Chapter News

October 2012

Chapter Honor Roll notice

During the month of October, the UPRM AMS Student Chapter received word that we had been awarded Chapter Honor Roll for our work during the year 2011-2012. We want to thank the AMS for this great honor, our past chapter officers and everyone who was part of the Chapter for their hard work and dedication! The recognition is well deserved.

Education opportunity: Astronaut Visit

On October 4th, the UPRM campus received a visit from astronaut Gregory “Box” Johnson. Pilot of the last Endeavour flight, and the penultimate space shuttle program flight, Johnson spoke about career possibilities as astronauts, and regaled students with stories of his time in space. Students from the Chapter were very excited to get to meet and talk with such an important person, and took the chance to learn a bit about topics like space weather and astronomy. The astronaut left our students with a very important phrase: "If you wanna be someone, you have to dream big, and reach the stars"
Monthly reunion

Our October meeting took place on October 9th at 10:30 am. In attendance were active member and prospective members of the Chapter. As per the established agenda, some of the topics discussed were past events, the upcoming 7th Member Initiation, Member of the Month selection, and a briefing of other upcoming activities for the month.

After a Q&A session, our members chose Demonstrations Committee Leader Christie Torres as Member of the Month. We wish to congratulate her for her hard work. More info about her and other Members of the Month can be found at http://academic.uprm.edu/ams/MemberMonth.html.

Special Meeting: AMS Meeting briefing

After our Monthly Meeting on October 9th, we held a special meeting for those interested in attending the 93rd AMS Annual Meeting in Austin, TX. The purpose of this meeting was to introduce members to the conference, tell them about the different activities that take place, and help them find ways to fund the trip. Officers and members exposed the following funding alternatives for attending the AMS Meeting: Student Assistantship position, being hosted by the Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology program at UPRM, attending with personal funds; past attendants of the PR Weather Camp could ask for funding from the program; and finding outside sponsors.

Education opportunity: School visit

On October 7th, members of the Demonstrations Committee visited a school in Yauco, PR, where they presented different weather related demonstrations in an effort to interest students in the wonderful field that is meteorology.

Weather Today: Let’s talk with meteorologist Nestor Flecha

For October’s Weather Today, we received former UPRM student, Chapter president and current WAPA TV meteorologist, Nestor Flecha. For a couple for hours on October 18th, Nestor Flecha spoke to students from all academic fields about his path through college, what led him to work on a news station, and all the details that go with working in front of a camera. He joked about being recognized while grocery shopping and being in local gossip columns, and inspired students to follow their dreams and never give up.

Fundraising: Trick or Hot Dog!

During the month of October, we held our traditional hot-dog and donuts sales (on October 1st, 8th, 15, 22 and 29). They were all very successful.

Academic activity: Talk “Where can a meteorologist work?”

There are a lot of career opportunities in atmospheric sciences and meteorology. However, many times people only think of meteorologists as the weather men and women in front of a green screen on TV. The chapter advisor, Dr. Carlos U. Pabón-Ortiz gave a brief talk about about varied career
opportunities, as well as different ways in which members can complete the Curricular Sequence on Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology in UPRM. This talk was extremely helpful to all who attended, and we are very grateful to Dr. Pabón-Ortiz for his time and commitment to the Chapter.

Social event: Stormy Night Party!

On October 30th, the UPRM AMS Student Chapter, in collaboration with the Society of Physics Students, hosted a marvelous Halloween costume party. Members from both organizations, as well as guests, enjoyed a night of snacks, costumes, karaoke competitions, all while getting to know each other. It was an extremely entertaining night, and helped establish a good rapport between members and officers of both organizations. – Ana P. Torres