegation's visit and participation at the CMS meeting in Beijing**

At the invitation of the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS), a delegation of 4 COAA members, Joseph Huang (Dept. of Energy), Sam Shen (Univ. of Alberta), Da-Lin Zhang and Quanan Zheng (Univ. of Maryland), visited Beijing in December 2003, and attended the CMS' annual meeting on December 7-10 (see their website: [www.cms1924.org](http://www.cms1924.org)). This was the CMS' first annual meeting, for which more than 580 participants were registered. Such an annual meeting will be held regularly in the future, according to the CMS's Standing Committee. All the delegation members presented their research work in various sessions with Da-Lin Zhang giving an invited talk in its final plenary session. The delegation was warmly received, and each member met with many old and new friends. In the next annual meeting, the CMS will celebrate her 80th birthday, and they would like to see more overseas participations in the future. All COAA members will be informed of such activities by COAA's Newsletter.

● **Visit at IAP for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Game**

Drs. Jun Du and Henry Juang of NCEP/NOAA were invited in November, 2003 by Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), Chinese Academy of Sciences to give talks on mesoscale weather forecasting with regional models. IAP is in charge of improving regional weather prediction for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Game and is interested in regional ensemble forecasting -- a new method aiming to quantitatively count on forecast uncertainty. During the visit, Dr. Du introduced ensemble concept with the NCEP breeding method, while Dr. Juang introduced the NCEP Regional Spectral Model (RSM) to IAP. Currently, a Ph.D. student and a Post-Doc scientist supervised by Prof. Shouting Gao are continuing their research with this RSM ensemble system at IAP. During their stay in Beijing, Drs. Du and Juang also presented seminars at the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences/CMA. The Chinese National Meteorological Center (NMC) also held a short meeting with Dr. Du discussing the development of an operational ensemble system at NMC. NMC expressed their interest in inviting Dr. Du again in the future when NMC sets up an experimental ensemble system there. (Jun.Du@noaa.gov)



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## Community News

☞ COAA members of Washington D.C. area held an annual Chinese New Year Banquet with the Zheng-He Association-North America in Rockville, MD on Feb. 7, 2004.

☞ On the Cover of *Science*. Most of you probably know by now that one of our members, Dr. Zhanqing Li at the University of Maryland has recently appeared on the cover of the renown magazine, *Science*. That issue of *Science* (May 28, 2004) devotes a special section on the life and work experiences of foreign-born scientists in the U.S. In one of the articles, Dr. Da-Lin Zhang (current COAA vice president), speaks about challenges faced by the Asian-born scientists. Below are his words quoted from the magazine's article:

“Limited language skills and unfamiliarity with American culture can be a significant disadvantage for immigrant researchers at scientific meetings. Beyond the challenge of simply being understood, many Asian-born scientists play down the importance of communicating what they have discovered, says Da-Lin Zhang, a Chinese-born meteorologist at the University of Maryland, College Park. “We apply ourselves entirely to the research and don't think about how to present it,” he says. As a result, exciting work presented by an Asian-born researcher can sometimes generate a lot less interest than it deserves. In turn, says Zhang, Chinese- and Korean-born scientists are less likely to be asked to be keynote speakers at scientific meetings.”

Now, do you wonder how Dr. Zhanqing Li made onto the *Science*'s cover? We asked him for the “inside” story. Here is what he told us:

“I think the appearance in the cover is a ‘random’ coincidence, although the process has a bit of ‘order’ which might have something to do with my correspondences with the journal in selecting the initial interview ‘samples’.

On March 10, I received a phone call from a *Science* staff writer, Yudhijit Bhattacharjee, who told me they were preparing a special issue featuring many aspects of foreign born scientists especially their work and life experiences in US. On March 18, he came to my office and we chatted about a hour, which was joined by Da-Lin later. I referred him to a few other outstanding foreign scientists on the campus and emailed him both the message of Da-Lin distributed to COAA board members and Bill Lau's article appeared in a previous COAA newsletter. Da-Lin did a remarkable job to promote overseas Chinese scientists who contribute tremendously to U.S., but are not often recognized accordingly especially in

their career development.

I guess the photo was chosen to appear on the cover because of its right balance of race, color and the beautiful planet earth, rather than anything remarkable in person. During our conversation, we didn't talk about any personal achievements, but rather on general issues related to almost all foreign scientists, especially Chinese.”

We thank you, Dalin and Zhanging, for being actively involved with the *Science* writer and speaking out for all of us, and what could be better to have one of you to appear on the cover of the magazine!

☞ Dr. Xiao-Hai Yan of University of Delaware was appointed recently as the "Mary A. S. Lighthipe Chair Professor in Marine Studies" at University of Delaware. He is the first overseas Chinese in recent 20 years in the ocean atmosphere science fields appointed as a chair professor and he is also an ONLY overseas Chinese (from both Mainland and Taiwan) chair professor currently in the ocean atmosphere science field in United States. (Reported by Lide Jiang, Vice President of Chinese Association of Students and Scholars University of Delaware Tel: 302-831-4697. Email: leonjld@udel.edu or: [leonjld@hotmail.com](mailto:leonjld@hotmail.com))

☞ Dr. Bill Lau, former COAA President, has been awarded the "Distinguished Meteorologist Award" at the 120th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Observatory. He presented a public lecture at the Hong Kong Science Museum to several hundred middle and high school students, teachers and parents, and the general public on " Taking the pulse of the earth from space" on January 17, 2004. Dr. Lau discussed the role of NASA satellite observations and earth science research in providing better understanding of climate change, especially the effects of aerosol, clouds and precipitation changes with respect to local environmental and societal problems. He was featured in various local newspapers and evening TV news. A feature article of Dr. Lau can be found at the website below:

[http://www.wenweipo.com/news.phtml?news\\_id=OT0401280001&cat=009OT](http://www.wenweipo.com/news.phtml?news_id=OT0401280001&cat=009OT)

☞ Two of our COAA prominent senior members, Dr. Norden E. Huang (NASA/GSFC) and Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou (UCLA) have been recently elected Fellow of Academic Sinica in Taiwan -- the Highest Honor that can be bestowed on a scholar within the academic community! Congratulations to both Dr. Huang and Prof. Liou, who were also invited honorary speakers at the COAA2004 meeting held in Beijing, late June.



## **In Memoriam**

Our long-time COAA member Dr. Al Chang (Hydrological Sciences Branch of NASA/GSFC) passed away on May 24, 2004 from complications resulting from a massive stroke. Al was truly an inspiration to many of us - a motivated scientist and faithful friend. We will miss and remember him. Below is a brief bio of Al.

Dr. Al Chang joined NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in 1974, and have since made significant contributions in the retrievals of both rain rate and snow water equivalent (SWE) using microwave radiometry. He and Tom Wilheit (previously with GSFC) are the very first ones to use orbiting microwave radiometer (ESMR, Electrically Scanning Microwave Radiometer aboard the Nimbus-5 satellite) for the retrieval of rainfall rate over oceans (Wilheit et al., 1977). This was followed by many studies using SMMR (Scanning Multichannel Microwave Radiometer) aboard SeaSat, SSMI (Special Sensor Microwave/Imager) aboard DMSP F-series satellites, TRMM (Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission) Microwave Imager, and more recently, the AMSR (Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer) aboard the EOS-PM. His algorithm was among the few used to derive the rain rate products from the AMSR measurements.

His pioneer work on snow parameter retrievals started from a number of truck-mounted radiometer measurements over the mountain areas in Vermont in the 1970's. Analyses of these ground data sets formed the basis for the subsequent development of the SWE retrieval algorithm which has been widely used for large-area snow mapping from satellite data (e.g., SSMI). He has published more than 110 refereed journal articles related to rain rate and SWE estimations.

Besides research, he was active in many national/international scientific and technical committees promoting microwave remote sensing of geophysical parameters. He also served as the Deputy Project Scientist of the NASA EOS-PM. He has received many awards, including the prestigious NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement. (written by James Wang of NASA)

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