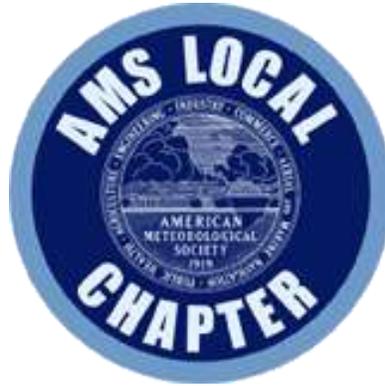
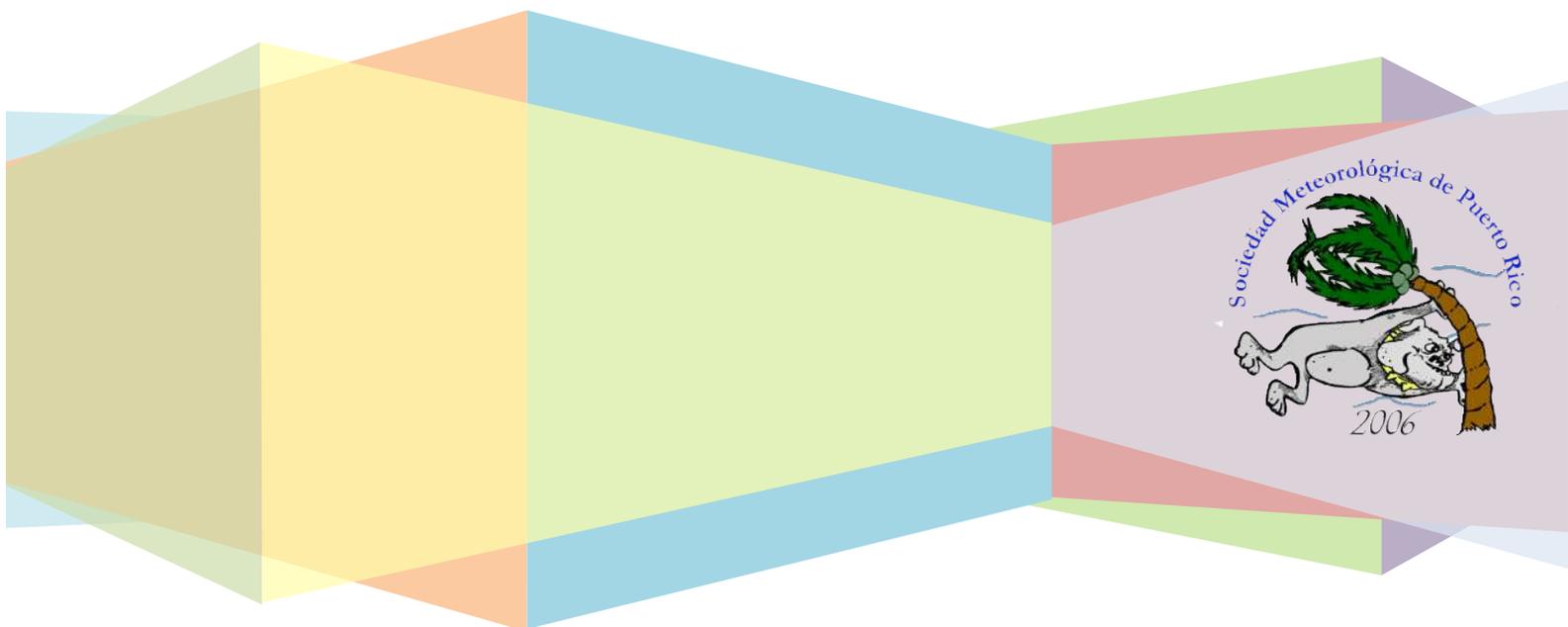


American Meteorological Society  
University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez Student Chapter



# 2011-2012 Annual Report

## Student Chapter of the Year Application



# Local Chapter of the Year Award Application Form

Regular Chapter

Student Chapter

Pre-College Chapter

Applications for the Local Chapter of the Year Award must be completed by an officer or member of the local chapter seeking the award. Keep in mind that no one knows your chapter's accomplishments as well as you, so it is up to you to make sure this application is as thorough and complete as possible. The award will be given for chapter activities conducted during a 12-month period from 1 May through 30 April of the year the application is submitted. Two awards will be given, one to a student chapter, and one to a regular chapter. The complete application package must be received by 1 May of the same year, to:

American Meteorological Society  
Local Chapter of the Year Selection Committee  
45 Beacon Street  
Boston, MA 02108-3693

If you have any questions, contact Kelly Savoie at 617-227-2426 ext 215; e-mail: [ksavoie@ametsoc.org](mailto:ksavoie@ametsoc.org).

## **Basic Chapter Information**

The chapter must be in good standing and must meet the minimum requirements outlined in the Local Chapter Officers' Handbook to be considered for this award.

- 1) President/Chair must be a member of the national AMS.
- 2) The chapter must have reported election results during the period.
- 3) Applicants must have submitted their meeting minutes for publication in the *Bulletin* or on the Chapter section of the AMS Web site in a regular and timely fashion during the evaluation period.

Name of Chapter: University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM)

Person responsible for completion of this application

Name: Rosimar Rios-Berrios

Address: Physics Department, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez

PO Box 9000 Mayagüez, PR 00681-9000

Phone: 787-458-1628 E-mail: rosimar.rios@upr.edu

Chapter officers:

President or Chair: Rosimar Ríos-Berrios

Other Officers

Vice President or Vice Chair: Fernanda Ramos-Garcés

Historian: Diamilet Pérez-Betancourt

Secretary: Irmarís Rivera-Llavona

Webmaster: Juan P. Ramos-González

Treasurer: José A. Algarín-Ballesteros

Magazine: Alexandra Ramos-Valle

Number of active (dues paying) members in the chapter during the evaluation period: 42

Number of meetings of the chapter during the evaluation period: 13

## Activities for Evaluation

A major consideration under this award is the extent to which your local chapter furthers the mission of the American Meteorological Society; especially activities that serve to educate and involve the local community regarding scientific issues. The human and material resources available to your chapter will be considered along with your accomplishments in the evaluation process. When filling out the award application, please be sure to include any new activities and improvements that your chapter has undertaken over the past year. For guidance on what your chapter should consider when completing the award application, please go to:

[www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/awardguidance.html](http://www.ametsoc.org/amschaps/awardguidance.html)

Answer each of the following questions on a separate sheet of paper, limiting each response to 500 words or less.

1. In the past year, what has your chapter done for your members? (500 words or less)
2. In the past year, what has your chapter done for your community? (500 words or less)  
(questions 1 and 2 are not limited to activities of a scientific nature)
3. In the past year, what has your chapter done for the national AMS? (500 words or less)

For question 3, activities that should be highlighted include, but are not limited to, regular submission of meeting minutes for publication in the Chapter News section of the *Bulletin*, and displaying a chapter poster and abstract at the annual meeting that falls within the evaluation period.

### **Selection Process**

Applications will be reviewed by the Local Chapter Affairs Committee and their recommendations will be forwarded to the AMS Council through the Awards Oversight Committee. The Council will make the final award selections at its fall meeting, as it does with all other Society awards. Award winning chapters will be notified by late October and will be presented the award at the following annual meeting at the Local Chapter Breakfast. The award will consist of a banner indicating the year of the award, along with certificates for each officer serving during the year for which the award is presented. The chapter(s) who receive the award will also be listed in the annual meeting award's brochure.

Those chapters who do not receive an award for a particular year may, at the discretion of the Local Chapters Affairs Committee, be added to a "Local Chapter Honor Roll" for meritorious service. The Honor Roll will be maintained on the AMS Web site. Special notation of chapter of the year and chapter honor roll status will also be made in the AMS *Bulletin* near the chapter's local news submissions during the 12 month period following the award.

A chapter may not win the Local Chapter of the Year Award more than 2 years in a row. After receiving the award 2 years in a row, there will be a one year hiatus before that chapter will be eligible to apply for the award again. Chapters, however, will be eligible for Honor Roll Status during this hiatus.

The awards approval process takes quite awhile. You will receive notification of the final outcome in October following your submission in May. Please provide additional contact information if necessary for awards communications next fall.

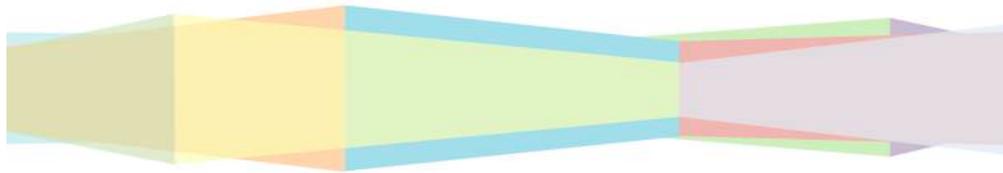
AMS UPRM Student Chapter email                      uprm.ams@gmail.com

Carlos U. Pabón-Ortiz – Advisor                      cupabon@upr.edu

*Authorized signature(s):*

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
President or Chair

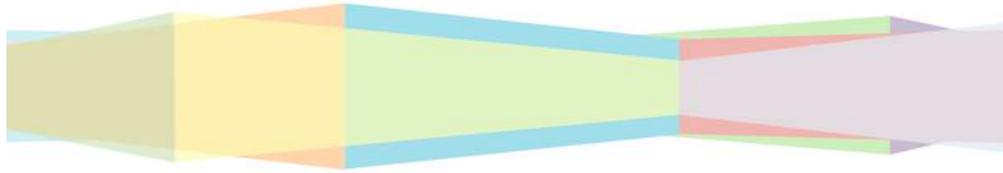
\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Advisor/Adult Advisor (for student and pre-college chapters)



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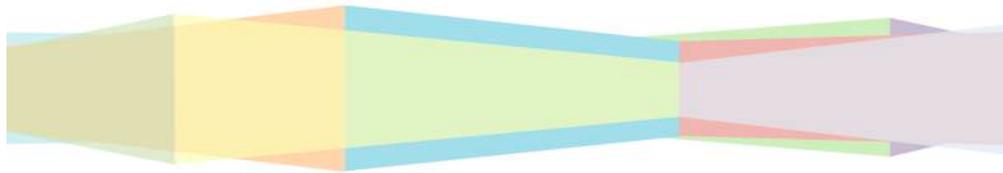
## 2011-2012 Annual Report and Student Chapter of the Year Application

### I. In the past year, what has your chapter done for your members?

Witnessing the success our members had, individually and collectively, after establishing the four new objectives of our chapter (i.e. opportunities, professional development, education and community outreach), this year we focused on organizing activities with the purpose of further developing these areas.

The *opportunities* category was targeted by activities such as:

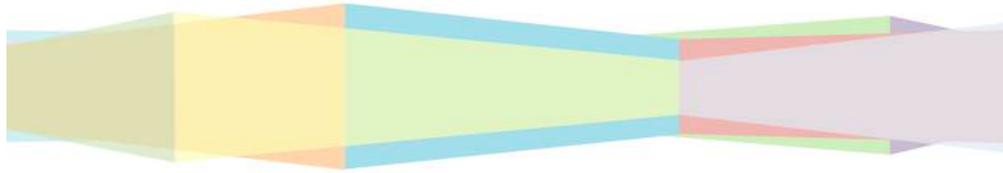
- **Monthly Meetings-** Eight regular meetings were held this year with the purpose of maintaining the chapter's members informed on the outcome of past activities, and up-to-date with future events (see Pic. 1).
- **Special Meetings-** Five special meetings were held to discuss the logistics of events such as the annual Weather Festival and activities outside campus (see Pic. 1).
- **Website Updates-** Besides updating the photo gallery, the calendar of activities and the regular sections of the website, a new section "Meet our members" was created to provide our affiliates with an online profile where they can have their resume and research posters publicly available (see Pics. 2-3).
- **Instrumentation Committee-** After receiving the donation of a new weather station, an innovative committee was created to be in charge of its calibration, installation and maintenance (see Pic. 4).
- **Magazine-** The latest edition of the chapter's *Juracán* Magazine was issued (see Pic. 5).
- **Sixth Initiation Ceremony-** The ceremony welcomed eleven new members to our chapter (see Pic. 6).
- **Movie Night-** Weather related screening to promote meteorology in a dynamic and interactive way (see Pic. 7).
- **Beach Day-** Fun gathering at the beach at the beginning of the semester (see Pic. 8).
- **Pre-Halloween Party-** Fundraising event that gave our members a chance to network with their peers (see Pic. 9).
- **"Meteorology through a Lens"-** After last year's successful activity, we hosted the weather-themed photo competition again (see Pic. 10).



- **Christmas Dinner-** The Society of Physics Students joined us in our customary dinner for a night of karaoke, gift exchange and Puerto Rico's traditional "parrandas" (see Pic. 11).
- **New Office-** The chapter inaugurated its new office, providing a comfortable space for studying and for holding meetings (see Pic. 12).
- **Rewards-** Activity to recognize the efforts and talents of our outstanding members (see Pic. 13).

We enhanced the *professional development* of our members by providing key skills through activities such as:

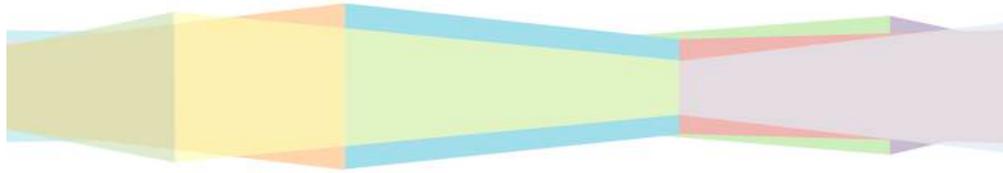
- **Weather Briefings-** A new approach has been taken on the ongoing briefings, by establishing a mentorship program to provide untrained students with the skills needed to make their own forecasts (see Pic. 14).
- **Weather Today: "How to Prepare a Resume"-** Workshop to help students prepare their resumes for use in internship and job applications.
- **Poster Presentations-** Members presented their summer investigations to fellow students and professors (see Pic. 15).
- **Internships and Scholarships in Atmospheric Sciences-** Orientation given by those members who have been part of an internship or scholarship program (see Pic. 16).
- **NWS SKYWARN Training-** An opportunity for members to be trained and certified by the National Weather Service as a Storm Spotter (see Pic. 17).
- **Visit to Puerto Rico's Seismic Network-** Members learned about seismic activity in Puerto Rico and the work done at the local seismic network (see Pic. 18).
- **Weather Today: "Tsunami in PR: The Forgotten Danger."**- Showing of a documentary to inform about dangers during a tsunami situation.
- **Weather Today: Radar Workshop-** UPRM's Center for Collaborative Adaptive Sensing of the Atmosphere gave a workshop on the applications of radars and remote sensing in meteorology (see Pic. 19).



## II. In the past year, what has your chapter done for your community?

As an AMS Student Chapter, we keep our society informed with the latest information about meteorology. We focus on serving the community by organizing activities related to what we like and live for: weather. Those activities are classified within the *education* category:

- **UPRM New Student Orientation-** Provided information about meteorology, and weather-related demonstrations for entering freshmen of the Physics Department.
- **Information and Demonstrations Table** – Members conducted and explained eye-catching meteorology-related demonstrations at the UPRM Student Center (see Pic. 20).
- **Sixth General Assembly-** Students from the different UPRM departments were informed about the career paths they can pursue with a Meteorology degree (see Pic. 21).
- **Opportunities and Internships in Earth Sciences-** Ms. Rebecca Hacker-Santos from UCAR, along with some chapter members, gave a talk about internships and scholarships for STEM students (see Pic. 22).
- **Weather Festival-** Approximately four hundred K-12 students visited the UPRM sport arena, where federal agencies and college programs related to the Atmospheric Sciences joined us for an outreach activity. Broadcast meteorologist Ada Monzón participated with her interactive simulator “Digital Planet.” Our chapter members set up twelve booths with hands-on activities explaining different atmospheric phenomena (see Pic. 23).
- **School visits-** Our Demonstrations Committee visited, as well as received the visit from several K-12 schools to talk about meteorology throughout engaging weather -related demonstrations (see Pic. 24).
- **UPRM College of Arts and Sciences Open House-** Chapter members collaborated with weather–related demonstrations for K-12 students (see Pic. 25).
- **Workshop for K-12 Puerto Rican teachers-** Teachers learned how to re-create our experiments so they could incorporate them in their classrooms (see Pic. 26).
- **Weather Briefings-** Eight members delivered weekly weather forecasts for the general community.

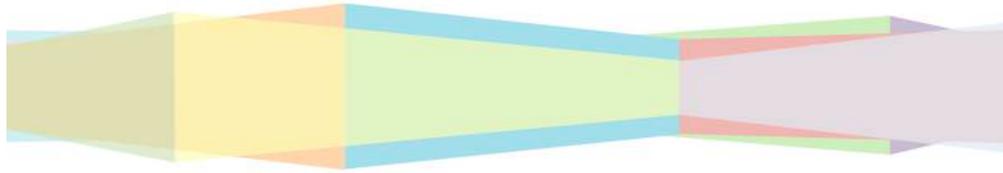


By giving demonstrations, handing out informative propaganda and visiting every corner of our island where we are needed, we fulfill our mission of sharing with others our knowledge of meteorology and the atmospheric sciences. As part of our *community outreach*, we organized the following activities:

- **“Huracanes y Casa Segura”**- Chapter propaganda, demonstrations and a “get to know our members” short talk were part of this yearly event (see Pic. 27).
- **National Weather Service Spotter Appreciation Day**- Members of our chapter demonstrated numerous experiments to the spotters (see Pic. 28).
- **Hurricane Hunter Aircraft Visit**- Members promoted learning about meteorology (see Pic. 29).
- **Neutrogena Ultraviolet (UV) Radiation Awareness**- One of our members informed some journalists about the impacts of UV rays in our skin (see Pic. 30).

We were also able to support good causes and charity events through activities such as:

- **Beach Cleanup**- We collected a total of 550 trash items at Montones Beach in Isabela, PR (see Pic. 31).
- **Homeschooled Student and Parents Visit**- Chapter members offered demonstrations and promoted learning about meteorology.
- **Blood Drive**- Fifty people from our campus gave a gift of love and friendship by donating a pint of blood in our annual drive (see Pic. 32).
- **Visit to Jesús de Nazaret Children’s Hospice in Mayagüez, PR** - Members brought personal items to fulfill some of the children’s needs, and spent a couple of hours doing meteorology-themed hands-on activities with the children (see Pic. 33).



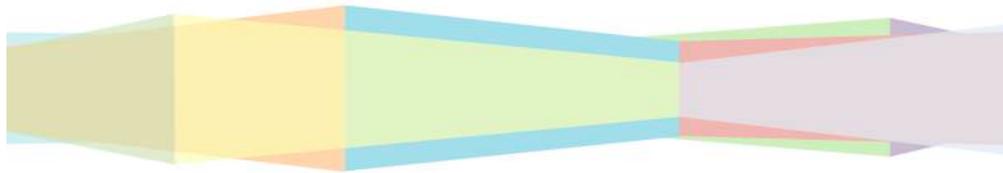
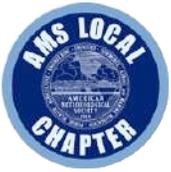
### III. In the past year, what has your chapter done for the national AMS?

The election of new officers was held on May 2011, during the Chapter's last monthly meeting of the academic year (see Pic. 34). Four AMS members were elected to serve as leaders for our Chapter. These were certified by the Chapter's Academic Advisor and reported to the AMS.

Increasing Chapter membership has been a continuing goal for present and past officers, as this has a direct impact on the membership of the national AMS. As part of our goal to increase membership a General Meeting was held, in which about 40 former and potential new members attended to receive information about the AMS and our chapter (see Pic. 35). We spoke about the AMS, its objectives, benefits, opportunities and the scholarships offered. As a result, eleven new students joined our chapter and the national AMS (see Pic. 36). In addition, we encouraged K-12 students, and the general public to become AMS members during the annual "Hurricanes and Safe Homes" activity hosted by meteorologist Ada Monzón, and during our annual Weather Festival. We also encouraged application to AMS scholarships and opportunities by advertising among pre-college and college students.

A large group of members from our Chapter regularly attends the AMS Annual Meeting. This year, we further encouraged student attendance to the 92<sup>nd</sup> AMS Annual Meeting by holding a special meeting to discuss details regarding the conference (see Pic. 37). This meeting was hosted by those members whom had previously attended the conference. They shared their past conference experiences, talked about how the meeting helped their professional development, and the different travel grants the AMS provides. All members were highly motivated to attend, and 16 students were sponsored to participate in the meeting this year (see Pic. 38). Three students of our group worked during the Meeting with AMS Staff under the AMS Student Assistantship Program. Qualifying members (12 in total) attended the 11th Student Conference (SC), including our chapter President who served as a member of the SC Planning Committee and as chair of a session. Also, nine students presented their research projects at the SC poster session, and the Chapter itself presented a poster at the Local Chapters posters exhibition. For second year in a row, we received the First Prize for the Student Local Chapters Poster Competition during the conference (see Pic. 39). We left New Orleans with many new experiences and with the satisfaction that three members were selected for the 2013 SC Planning Committee.

Throughout this year, many people recognized our achievements, and local news media interviewed Chapter officers and members (see Pic. 40). In the interviews, we discussed details about the AMS, the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, and the awards we received at the meeting. Also, we were recognized by the Mayagüez Municipal Government for our hard work and achievements, but especially for being distinguished members of the AMS (see Pic. 41).



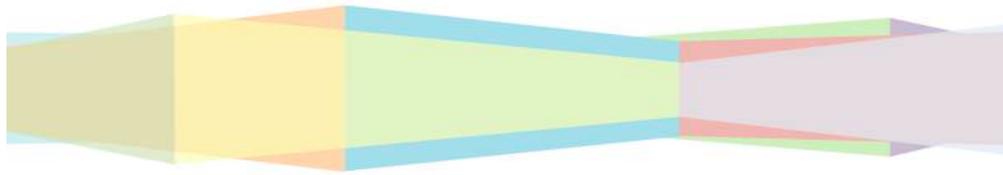
Lastly, but not least important, all our activities were intended to emulate AMS' mission of disseminating information and education about meteorology and related areas. We kept the national AMS informed about those activities by writing our monthly minutes, available in both the national AMS' and our chapter's website.

#### IV. Appendix with pictures



AMS offers student members multiple learning opportunities in the fields of meteorology and related sciences. In turn, chapter members educate the community and inspire future generations of scientists. The student chapters help AMS come full circle.

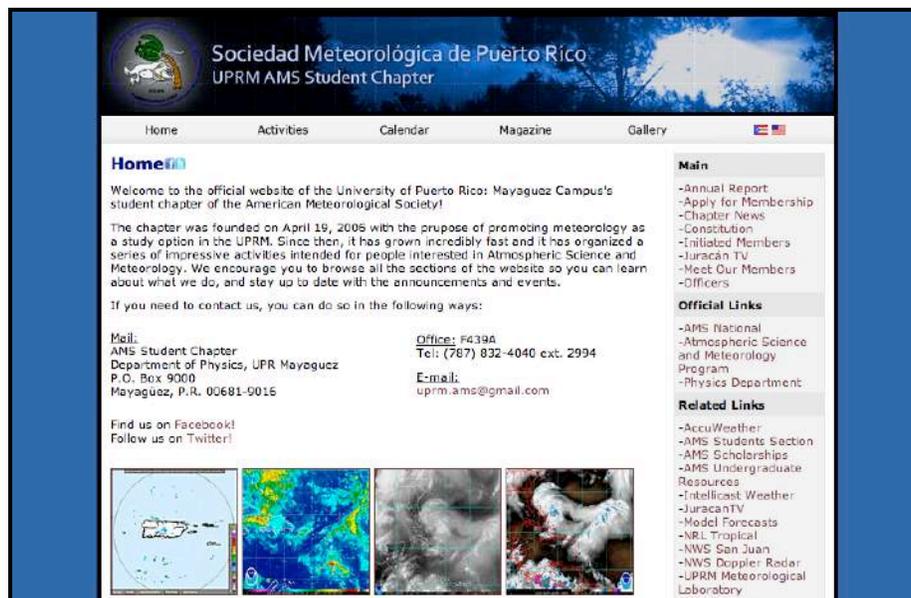
The following pictures demonstrate how the UPRM AMS Student Chapter follows this cyclonic trajectory through its four focus areas: *Opportunities, Professional Development, Education and Community Outreach*. The anticyclonic counterpart is illustrated through pictures of *our contribution to the national AMS*.



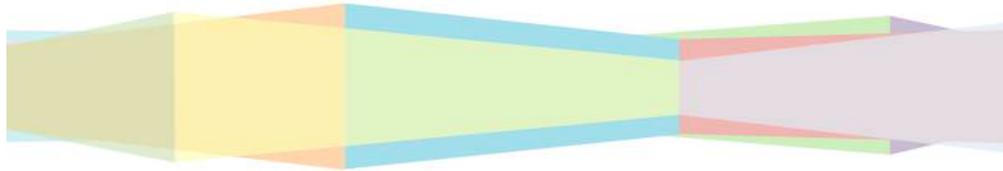
## A. Opportunities



**Picture 1.** *Getting together in the name of weather.* Monthly and special meetings provided opportunities for members to reflect on past events and discuss future activities (a). The meetings also served to celebrate some of these activities, such as the St. Valentine’s Day get together “Love is in the air” (b).



**Picture 2.** *Keeping members up-to-date, wherever they are.* The chapter’s website was frequently updated with links to opportunities, pictures, chapter news, and more advantageous information. This year, the chapter’s Juracán TV Committee broadcasted the Weather Festival on the front page.



**Meet Our Members**

In this section you will find information about our current members, including their curriculum vitae or resume. Feel free to contact them with any professional or academic opportunity. If you are an active member, send us a request to uprm.ams@gmail.com to add or update your information here.

**2011-2012**

<p><b>José Algarín-Ballesteros</b> Undergraduate Student Physics/Meteorology E-Mail &gt;&gt;&gt; CV</p>	
<p><b>Dennis Negrón-Rivera</b> Undergraduate Student Computer Engineering/Meteorology E-Mail &gt;&gt;&gt; CV</p>	
<p><b>Diamilet Pérez-Betancourt</b> Undergraduate Student Physics/Meteorology E-Mail &gt;&gt;&gt; CV</p>	
<p><b>Fernanda Ramos-Garcés</b> Undergraduate Student Physics/Meteorology E-Mail &gt;&gt;&gt; CV</p>	
<p><b>Juan Ramos-González</b> Undergraduate Student Computer Engineering E-Mail &gt;&gt;&gt; CV</p>	

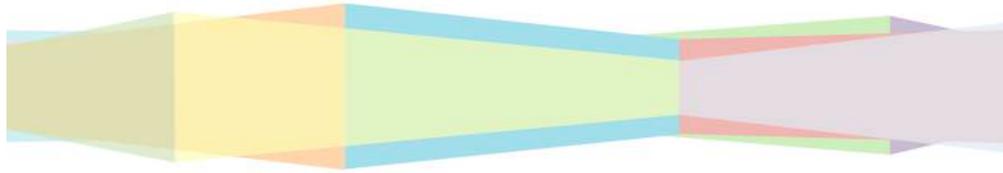
**Picture 3. Introducing the future science workforce.** The chapter launched a new website section with member profiles, hosting résumés and research posters, to help connect members with employment or internship opportunities. Members put to good use what they learned from a previous résumé workshop hosted by the chapter.



**Picture 4. Practice makes learning perfect.** Thanks to a Student Experience in Atmospheric Research (SEAR) team from Purdue University, chapter members now have their own weather station to gather and interpret meteorological data.



**Picture 5. A periodical weather event.** A new edition of the chapter’s magazine *Juracán* was released, featuring a plethora of interesting information for chapter members and meteorology enthusiasts in general.



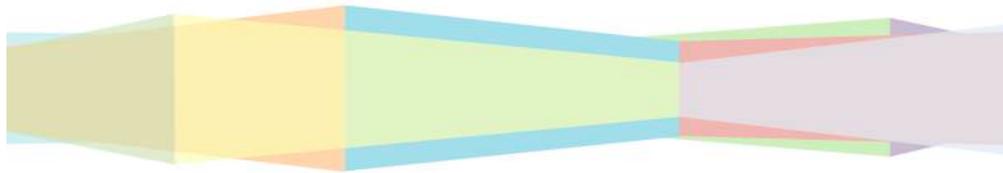
**Picture 6.** *Welcome to our weather family.* Eleven enthusiastic students were inducted at the 6<sup>th</sup> Initiation Ceremony, which featured a hurricane-themed decoration, musical performances, and inspirational speeches from various members and special guests (a). The ceremony was broadcasted live via the internet by the chapter’s weather channel *Juracán TV* (b).



**Picture 7.** *Coming soon to an AMS Theater next to you.* Chapter members socialized with each other and enjoyed watching the 2004 film “The Day After Tomorrow” over refreshments at a relaxed movie night.



**Picture 8.** *Fair weather means beach weather.* Chapter members enjoyed a day of playing volleyball and barbecuing at one of Puerto Rico’s beautiful beaches.



**Picture 9.** *Throwing away the costumes, dressing up as weather geeks.* The chapter's Pre-Halloween Party served both as a social gathering and a fundraising event.



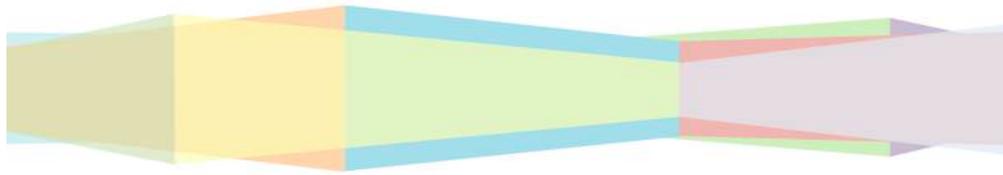
**Picture 10.** *Capturing weather marvels through a lens.* Chapter members submitted their own weather-related pictures for judging or for exhibition at the activity "Meteorology through a lens". This event also featured presentations about atmospheric phenomena and a prize drawing.



**Picture 11.** *Wishing you a Sunny Christmas and a Clear New Year!* At our end-of-semester dinner, chapter members enjoyed a traditional Puerto Rican Christmas meal, exchanged gifts, and celebrated "parrandas" (Puerto Rican version of Christmas caroling) with the UPRM's Society of Physics Students.



**Picture 12.** *A new place to call home.* The chapter officially inaugurated its new, more accessible office space at UPRM's Physics Building. The previous office will serve as the chapter's weather channel (*Juracán TV*) studio.



**Picture 13.** *The essence of science is creativity.* Members were encouraged to express their creativity by designing a new bumper sticker for the chapter to obtain a weather-related reward. The flyer used to promote this activity is an example of the propaganda efforts made by the chapter throughout the year.

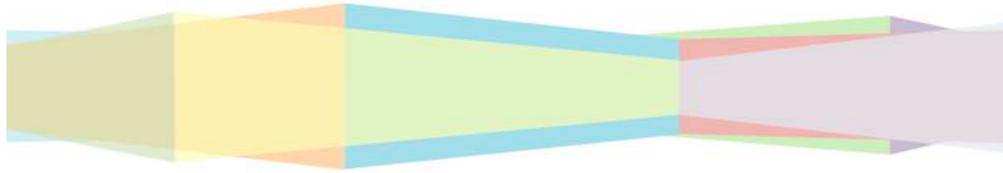
## B. Professional Development



**Picture 14.** *Small minds discuss people, great minds discuss weather.* Five chapter members joined the UPRM Meteorological Laboratory’s Forecasting Group for insightful weekly weather discussions and recording of forecasts to publish online for the general public.



**Picture 15.** *Science is not complete if it is not shared.* Chapter members refined their communication skills by presenting their research posters to students and professors at UPRM.



**Picture 16.** *Paying opportunities forward.* Chapter members prepared presentations about their past internship and scholarship opportunities to encourage other members to apply and benefit from those offerings as well.



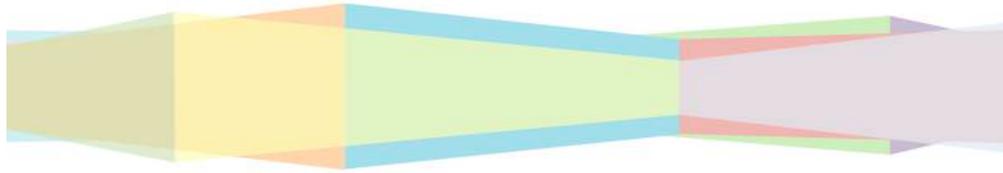
**Picture 17.** *Meteorologists not only in words, but in action.* Twenty-seven chapter members were officially certified as SKYWARN Weather Spotters and are now well prepared to serve the NWS mission to protect life and property.



**Picture 18.** *Interdisciplinary is another word for extraordinary.* Chapter members learned about non weather-related natural disasters by visiting the Puerto Rico Seismic Network administered by UPRM's Department of Geology.



**Picture 19.** *Not slipping under the radar.* Chapter members learned about the importance of weather radar in meteorology and about two projects at UPRM to establish a radar network on the western part of the island.



## C. Education



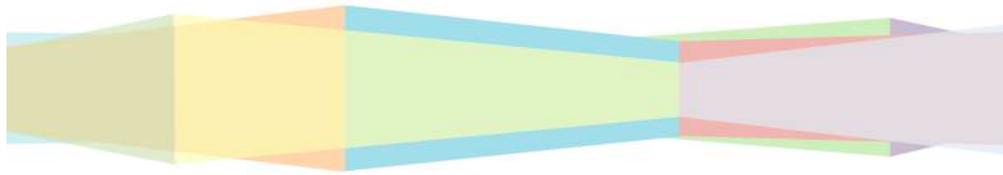
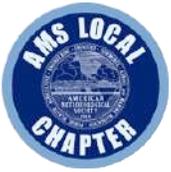
**Picture 20.** *If you want to educate the world, start at home.* The chapter hosted a booth with weather-related demonstrations and information at the UPRM Student Center, which also served to recruit new members.



**Picture 21.** *Who wants to be a meteorologist?* At the Sixth General Assembly, prospective members had an active role in meteorology-related demonstrations, learning first-hand about the chapter's endeavors.



**Picture 22.** *A flood of opportunities in Colorful Colorado.* Chapter members learned about advantageous student opportunities in the Earth Sciences at NCAR and related institutions in Colorado.



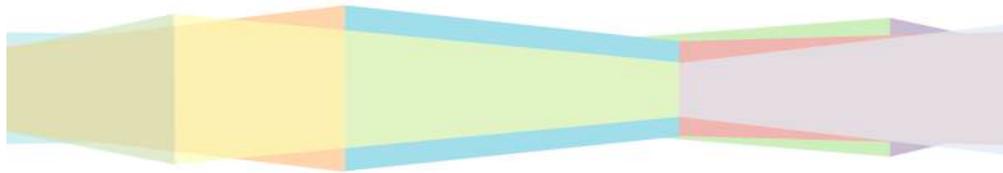
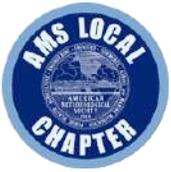
**Picture 23.** *Putting all the chapter's pieces together.* Preparations for the chapter's top event, the 5<sup>th</sup> Weather Festival, started early in the academic year. Everything came together when more than 400 students and teachers learned about meteorology and related sciences interactively at this one-day event. The success of this activity required a collective effort from all the chapter committees and members, as well as from our unconditional supporters.



**Picture 24.** *In teaching you will learn.* Chapter members brought their knowledge back to the classroom by visiting various schools to offer the chapter's traditional weather-related demonstrations.



**Picture 25.** *A fun-filled adventure into science.* The chapter participated in the UPRM College of Arts and Sciences Open House by offering hands-on activities to engage elementary and high school students in science.



**Picture 26.** *Teaching a teacher equals teaching a community.* At a workshop hosted by the Puerto Rico NASA Space Grant Consortium, chapter members demonstrated activities that teachers could use to teach meteorological concepts in the classroom.

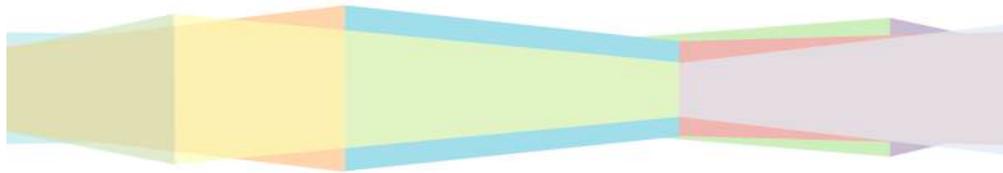
#### D. Community Outreach



**Picture 27.** *Meteorology at the service of the community.* The chapter was invited to participate in the annual “Hurricanes y Casa Segura” (Hurricanes and Safe Homes) event hosted by meteorologist Ada Monzón and architect Astrid Díaz at Puerto Rico’s largest mall. Chapter members helped disseminate information about natural disasters and preparedness practices among the general public.



**Picture 28.** *Learning together to observe the weather.* Chapter members gave weather-related demonstrations to certified SKYWARN Weather Spotters at the NWS in San Juan as part of the Spotters Appreciation Day. The members also attended a talk about the SKYWARN Program.



**Picture 29.** *Hunting down knowledge to offer it to people.* The US Air Force WC130-J hurricane hunter aircraft was brought to Puerto Rico by its crew and personnel from the National Hurricane Center as part of the 2012 Caribbean Hurricane Awareness Tour. Chapter members helped meteorologist Ada Monzón share information about weather-related events to people from all ages.



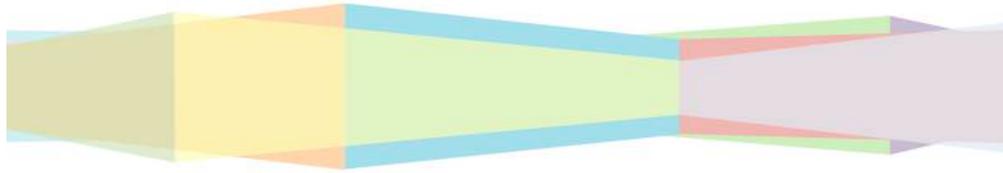
**Picture 30.** *The sun is a big yellow frenemy.* Solar radiation makes life on Earth (and weather) possible, but excessive exposure to it may cause deadly skin diseases. The chapter participated in an event hosted by Neutrogena to inform a group of journalists about the hazards associated with exposure to ultraviolet light and to stress the importance of skin protection.



**Picture 31.** *Every right comes with a responsibility.* Chapter members enjoy nature, but they also recognize their responsibility to the environment. During the 2011 International Coastal Cleanup, they took 550 trash items away from two of Puerto Rico's northern beaches.



**Picture 32.** *What greater gift, than the gift of life?* A total of 200 lives could be saved with the pints of blood collected during a blood drive jointly hosted with the UPRM chapter of the Society of Physics Students.



**Picture 33.** *Sunny with a chance of smiles.* Chapter members donated goods, as well as joy and excitement through hands-on activities, to a group of delightful kids at a children’s hospice near UPRM.

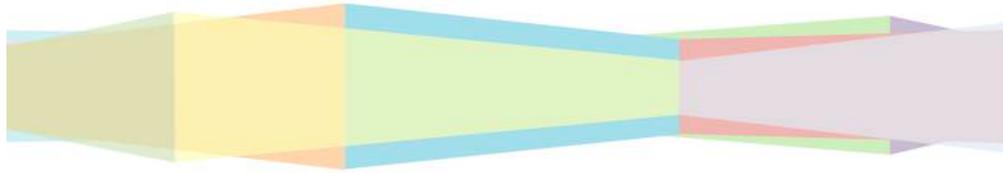
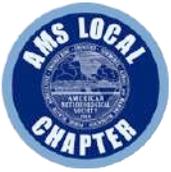
### E. Our contribution to the national AMS



**Picture 34.** *Pilots in command.* A group of enthusiastic chapter officers took the honor and responsibility to lead the chapter’s endeavors and help the members fulfill both their individual and collective goals.



**Picture 35.** *Please join us for a flight toward success.* At the Sixth General Assembly, the chapter officers gave prospective members a motivating presentation about the chapter’s history, mission, and activities, and the benefits of joining AMS.



**Picture 36.** *Welcome aboard!* Most of the students who joined the chapter this year got actively involved in chapter committees, becoming invaluable assets to these groups.



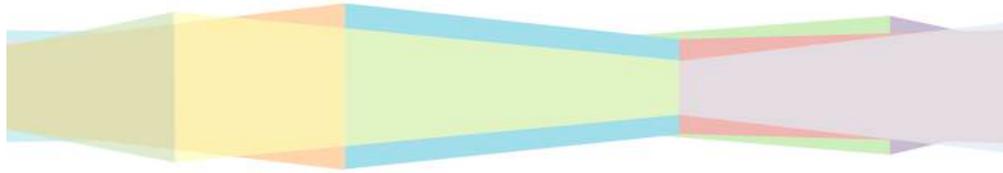
**Picture 37.** *Prepare for departure.* Chapter members received an orientation about the AMS Annual Meeting by a panel of past attendees. The purpose of this event was to motivate members to seek for opportunities to attend the meeting and to help them prepare for the associated financial costs.



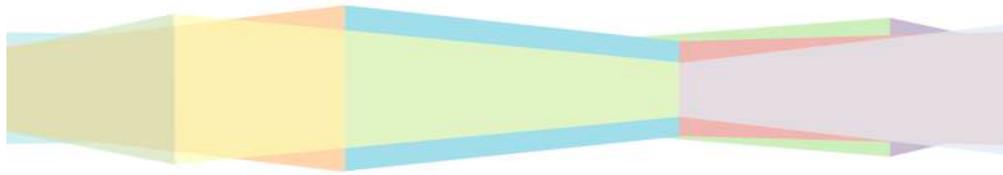
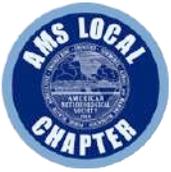
**Picture 38.** *Making landfall at the AMS Annual Meeting.* Sixteen members actively participated in the 92<sup>nd</sup> AMS Annual Meeting. The attendees were able to discuss career paths and make advantageous connections with peers and professionals. In addition, the chapter was officially recognized as 2010-2011 Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year.



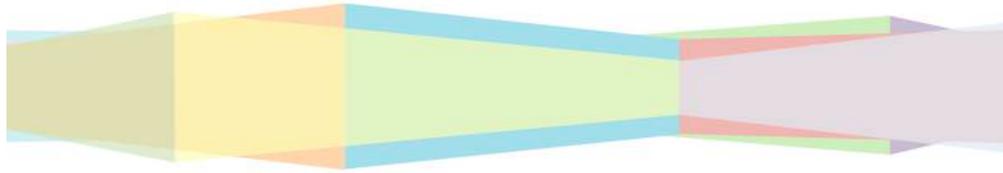
**Picture 39.** *Hard work really pays off.* New Orleans, a city in recovery from a weather-related disaster, is an example of how hard work and team effort can bear fruit. In this perfect setting, the chapter was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the AMS Student Chapter Poster Competition for a second time in a row. This honor renewed the members' motivation to work hard for the chapter's success.



**Picture 40.** *Good news also spreads as fast as wildfire.* The chapter’s accomplishments captured the attention of the media at Puerto Rico. Several media outlets interviewed chapter officers to learn about AMS and the chapter’s endeavors. These included: Univision PR (a), WKAQ 580 AM radio station (b), Foro Colegial TV (c), Foro Colegial radio program (d), El Nuevo Día newspaper (e), and UPRM’s press office Prensa RUM’s front-page story (f).



**Picture 41.** *The younger generation is not lost.* The chapter was invited to a recognition ceremony during Mayagüez municipality’s annual “fiestas patronales” (traditional celebrations in honor of patron saints or virgins). Representatives from both UPRM and Mayagüez Municipality applauded the chapter’s efforts, accomplishments, outstanding leadership, and service as role models for the youth.



## V. Summary

All in all, it can be seen that our chapter made great contributions to their members, the community and the AMS. Describing the details of the “AMS UPRM Local Chapter Weather Station” can summarize the happenings of the year 2011-2012.

### A. Sensors

1. This weather station had four unique sensors in addition to the wind, temperature and rainfall sensors. These unique sensors were: **education, professional development, community outreach and opportunities.**

### B. Measurements

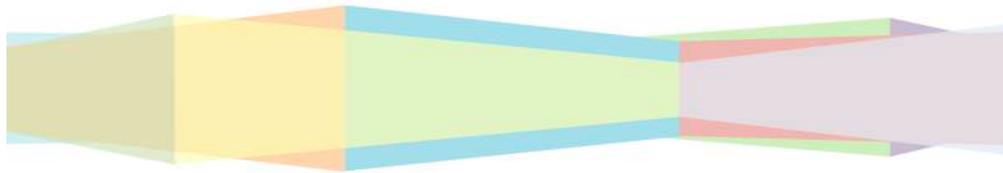
1. The wind sensor measured an instantaneous wind speed of **11 new members** with gusting winds reaching **42 total members.**
2. The temperature sensor measured record high temperatures with the happiness and pride of our members after being recognized as **2010-2011 Student Chapter of the Year** and winning the **1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Local Student Chapters Poster Competitions at the 92<sup>nd</sup> AMS meeting!**
3. The rainfall sensor measured many inches of **activities** dedicated to **educate** members, develop their **professional skills**, increase their **sensibility to social problems**, and increase their **opportunities** within the atmospheric science arena.
4. The **education** sensor received data from weather briefings to demonstrations and hands-on activities about meteorology given to students and teachers.
5. The **professional development** sensor acquired guidance for members to develop professional skills that are not addressed at regular classes.
6. The **community outreach** sensor registered participation in weather awareness activities and support to good causes and charities
7. The **opportunities** sensor measured development of team unity and communication skills through monthly meetings and social, weather-related or fundraising activities.

### C. Storage

1. The data were saved in the internal storage of the professional careers of our members and were transmitted to the external storage of the AMS in the folders of participation in the AMS Annual Meeting (especially at the Student Conference) and applications to student opportunities (e.g. student assistantships, scholarships, etc.).

### D. Data usage and sharing

1. The data collected were used to save lives through the blood drive, and to support other good causes, which increases the sensibility of members to general society problems.



2. The observations from all sensors were used and shared in local media to let the general public know about the great opportunities the AMS-UPRM Student Chapter has to offer to those interested in pursuing careers in meteorology.

#### **E. Maintenance**

1. The weather station was maintained and supervised by the following people:
  - i. Enthusiastic members from different STEM fields
  - ii. Professors
  - iii. Professional meteorologists
  - iv. Other supporters

Lastly, but not least important, a meteorologist has assimilated these measurements into a numerical weather prediction model. The forecast from the model says that wind speed will be stronger in the future with more members, and the direction of the wind is expected to come from the successful year 2011-2012, and to flow towards an even more successful future. The temperatures will continue increasing with all the accomplishments from the members of the chapter. The probabilities of precipitation will remain above 90% due to the amount of knowledge that the members will share with other students, teachers and general public. This will require the measurements from this weather station and the preparation of well-rounded meteorologists to inform the community at UPRM and the general public.