Chapter News

October 2010

Monthly Meeting:

The monthly meeting was held on October 14 at 10:45 am. A total of 47 students, including active and prospective members, attended. The chapter officers summarized past activities and discussed future events, such as the 5th Student Chapter Initiation, the Weather Fest, the AMS Annual Meeting, seminars, fundraising activities and social gatherings. It is also worth to mention that the Juracán TV committee started having regular meetings to get ready for their upcoming season, which will include weather briefings by students, coverage of the chapter’s events, among other activities.

Activity: CaRA-CariCOOS: An interactive tutorial

The first-ever Caribbean Coastal Ocean Observing System (CariCOOS) of the Caribbean Regional Association (CaRA) interactive tutorial exclusive to the AMS Student Chapter was held on October 19. The speaker was Carlos Anselmi, a graduate student from the UPRM Department of Marine Sciences. He focused his talk on the objectives of this NOAA- Integrated Ocean Observing System effort, the interaction between the National Weather Service and CaRA-CariCOOS, the webpage and products available to the general public, the use of numerical models, the future goals and valuable student opportunities for undergraduate/graduate research. This activity was also the first one transmitted live by Juracan TV, the chapter’s weather channel, through their webpage, www.juracantv.webs.com. Sixteen students were able to benefit from this talk in person, while many others enjoyed the activity via the Internet.

Activity: Pre-Halloween Party

The chapter’s first social event of the semester was held on October 21. Its main objective was to motivate the members to get to know each other better while raising money for the 5th Student Chapter Initiation. Over 200 people enjoyed the night’s activities, such as a costume contest, the general public got interested in the chapter and the fundraising was extremely successful.
Activity: 9th Annual Open House of the UPRM Earth Science Week

On October 22, the chapter participated in the Open House of the UPRM Earth Science Week, organized by the Puerto Rico Seismic Network and the Department of Geology. More than a thousand high school students attended this event, and interacted with different exhibitors, such as the NOAA Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, Sea Grant, the National Weather Service, the Society of Physics Students, and our chapter. The chapter’s Demonstrations committee leader, Gerardo L. Camacho, talked about this experience at the monthly meeting: “It was a unique and tremendous experience! It was a pleasure to work with other chapter members as a team at this activity. Around 1,200 students stopped by our booth and all of them were amazed by our meteorology-related demonstrations. They seemed very interested in every single detail of what we were showing them. Looking at them filled me up with joy, because it made me think that we were doing a good job. I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to represent the chapter and the Department of Physics at this event.”

Activity: Movie Night

The chapter’s Weather Today committee organized a movie night to present 1996’s film Twister. A meteorology professor, Carlos U. Pabón, joined the 13 students who attended this event on October 26. Everyone was delighted by this weather related movie and the refreshments served.

Activity: Hot Dog Sales

A total of 4 hot dog sales were held for fundraising (October 4, 11, 18 and 25). Once again, team effort and dedication proved to be essential for the success of these sales.

Activity: Breast Cancer Awareness

Seventeen members cooperated with the Puerto Rico chapter of the American Cancer Society fundraising mission by buying t-shirts regarding their main activity “Walk for a cause”. They wore the t-shirts to raise awareness about breast cancer.