Chapter News

September 2011

Activity: Beach Day

On September 5th, some of our members got together to spend a relaxing day at Buyé Beach, one of the island’s beautiful beaches located in Cabo Rojo, a picturesque town in the southwest corner of Puerto Rico. They enjoyed the fair weather while playing volleyball and barbecuing.

Activity: Chapter Propaganda

On September 6, we hosted a booth with meteorology-related demonstrations and information about our chapter at the UPRM Student Center. In addition, we announced the 6th General Assembly through the UPRM email service and other off-campus social networks. We posted eye-catching flyers on school buildings to promote the chapter, and talked to students in the freshman orientation courses.

Monthly Meeting

The monthly meeting was held on September 8, at 10:45 am. A total of 26 active members attended. The chapter officers summarized past activities as usual and discussed future events, such as the 6th General Assembly and the 6th Initiation. Also, community outreach, fundraising, social, and professional activities were discussed. The officers reemphasized the importance of team-effort and the members’ participation in the activities for the accomplishment of the chapter’s goals.

Activity: 6th General Assembly

Our 6th General Assembly was held on September 13 at the UPRM Student Center. A total of 18 active members and 18 potential members attended the activity. The opening was a weather briefing offered by one of our active members. Afterwards, the chapter officers gave a motivating presentation about the chapter’s history, mission, and endeavors. They also explained how to join AMS and the chapter. Pictures from previous activities were shown and described to the audience so that the potential members could see our chapter in action. The activity was closed by a round of weather-related demonstrations, which even featured the enthusiastic participation of some of the prospective members.
Figure 1. Potential chapter members participate of the weather-related demonstrations during the 6th General Assembly.

Activity: Beach Cleanup

Having recognized our responsibility to the community and the environment, we aim to support the efforts to preserve our natural resources. On September 17, we joined the 2011 International Coastal Cleanup, the largest one-day global volunteer effort to keep coastlines, rivers, inland water resources and other waterways trash-free. Our members joined the cleanup of Montones Beach and Jobos Beach at Isabela, a municipality located in the northwestern region of the island. We collected a total of 550 items, including bags (paper/plastic), beverage bottles (plastic/glass), cans, caps, food wrappers/containers, straws, cups, clothing, shoes, ropes, cigarettes and others.

Figure 2. Some of our members carry the waste collected during the Beach Cleanup.
Activity: Opportunities and Internships in the Earth Sciences

Rebecca Haacker-Santos, deputy director of the Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science (SOARS) program, kindly joined us on September 20 to talk about advantageous student opportunities in the Earth Sciences. Five students prepared presentations about their participation in some of these opportunities and also explained their focus and eligibility requirements. The presentations included the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) High School Internship and Research Opportunities (HIRO) program, the SOARS program, Research Experience in Solid Earth Science for Students (RESESS), the Center for Multiscale Modeling of Atmospheric Processes (CMMAP) summer internship program, and the NCAR Undergraduate Leadership Workshop. Afterwards, the 39 attendees joined our special guest and the other presenters for a more informal gathering over refreshments.

Activity: UPRM College of Arts and Sciences Open House

Our chapter was cordially invited to participate in the UPRM College of Arts and Sciences Open House during the morning of September 29, as part of the celebration of the 100-year anniversary of UPRM. Students from two elementary schools and two high schools from the Mayagüez area learned about the weather through our hands-on activities and demonstrations.

Activity: Movie Night

Thirteen members attended the first activity of the academic year organized by the Weather Today committee. On September 29, the attendees socialized with each other and enjoyed watching the 2004 film *The Day after Tomorrow* over refreshments.

Activity: Hot Dog Sales

Our traditional hot dog sales were held on September 12, 19 and 26 as part of the intensive fundraising efforts to support our endeavors.