

EMS Annual Meeting & ECAM 2011 in Berlin

The EMS Annual Meeting in 2011 was finally hosted in the city where the EMS Office is located:



the vibrant city of Berlin. More than 700 participants attended

this largest of EMS events so far, which - in good tradition - was organised together with the 9th European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM). Scientists, forecasters, service providers from all sectors of meteorology, climatology and related disciplines met in Berlin to present and discuss the latest developments in their field.

With the conference theme *Forecasting the weather - ensemble techniques in probabilistic weather prediction*, it was recognized that ensemble weather prediction systems are widely used to provide a better representation of uncertainties in both the initial conditions and the forecast models. But the challenges are to develop further a wider range of probabilistic forecast products, and to support customers in using uncertainty information to manage weather-related risks effectively. Special emphasis was given to forecasts of high-impact weather events.

The Opening Session highlighted the challenges and achievements through strategic lectures from WMO, ECMWF, DWD.

meetings.copernicus.org/ems2011

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New EMS Council composition

The EMS Council on 11 September 2011 in Berlin elected **Dominique Marbouty** as 5th President



of the EMS. He succeeds Fritz Neuwirth who headed the EMS from 2008. Dominique Marbouty is a member of the General Council

for Environment and Sustainable Development, the audit body of the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing.

Dominique has been Director-General of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) in Reading, United Kingdom, from 2004 to 2011. Under his leadership ECMWF made great progress to continue its reputation as the best global numerical weather prediction centre in the world, also providing complementary world-class services such as seasonal forecasts, reanalyses and global air quality forecasts. Find more details at www.emetsoc.org/news-room/ems-news

► **Jean-Pierre Chalon**, representing SMF on the EMS Council, was elected as Treasurer, succeeding Gerhard Steinhorst, who stepped down after four years in this position.

► The EMS General Assembly elected three new representatives of Member Societies to the EMS Council. In addition, DMG, Germany, as permanent Member of the Council, has nominated Heinke

Schlünzen as successor of Gerhard Steinhorst. >>> [page 2](#)

► The Council has also approved the new membership of the **EMS Awards Committee**:

Johannes Schmetz (EUMETSAT)
Sarah Jones (DMG, Germany)
Guðrún Nína Petersen (FIV, Iceland)
Jenni Rauhalä (FMI, Finland)
Fulvio Stel (UMFVG, Italy) and
Carlos Yagüe (AME, Spain).

Johannes Schmetz took over the Chair of the committee from Dario Giajotti (UMFVG) who stepped down after four years.

► An **EMS Code of Practice** on communicating knowledge on climate change to the public was adopted:

emetsoc.org/news-room/ems-news

12th EMS Annual Meeting & 9th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC)

10 – 14 September 2012

Lodz, Poland

Information at:

ems2012.eu

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IMPRINT

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Inside EMS

EMS Council
representatives:
[www.emetsoc.org/
governance-structure/
council](http://www.emetsoc.org/governance-structure/council)



Guy Schayes, Royal Belgian Society of Astronomy, Meteorology and Globe Physics (SRBA)

Guy Schayes graduated in physics at the University of Louvain, Louvain-la Neuve in 1974. He was subsequently appointed as research assistant and later became professor, teaching physical meteorology and basic physics at the University for many years. His main interest is the physics of the atmospheric boundary layer and mesoscale meteorology, including their applications on air pollution and agricultural meteorology.

In 1981 he started developing mesoscale models that were successful in simulating typical local air circulations such as the polar katabatic winds in Antarctica and the effect of regional winds on air pollution. He was the Belgian representative at the ITM Air Pollution Modelling conference for several years.

On the experimental side Guy devised a tool for measuring the boundary layer turbulence with a tethered balloon and participated in several European measurement campaigns. He became emeritus in 2004, continuing a reduced teaching activity. Guy has been elected as president of the SRBA for the term 2012-2014.

Ksenija Cindrić, Croatian Meteorological Society (HMD)

Ksenija Cindrić graduated at the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, Department of Geophysics. She obtained her MSc degree in Atmospheric Physics based on spatio-temporal analysis of dry spells in Croatia. At present she is working at the Croatian Meteorological and Hydrological Service in Zagreb, Department of Climatological Research and Applied Climatology as a young researcher.

Ksenija is currently working on her PhD thesis. Her main interest is in climate variability and detection of climate changes on the regional scale which uses expertise in statistical analysis of climate extremes with the emphasis on droughts and intensive precipitation. Ksenija has participated in several national and international research projects, mostly related to climate variations and change as well as to drought monitoring and drought risk management. In September 2011 Ksenija became the Secretary of HMD.

Eigil Kaas, Danish Meteorological Society (DaMS)

Eigil Kaas is a professor of meteorology and climate dynamics at the Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen. His fields of interest are in climate research, meteorology, numerical methods used in geophysical fluid dynamics and climate modelling.

Eigil graduated with a MSc degree in meteorology in 1987, and a PhD in meteorology in 1993. Eigil is also active in the communication of research results to the general public through more than 80 interviews on Danish Radio and TV channels, and 25 popular articles in newspapers and other media on climate change and variability, and on physics of the atmosphere. Eigil is the current president of DaMS.

Heinke Schlünzen, German Meteorological Society (DMG)

Heinke Schlünzen is a professor of meteorology at the University of Hamburg and head of the Mesoscale and Microscale processes and phenomena Group. Her major research interests are scale interaction (Inverse energy cascade) and dynamics and chemistry in the micro-scale (e.g. urban area, small valley) and mesoscale (e.g. coastal area, mountain range). Heinke is also engaged in the transfer of research results to the public (e.g. public domain models, guidelines for environmental impact studies).

New EMS Member Society

The EMS welcomed its 35th Member Society: the Bulgarian Meteorological Society (BMS). A section "Meteorologists" was established within the Union of Physicists in Bulgaria (UPB). This section is acting as the Bulgarian Meteorological Society (BMS) and will work to include more members and unify all professionals with interests in the atmospheric sciences in Bulgaria. More details can be found in the *ems-message* no 2-211 or at www.emetsoc.org/members-activities/ems-member-societies.

Switzerland Swiss Society for Meteorology**New president of SGM:** Saskia Willemse

At its recent General Assembly, the Swiss Society for Meteorology (SGM) elected Saskia Willemse of MeteoSwiss as its new president. Saskia Willemse succeeds Markus Furger who led the SGM since 2008. At the same time Rolf Philipona, a former vice-president of the EMS, also retired from the Board. Michael Sprenger of ETHZ and Tobias Grimbacher of MeteoNews AG have been newly elected to the Board.

Saskia graduated in environmental physics from ETH Zürich and wrote her PhD thesis at the Laboratorium für Atmosphärenphysik (now Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science), also at ETH Zürich. In 1995 she joined the Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology, MeteoSwiss, where she worked for 5 years as a forecaster in the operational services. In 1999 she participated at the field campaign of the Mesoscale Alpine Programme (MAP) at the operations centre in Innsbruck. In 2000 Saskia left MeteoSwiss to do a postgraduate study in enterprise sciences at ETH Zürich and subsequently held a position in business process management. In 2008 she returned to MeteoSwiss as coordinator in research and development. Saskia represents Switzerland on the Domain Committee ESSEM of the EU research programme COST.

The annual meeting of the SGM took place on Saturday 12 November 2011 in Zürich. Apart from the General Assembly, a symposium on 'Meteorology and Climatology' within the Swiss Geoscience Meeting 2011 was organised (geoscience-meeting.scnatweb.ch/sgm2011/). The Swiss Geoscience Meeting 2011 covered all fields of geosciences, from the solid earth to space, including the hydrosphere and the atmosphere.

France Société Météorologique France

The 8th International Weather & Climate Forum was held in Paris from October 1 to 5, 2011 at Palais de la découverte, a museum of science. Educational workshops and animations were available to schools and visitors through five thematic areas: Weather-Climate, Energies, Environment, Space and Water.

Professional days gathered 200 participants from 40 countries: meteorologists, climate experts, teachers, lead sustainable development specialists, political representatives and weather presenters who attended a dedicated programme:

- Media Workshop including panel discussion and training of weather presenters from emerging countries,
- International Symposium on *Climate Change: Impact and Adaptation*,
- Training for teachers on "How to explain Climate Change issues at school?"

As usual during the Forum, weather presenters joined the Parisians to participate in the 4th Green Ride, a bike ride through Paris, with the aim to militate in favour of CO2 emissions reduction. More information (in English) and pictures available.

Ireland Irish Meteorological Society

The Irish Met Society has recently created an *Interview Section* on their website, where people working in various meteorological related fields are asked a serial of questions. So far the list includes professors, wind analysts, weather forecasters, storm chasers, phenologists amongst others. As well as the written interviews, IMS has also started doing video interviews. The interviews can be viewed at www.irishmetsociety.org/ims-articles/ims-interviews.

Spain Meteorological Association of Spain (AME)

January 31, 2012 is the deadline for submissions of the AME photo-reports contest *Meteorreportaje 2011*. This competition, open to all, rewards the best meteorological photo report held in 2011. A minimum of six and a maximum of ten photographs can be submitted by a person. They must be accompanied by a descriptive text of the photo-report chosen. The awards are 300, 200 and 100 Euros for the winner, second and third best reports and 100 Euros for the best photograph of the contest. They also include diplomas and a wide-format reproduction of the best photo, plus the publication of material in full colour on the pages of the 2012 AME bulletins.

EMS Members

www.sgm.scnatweb.ch



www.smf.asso.fr/fim11_en.html

www.irishmetsociety.org/interviews

www.ame-web.org

EMS Members

[www.meteorologie.at/
veranstaltungen.htm](http://www.meteorologie.at/veranstaltungen.htm)



Conference and Award announcements

[www.conferences.
eumetsat.int](http://www.conferences.eumetsat.int)

3 YSTAs
announced

Austria Austrian Society for Meteorology (OeGM)

The bi-annual conference of the Austrian meteorologists (4th Österreichische Meteorologentagung) has taken place on 3 and 4 November 2011 in Klagenfurt, organised by the OeGM together with the Carinthian Institute for Climate Protection. The purpose of the conference is to support and enhance contact and transfer of knowledge between all individuals and organisations involved in meteorology and its applications in Austria. In particular young scientists are invited to present their research results.

Through lectures and posters the conference provided an overview and information about the current status of research and applications in meteorology in Austria. The best posters were highlighted through prizes.

More than 100 meteorologists from all relevant Austrian organisations participated actively in the conference. As guest of honour the chairman of the German Meteorological Society (DMG), Prof. H. Mayer, participated in the event. The Past-President of the EMS, Fritz Neuwirth, reported about the EMS and its activities.

In the frame of the conference the most prestigious award of the Austrian Meteorological Society, the Golden Julius Hann Medal, was presented by the chairman of the Austrian Meteorological Society, Prof. Franz Rubel, to Dr. Reinhard Böhm from ZAMG (Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik) in Vienna for his outstanding work in the field of climatology. Reinhard Böhm published numerous scientific papers mainly about climate variability, analysis of the instrumental climate data in Austria and the greater alpine region of Europe, history of climate research, urban climate and glaciology. He is the author of well known books about climate change, written scientifically but understandable for everybody interested.

2012 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference, 3 - 7 September 2012, Sopot, Poland

The 2012 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference will be organised in Sopot, a small Polish seaside town, and be hosted by the Polish Institute of Meteorology and Water Management - National Research Institute (IMGW-PIB).

Traditionally EUMETSAT aims to give special emphasis to one of the many topical themes challenging meteorologists the world over; **the focus in 2012 will be on the hydrological cycle.**

To submit an abstract or to register your interest: www.conferences.eumetsat.int.

**Deadline for submissions of abstracts:
23 January 2012**

Three Young Scientist Travel Awards

EMS and EUMETSAT invite applications for three YSTAs to support the participation of **Graduate and PhD students** at the this conference. The awards include financial support for travel expenditures of 400€, two of the awards are funded by EUMETSAT.

Deadline for applications: 23 January 2012

More details at:

www.emetsoc.org/awards/travel-awards-ystras/announcement-2012-eumetsat



EUMETSAT

BALWOIS 2012: Fifth International Conference on Water, Climate and Environment
28 May – 2 June 2012, Ohrid, FY Republic of Macedonia.

Deadline for early registration: 15 April 2012

The EMS is funding a **Young Scientist Travel Award (YSTA)** for participation in BALWOIS 2012. Deadline for applications: 15 February 2011

www.emetsoc.org/awards/travel-awards-ystas/announcements-2012-balwois-2012

Europhotometeo'12

The EMS has recently launched its second photo competition **Europhotometeo'12** and asks for submissions of photos related to meteorology that were taken in 2010 or 2011. Photos must be uploaded to the EMS photo gallery at emetsoc.org/europhotometeo-12 Registration is required before upload is possible.

The terms & conditions are available from the above mentioned website.

The deadline for registration and upload of photos is **31 January 2012, 24h CET**.

The gallery will provide the opportunity for the public to **choose a favourite photo** and results of this **public opinion poll** will be shown on the website together with the selection by the Jury after **31 March 2012**.

EMS Silver Medal 2012: Call for nominations

The EMS Silver Medal Award is presented annually to a person who has made distinguished contributions to the development of meteorology in Europe. EMS Member Societies, EMS Associate Members, EMS Committees and Project Teams and EMS Council representatives are eligible to make nominations. Details are available at www.emetsoc.org/awards/silver-medal. Deadline for nominations: **25 January 2012**.

Harry Otten Prize for innovation in Meteorology Call for nominations

This prize encourages individuals and groups (maximum up to three people) to propose new ideas how meteorology can further move society forward in practical ways. In contrast to other prizes, this one will not be awarded for work which has been done in the past. It is intended to encourage new ways of thinking and to help implementing innovative ideas. Up to three finalists will be invited to the Annual Meeting of the European Meteorological Society (EMS) in Łódź, Poland, in September 2012 to present their ideas. Following the presentations, a jury will select the prize winner.

Registration of prize winning ideas open until **15 January 2012**.

For more information visit www.harry-ottenprize.org.

9th International Weather and Climate Forum

Geneva, World Meteorological Organization H.Q., March 22- 24, 2012

The 9th International Weather and Climate Forum is organized by the SMF, French Association of Meteorology and Climate, with support and under the patronage of the World Meteorological Organization.

With organised activities and workshops dedicated to general public and schoolchildren, the priority will be given to environment education, energy consumption and greenhouse gas reduction, and adopting an innovative and environmentally - protective behavior. In parallel, professional days will unite climate experts, sustainable development and civil society leads and TV weather presenters to attend a media-workshop, a training for participants coming from emerging countries and an international symposium **Hydro-meteorological information: a tool for development**. More than 260 participants from 40 countries are expected.

Organisation : Société Météorologique de France www.smf.asso.fr

Conference and Award announcements

balwois.com/2012

www.emetsoc.org/europhotometeo-12

www.emetsoc.org/awards/silver-medal



www.harry-ottenprize.org



www.smf.asso.fr

Conference and Award announcements

www.ame-web.org

Spanish-Portuguese meeting 2012: From 28 to 30 of May 2012 the Asociación Meteorológica Española (AME) and Asociacao Portuguese Meteorology and Geophysics (APMG) will hold the 13th joint Spanish-Portuguese meeting on Meteorology at the premises of the Museum of Science CosmoCaixa of Madrid, in parallel with the XXXII Scientific Conference of the AME. The theme for the AME conference is *Meteorology and Air Quality*.

The joint meeting, hosted this year by AME, will address six themes: Observation of the atmosphere and observing techniques; Physical processes in the atmosphere; Climatology, climate variability, climate change and climate services; meteorological applications; Analysis and weather forecasting and economic and social aspects of meteorology. The **deadline for receipt of papers is 2 March 2012**.

www.meteohmd.hr/en/conf2.html

HMD - Challenges in meteorology 2012

6-7 March 2012 in Zagreb, Croatia

The Croatian Meteorological Society (HMD) is organising the second scientific-professional conference *Challenges in meteorology-2*. This year the subject is *Meteorology in the public eye*. A First Announcement-flier is available from www.emetsoc.org/members-activities/activities-of-ems-members.

comecap2012.geol.uoa.gr/

11th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics, 30 May - 1 June 2012, Athens, Greece

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Department of Environmental Physics - Meteorology and Laboratory of Climatology and Atmospheric Environment) in collaboration with the Hellenic Meteorological Society HMS is organising the COME-CAP 2012: 11th International Conference on Meteorology, Climatology and Atmospheric Physics.

The Conference aims to present state of the art, methodologies, modeling tools, theoretical approaches, measurements, modeling results and to provide a forum for discussion and debate on disciplines that attract the interest of the international scientific community. The following topics will be covered: Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Air Quality, Applied Meteorology and Climatology, Applications of Meteorology in the Energy sector, Atmospheric Physics and Chemistry, Atmospheric Radiation, Atmospheric Boundary Layer, Biometeorology and Bioclimatology, Climate Dynamics, Climatic Changes, Cloud Physics, Dynamic and Synoptic Meteorology, Extreme Events, Hydrology and Hydrometeorology, Mesoscale Meteorology, Micrometeorology-Urban Microclimate, Remote Sensing- Satellite Meteorology and Climatology, Weather Analysis and Forecasting.

www.damsk.dk

Nordic Meteorologists' Meeting NMM2012: Call for submissions

4-8 June 2012 in Copenhagen, Denmark

The NMM 2012 will take place in Copenhagen, with a 1-day visit to Roskilde. The topics will include: Arctic meteorology, oceanography and climate (sea ice included), air quality and modelling, the role of the Sun in the climate system, volcanic eruptions, weather communication and the role of the weather forecaster in the future.

The organisers are currently looking for people who would like to give a presentation covering one of the subjects mentioned above. Everybody is welcome, also scientists from non-nordic countries. **If you are interested to participate please contact Jesper Eriksen at jespereriksen2@hotmail.com**.

More information regarding NMM2012 will become available on the DaMS website.

150th Anniversary Geophysical Institute and 150 years of continuous meteorological measurements in Zagreb, Croatia

An international scientific meeting on *Geophysical Challenges of the 21st Century* on 2 December 2011, organised by the Department of Geophysics at the University of Zagreb, marked the 150th anniversary of the Geophysical Institute and of 150 years continuous meteorological measurements. Guests of honour included the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Ivo Josipovic, the President of the WMO, Dr. David Grimes, and representatives of the Directors of the Weather Services of Austria and Hungary.

The foundation of the Geophysical Institute in 1861 marked the start of standardised, uninterrupted meteorological measurements in Zagreb. The most famous Director of the Geophysical Institute, Andrija Mohorovicic, published the first weather forecast in Croatia at the end of the 19th century. Mohorovicic, famous for his discovery of the discontinuity between the Earth's crust and its mantle – now known as Moho Discontinuity. Until 1947 the Geophysical Institute was acting as the National Weather Service of Croatia, working in the fields of meteorology, seismology, oceanography and geomagnetism. In 1947 the Institute was reorganised and the Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia as National Weather Service was established as a separate institution, while the Geophysical Institute has kept a leading role in research and education in geophysical disciplines in Croatia.

In the scientific meeting a book about the history of the Geophysical Institute with the nice title "Nulla dies sine observatione" was presented. Besides posters showing the progress in science in Croatia four invited lectures were given by scientists from abroad about challenges in Vulcanology, measuring and predicting long term sea level changes, grand challenges in Seismology and probabilistic Earth-System Simulator for reliable climate prediction.

Second global meeting of the International Forum of Meteorological Societies 3-4 November 2011, Xiamen, China

The IFMS is an informal body, with no official or legal status, functioning as a forum to facilitate communication among member societies around the globe for the broad purpose of exchange of knowledge, experience and information.

By invitation of the Chinese Meteorological Society (CMS), the second global meeting of the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (IFMS) took place in Xiamen, China on 3-4 November during the annual meeting of the CMS. As president of the EMS, Dominique Marbouty participated in the meeting. This meeting followed the first global meeting organized in January 2010 in Atlanta by invitation of the American Meteorological Society.

The meeting was attended by about 30 participants representing meteorological societies from all regions (North and South America, Africa, Europe and of course Asia). It was organized in three main sessions dedicated to exchange of experience, education and outreach, and societies' publications.

It is interesting to note that there are several regional groupings of meteorological societies, similar to the EMS: in Latin America, in Africa, in Eastern Africa. The rationale presented for developing these grouping includes exchange of information and best practice, development of common objectives, sharing of resources and the possibility to address the political bodies that develop at this scale and seen as important ones concerning the objectives of meteorological societies.

Another important issue raised during the discussions is that many met societies consider the relationship with the met services as important. The solutions adopted in this matter can be very different, from being run by the met service to total independence. All participants underlined the complementarity of and the need for both institutions. Many meteorological societies see their main role as bringing the whole met community together (professionals, academics, private sector and amateurs) and supporting the communication on societal subjects related to meteorology and climate.

Community news

www.ifms.org/meeting.html



Community news



www.ecss.eu

Actions agreed at the meeting were to develop the collection and diffusion of information concerning met societies around the globe, enlarge the IFMS membership and experiment with an electronic lectureship programme.

It was also agreed that the third meeting of the IFMS will take place in Reading in September 2013, by joint-invitation of the EMS and RMetS, alongside the EMS Annual Meeting and European Conference on Applications of Meteorology, (ECAM), 9-13 September 2013 in REading, UK.

6th European Conference on Severe Storms, ECSS 2011

The 6th European Conference on Severe Storms was organized by the European Severe Storms Laboratory (ESSL) and the University of the Balearic Islands in Palma de Mallorca, on 3–7 October 2011. The conference attracted no less than 223 researchers (a new record) from 34 countries, among them an impressive number of leading scientists in the field.

In almost 100 talks and about 150 poster presentations, current scientific questions surrounding severe local storm phenomena were discussed within the conference room. This was in fact a former storage basin for sweet water for the city and now part of the museum of modern and contemporary arts, Es Baluard, in downtown Palma. At the conference, a few countries were especially well-represented: more than 10 participants each came from Spain (34), USA (28), Germany (23), Czech Republic (16), Italy (16) and Austria (13). The fact that there were contributions from all continents except Antarctica, demonstrates the global interest in severe storms.

The conference programme comprised 11 sessions focusing on various aspects of severe storms, including microphysics and electrification, numerical modelling, forecasting & nowcasting, convective initiation and remote sensing. The field of climatology was represented by the sessions on storm data and damage assessment, and on storm climate. In addition, there was a session on the impacts of storms on society. Two sessions were devoted to floods and flash floods and to extra-tropical, Mediterranean and tropical cyclones. One of the “hot topics” of the conference came from overseas: the field campaign VORTEX2 in the USA in 2009/10 investigating the origin of rotation in tornadoes and their near-surface winds by a manifold of measurement devices.

Vice versa, remote sensing – in particular multi-wavelength satellite imagery with high spatial and temporal resolution – is a field where European transnational research plays a leading role internationally. Storm features, some of them representing storm severity, can be observed and analysed in real time, providing a complementary nowcast tool to radar and ground-based observations. Last but not least, the European Severe Weather Database with more than 40,000 entries has become an established dataset with various applications in climatology, verification and case studies.

For the first time, the ESSL presented a Nikolai Dotzek Award in honour of its former director, for an outstanding contribution to the science of severe storms. At the ECSS 2011, it was presented to Paul Markowski, who received the award for his outstanding work towards finding out why some supercell storms produce tornadoes and others do not. The Nikolai Dotzek Award is endowed with a prize of € 1000, offers free participation to the next ECSS and includes a trophy in form of an artificial large spiked hailstone.

The Heino Tooming Award 2011 was presented to Mária Putsay, Martin Setvák, André Simon and Jochen Kerkmann for their presentation “Simultaneous BTD (WV6.2-IR10.8) anomaly and above-anvil ice-plume observed above the storm of 06 July 2010, North Italy”. The Tooming Award established in 2007 by ESSL and endowed with a prize of € 300 recognizes any outstanding scientific presentation at an ECSS conference by a group led by a European scientist and involving collaborators from at least one other European country.

Two Young Scientist Travel Awards were presented by the European Meteorological Society (EMS). These awards, endowed with € 500, were awarded to Oliver Schlen-

czek for his work "Identification of convective modes and tracking of storm systems based on radar data" and Abdullah Kahraman for his work "Severe hail climatology of Turkey".

The **7th European Conference on Severe Storms** will be held in Helsinki (Finland) **3–7 June 2013**. The conference will be organized jointly by the Finnish Meteorological Institute and the ESSL.

>>> EMS&ECAM 2011 continued from page 1

The conference programme consisted of 35 sessions in five programme groups: Around 300 posters were displayed and 500 presentations given during the week. The feedback from participants indicated that overall the level of presentations was of a high quality – though improvements are always possible.

The first day of the conference was closed with an icebreaker reception. Impressions from this and other events can be found at

meetings.copernicus.org/ems2011/photo_gallery/general_information.html.

ECAM plenary session *Ensemble Forecast products – Optimal Use for the Market?*

This was a lively roundtable discussion (chaired by Ewen McCallum from the UK Met Office) on the important topic of ensembles and the use of probabilistic language. The key question being asked was *what is necessary to stimulate "the market" (commercial or government) into exploiting this information more fully, as has been done over many years with deterministic output?*

Silver Medal ceremony

The EMS Silver Medal 2011 was awarded to Jean-Francois Geleyn for his outstanding contributions to the fostering of cooperation among scientists in European countries. It was a very moving moment when Fritz Neuwirth, past-President of the EMS, handed over the medal, honouring achievements over more than three decades. The laudatio was given by Dominique Marbouty, the new EMS President.

Jean-Francois then gave the Silver Medal Lecture on *Pan-European cooperation in Limited Area Modeling - Numerical Weather Prediction: The "why" and "how" of the "collaboration-competition" concept*. The presentation can be downloaded from the conference website.

Outstanding Poster Award

The award was established in 2009 to highlight good quality posters presented at the EMS Annual Meetings. In Berlin two posters were selected:

- K. Hocke, S.C. Studer, N. Kämpfer, O. Stähli, and E. Maillard: "Diurnal variations in surface air pressure, integrated water vapour, and stratospheric ozone"
- A. Bossavy, R. Girard, and G. Kariniotakis: "A Probabilistic Approach to Forecast Ramps of Wind Power Production using Ensemble"

An additional poster was highlighted for a very instructive education method:

- Y. Tsubota: "Solar-Energy Education: Making a Miniature Solar Oven" **deserves special mention for a very instructive method on education.**

The awards include one registration fee waiver for the EMS&ECAC 2012 in Lodz.

Side meetings

A number of organizations arranged side meetings at the conference. These included the PROMET Editorial Board, a women networking meeting, the Board of the Harry Otten Foundation, the General Assembly of DMG, COST Action 1002 WIRE: Weather Intelligence for renewable energies, the WMO Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Workshop, ECOMET, IABM and the Programme and Science Committee for the EMS&ECAC 2012.

Workshop

For the first time the EMS, in collaboration with Eumetcal, organised a training workshop for forecasters, on the Sunday preceding the conference. The workshop concen-



www.emetsoc.org/resources/best-practice/poster-presentations

trated on "Tools for Forecasting High Impact Weather". It was intended primarily for forecasters, but other participants interested in the subject were also welcome; they came from NMSs, private weather providers and universities nicely spread of Europe. The teachers were: Frans Debie (KNMI), Vesa Nietosvaara (FMI and EumetCal), Wilfried Jacobs (DWD), Henrik Feddersen (DMI), Fernando Prates (ECMWF) and Thomas Petroligis (ECMWF). The organisation of this course was in the hands of EumetCal carried out by Heleen ter Pelkwijk and Vesa Nietosvaara. The workshop was also financially supported by EumetCal. The programme of the workshop is available from meetings.copernicus.org/ems2011/side_meetings/tools_for_forecasting_high_impact_weather.html.

Participants were asked to evaluate the workshop and 23 out of 24 replied, showing an overall impressively high satisfaction with the workshop. Most said that such workshops should be repeated at future EMS meetings. Thus workshops are already being planned for the EMS&ECAC 2012 in Lodz with applied climate related topics.

Heleen ter Pelkwijk.

Exploration of Severe Weather Events in Virtual Reality

A team from KNMI, the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, presented their approach for interactive exploration and 3D visualisation of numerical weather model data at the conference. During the entire week conference participants were joining the 3D-demo sessions of 30 to 45 minutes. We estimated that about 250 participants followed this presentations. The attendees were wearing 3D (polarized) glasses which provided the effect of Virtual Reality. In an impressive 3D weather show they could see "virtual" clouds and other 3D weather features "floating" in the room in front of their eyes. KNMI prepared a number of interesting severe weather situations.

Visualisation in Virtual Reality is overwhelming, providing scientists and forecasters with new means to gain better understanding of the numerical weather prediction models. A number of interesting discussions took place, and the KNMI team received many compliments for their work and presentation. *Michal Koutek and Ian van der Neut.*

Publications and photo gallery

A live stream of the opening session is accessible from the main conference site as well as photo galleries of important scientific and social events as well as some impressions from the conference atmosphere. Talks and posters presented at the EMS&ECAM are available alongside the schedule and respective abstract for many contributions.

The conference, having become considerably bigger than envisioned in the initial planning phase, at times was crowded but for many people this seemed to have created a very lively and inspiring atmosphere. It was felt in general that the meeting has also been a superb networking opportunity.

EMS & ECAC 2012

The preparations for the 12th EMS Annual Meeting and 9th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC) in Lodz, 10 – 14 September 2012, have started. The call for papers will be issued in February 2012.

The conference will run under the focal theme *European Climate Services Capabilities – user needs and communication with stakeholders.*

- Deadline for abstract submission with support applications: **19 March 2012**
- Close of abstract submission: **26 April 2012**

Abstract processing fees

The EMS Council at its 25th Session decided to introduce non-refundable abstract processing fees of 30Euro in order to challenge the large number of no-shows at the conference.



Photos of the event at www.knmi.nl/samenw/w3dx/images/3D-demos/ems-ecam-2011-berlin/

meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/ems2011/meetingprogramme

ems2012.eu

or

meetings.copernicus.org/ems2012