Chapter News

March 2013

Visit to the local news channel

On March 2, the Chapter had the opportunity to visit Puerto Rico local news channel WAPA-TV. The participating students were received by Nestor Flecha, former UPRM Meteorology student and Chapter President, and current weather broadcaster at the channel. While there, he introduced us to the software he uses to put together the visuals for his forecasts, and he tutored the students on how to present weather events on camera. They even got to see him in action while on air!

The visit the news channel also served as a platform for the promotion of the Chapter’s Weather Fest, which would take place a week after the visit.

Weather Fest 2013

On March 8, the Chapter hosted its most important event of the year: the annual Weather Fest! Held in the Mezzanine room from 8:00AM to 2:00PM, this activity gave an unique opportunity to approximately 600 high school students from across the island: to experience and learn about meteorology first hand through the use of interactive experiments and very visual demonstrations.

The event also had the participation of various exhibitors from agencies like the Tsunami Ready iniciative, Cari-COOS, WAPA-TV, Sea Grant, among others, and other university organizations like the Society of Physics Students, the Geology Society, and the National Society of Professional Engineers.
The event was a complete success, for it brought Chapter members together under a common goal, and was triumphant in educating students about meteorology and the atmospheric sciences.

**Fundraising Opportunities**

During the month of March, the Chapter held two hot dog sales that helped fund Weather Fest-related costs. The Weather Fest committee also held a raffle of a $25 gift card to the restaurant of the person’s choice in order to raise funds for Weather Fest decorations. Any surplus money made in these fundraising activities will be used to fund other Chapter activities.

**Monthly Meeting**

The Chapter had its last regular monthly meeting in March 11 at 10:30AM. A total of 23 members were present. During this meeting, the students had the opportunity to discuss and compare their Weather Fest impressions, and they put forward suggestions to better the event next year. Students also
discussed upcoming activities like a visit to the National Weather Service Weather Forecasting Office in San Juan, and the End-of-the-Year Banquet.