



**Central Iowa NWA**  
April 30, 2014  
**3140 Agronomy Hall -Ames, IA**  
**Meeting Minutes**



-----Start: 6:32 P.M. -- End: 7:00 P.M. --- Attendance: 15 -----

**1. Conference Info (Rod Donavon)**

- a. Kathy Samaras declined our offer to pay for her trip to our conference but did send us an email thanking us and thought that we had a very good conference.
- b. Future Speakers (to be discussed over summer before fall semester)
  - Reed Timmer
  - James Spann
  - Paul Markowski
  - Gary England
  - Bring in more Broadcasters
- c. A few conference notes
  - Monitors at registration table
  - Sound in back of conference room (issues)
  - MP4 video issues
  - Pam Dale Scholarship and Tim Samaras award (people liked)
  - Audio recordings
    - Is there an easier way to record presentations (ideas)

**2. Registration Team Conference Feedback forms (Mindy Beerends)**

- a. Went over feedback sheets and discussed what people thought of our conference this year (attached below)
- b. Registration was down this year from last year
  - 165-160 vs. 170 in 2013
  - Less student and broadcasting registration
- c. Discussed whether a day rate might be a possibility for future conferences and possible complications that come with adding day rates
- d. Discussed registration additions such as:
  - Food allergies (gluten, dairy, etc)
  - No red meat preference

**3. Future Conference Policy**

- a. A conference policy document was requested to be made by august meeting to be voted on as an aside to the bylaws.
  - To allow an easier way to look up conference policy rather than looking through all the past meeting minuets

## 2013 – 2014 Conference Committees

### **Registration Team**

Mindy Beerends (Chair)  
Corey Harguth  
Lyndee Clark  
Tom Maaske  
Rachel Duebner  
Kevin Smalley

### **Agenda Team**

Dr. Gallus (Chair)  
Brian Squitieri  
Dave Flory  
Karl Jungbluth  
Aubry Bhattarai  
Ken Podrazik  
Mindy Beerends  
Chris Maiers  
Rod Donavon  
Jeff Zogg

### **Travel Team**

Aubry Bhattarai (Chair)  
Jimmy Cayer

### **Vendor Team**

Chris Maiers (Chair)  
Jim Orlando  
Rachel Duebner  
Mindy Beerends  
Kevin Smalley  
Tom Maaske

### **Electronics Team**

Willard Sharp (Chair)  
Dave Flory  
Chris Maiers

### **Pam Daale Scholarship Team**

Rod Donavon (Chair)  
Ken Podrazik  
Bill Gallus  
Jeff Zogg  
Aubry Bhattarai  
Brian Squitieri

### **Radar Workshop Team**

Kevin Skow (Chair)  
Dave Flory  
Chris Maiers

### **Hotel Team**

Rod Donavon (Chair)  
Ken Podrazik  
Chris Maiers  
Mindy Beerends

# Please Help Us Out!

We would like your feedback so we can create an even stronger Severe Storms & Doppler Radar Conference next year. If you could take a minute to jot down a few comments, and then drop them off at the registration table, we would greatly appreciate your help! Thanks.

- 1) Please list any comments you have about the conference venue/hotel. Is there something that could be improved upon for next year?
- 2) Were the presentations both informative and interesting?
- 3) How would you rate the interactive radar workshop? Did you bring your own laptop, or join someone else who brought one? Do you have suggestions for improvement?
- 4) Did you find value in the career mentoring activity? Are there other meteorological careers you would like to hear more about?
- 5) What other suggestions do you have for the conference committees preparing the Severe Storms Conference?
- 6) Overall is this conference a good value for your money spent?

1.

- Hotel around more bars or nightlife.
- Some mic issues, presentation clicker issues but just minor issues that normally were resolved.
- I thought that the venue was utilized well.
- Temperature of the room was very cold but could see the slides and hear the presenter.
- Excellent conference (as usual). If possible, increase volume of the speakers' microphone as it seemed a little low.
- Someone check audio for presentations as it was difficult to hear in the back few rows. Possibly use 2 screens and push tables closer to the front. 20 tables @ 6/table = around 120 chairs only 46 people in the back salon.
- Overall it was good. The only improvement will be the noise from the hotel service hallway to the right of the presentation room during presentations. Ex. is where you can hear their dialogue.
- It might be good to say treats/light breakfast items are available. I forgot about that and waited in line for breakfast. Otherwise great! Also the wi-fi was spotty. I couldn't connect my phone.

2.

- The presentations were great. I'm glad that students have an equal opportunity to present.
- Yes. I liked the damage survey and societal impacts.
- Yes all presenters here very informative and good.
- Many of the presentations were both informative and interesting. I feel that they were very beneficial.
- Yes.
- Yes.
- Yes, I might break up the flooding presentations and mix in with 1 flood talk per svr wx session rather than an entire block of flooding.
- I enjoyed the presentations on Tim Samaras, El Reno, Moore, and Washington the most.
- Yes. I enjoyed hearing from the mayor of Washington, IL.
- Yes.

3.

- I joined someone else. I really enjoyed it. Great experience.

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- Change or add into the broadcaster tape swap also a broadcaster resume review or critique. For the tape swap, think of ways to involve more of the registrants, put more description in the agenda, what to bring, how long, who can come, cash bar, put agenda online earlier or at least a preliminary agenda on earlier.

- I suggest having presentations and/or career mentoring on climate change, IPCC, La Nino and El Nino connections with severe weather.

- A map of local restaurants might be a good idea to have for the dinner on Friday b/c restaurants are full on Fri and w/a game on businesses were packed.

- How about a demonstration of the ISU tornado simulator.

- Have a conference organizer stand in back for volume checks during each presentation; each presenter's volume varies.

6.

- I am glad to spend as much of my own money as necessary to come to this conference! I aim to return as many years as possible.

- Yes. Very informative and beneficial.

-Yes, I learned a lot on new and relatively new ideas and theories that will allow me as a forecaster to better predict and inform people on impending severe storms.

- Yes.

- Yes – I look forward to next year.

- Yes/no – perhaps offer discounted registration for non-students who may only be able to attend 1-day. choose 1 day registration\$ and pull in a few more professionals in the area. Excellent information in several talks. Favorite presenters: karstens, Snyder, Nolan doesken, zogg, lano, bruce and cathy, wolf, skow (excellent poster too!). Bad: less storm stories more science, more legible presentation slides.

- Yes! It's great to keep skills sharp.

- Yes.

- Yes...among the most affordable!





Central Iowa NWA  
April 30, 2014  
3140 Agronomy Hall - Ames, IA  
**Attendance Sheet**



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Rod Donovan

Mindy Beerends

Rachel Duebner

Jim Orlando

Kevin Smalley

*(Signature)*

Sydney McBride

Katie Berlind

Jimmy Cayer

Brian Squitieri

Bill Dallas

Seth Loyd

Willard Sharp

Tom Muaske

Chris Myers