AMS Short Course on Mesoscale Atmospheric Modeling by Original Model Developers

An AMS short course on mesoscale atmospheric modeling by original model developers, sponsored by AMS and organized by the AMS Committee on Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee, will be held Sunday, 9 January 2000 preceding the 80th AMS Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California.

This one-day short course is designed to assist students interested in learning about atmospheric modeling, professors teaching atmospheric modeling, researchers involved in modeling or wanting to know the differences between various models, and managers needing to decide which models to use for their projects.

Models are sometimes misrepresented and misused. The course will provide a unique opportunity in learning directly from the original model developers on their models and the differences between the models. The course will begin with presentations on the technical and scientific design considerations. Following these presentations, the speakers will participate in a panel discussion, which will focus on the challenges that modelers encounter and limitations of mesoscale modeling.

This course will be taught by one of the original developers of each of the following models: RAMS, MM5 COAMPS, HOTMAC, FINTAH, and others.

The preliminary program will be published in a future issue of the Bulletin. For further information please contact Sayuri Yamada, Yamada Science & Art Corporation, Route 4, Box 81-A, Santa Fe, NM 87501; telephone: 505-989-7351; fax: 505-989-7965; e-mail: ysa@ysasoft.com.

AMS Short Course on Data Mining and Knowledge Discover from Databases

A short course, “Introduction to Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery from Databases,” sponsored by the AMS Committee on Artificial Intelligence, will be held 9 January 2000 as part of the 80th AMS Annual Meeting at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, California.

This course is being presented to provide an overview and introduce the principles of data mining. Data mining refers to the specific algorithms applied to data in order to extract patterns. Recent advances in data collection and computing power have created a need for a greater variety and more sophisticated methods of data reduction and analysis. These methods are collectively grouped in the field of knowledge discovery from databases, which refers to the overall process of discovering useful information from data. The application of data mining, especially in terms of meteorological problems, will be discussed and the available tools will be reviewed. Topics may include 1) what data mining is and when to use it, 2) goals of data mining, 3) knowledge discovery from databases, 4) data warehousing, 5) available mining tools, 6) determining the appropriate tool/methodology, and 7) current application examples.

For further information on the short course, contact Richard L. Bankert, Naval Research Laboratory, 7 Grace Hopper Ave., Monterey, CA 93943-5502; telephone: 831-656-4880; fax: 831-656-4769; e-mail: bankert@nrlmry.navy.mil.

AMS Short Course on Becoming a Weather Entrepreneur

An AMS short course on becoming a weather entrepreneur, sponsored by the American Meteorological Society, organized by the AMS Board on Private Sector Meteorology, and cosponsored by the National Council of Industrial Meteorologists, will be held on Sunday, 9 January 2000, preceding the 80th AMS Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California.

In today’s business world, a major shift to outsourcing for technical services has occurred because of budget cuts, downsizing, and layoffs. In the wake of this shift, the option to start a weather consulting business as a long-term career path is presented to individuals. There are many valid reasons why an individual may want to pursue consulting as a part- or even full-time practice. Multitudes of information sources are available for starting a small business; however, the information on starting a weather business venture is greatly limited.
In this short course, the focus will be on the ins and outs of starting a weather consulting business, from the successful voice of experience—those who have created a profitable weather consulting business. Learn about the components of a successful weather entrepreneur, business plans, and related business necessities such as marketing, proposal writing, customer relationships, and government assistance plans. The goal of this course is to provide real information on the private weather consulting business to help individuals make the decision whether to venture into this potentially profitable and self-satisfying career path.

For further information contact Matthew J. Parker, organizing committee chairman, senior meteorologist, Savannah River Technology Center, Bldg. 735-7A, Aiken, SC 29808; telephone: (W) 803-725-2805: (H) 706-856-6397; fax: 706-869-1841; e-mail: parker@groupz.net; or Phillip Falconer, Falconer Weather Information Services, 7 Via Maria Drive, Scotia, NY 12302-5717; telephone: 518-399-5388; fax: 518-399-5320.

**AMS Short Course on National Weather Service (NWS) Data Sources, Formats, and Use**

An updated edition of this popular AMS Short Course on National Weather Service (NWS) Data Sources, Formats, and Use, sponsored by the American Meteorological Society and organized by the National Weather Service, will be held Sunday, 9 January 2000, in Long Beach, California, preceding the 80th AMS Annual Meeting.

The goal of this one-day short course is to provide an in-depth discussion of the many sources of meteorological data from sources operated in the NWS, along with a description of the data format.

Technical experts from the NWS and/or its contractors in the areas of telecommunications, data format, and model output parameters will be conducting this short course. Anyone interested in using any of the NWS sources of data, including operational meteorologists, exhibitors, students, attendees from educational institutions, or foreign attendees, is welcome.

The syllabus will include the following: 1) technical descriptions of the NWS Family of Services and NWS Internet file server, AWIPS/NOAAPORT, the World Area Forecast System, and EMWIN; 2) technical descriptions of the data streams found on the different NWS services; 3) technical descriptions of the data format, such as BUFR, GRIB, NOAAPORT satellite, found on NWS services and the WMO message heading addressing scheme; 4) a description of the process used by NWS to manage the data found on these services; and 5) a description of the NCEP model output parameters and a short discussion of NCEP’s future model and product development.

Also provided will be reference material that students can consult in the future, software demonstrations, lists of contact points, and addresses.

For further information contact Richard Thigpen, NWSW/APO3, 1325 East–West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; telephone: 301-713-0920; fax: 301-713-0173; e-mail: richard.thigpen@noaa.gov. For registration, hotel, and general information, contact the AMS Meetings Department; telephone: 617-227-2426, ex. 226, 227, 228, or 305; fax: 617-742-8718; e-mail: amsmtgs@ametsoc.org.