The 2015 Biennale is nearly here! The first floor of the National Weather Center is bursting with 88 amazing works of art. The official opening of this glorious event takes place this Sunday, April 19th.

The Biennale is open to the public and there is no admission charge.

This is the fourteenth week of the spring 2015 semester.

**ALERTS:**

- **UNDERGRADUATES:** Please take a few moments to complete the A&GS Exit Evaluation! Your participation in this survey will greatly assist us in planning for the College’s future. Tell us what you liked about your A&GS experience and what could use improvement. The survey will
remain live until the end of Exam Week. Here is the link: https://ousurvey.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_e4LPsEDYllxuLk1

➢ Speaking of Exams...they’re just THREE WEEKS away! Start preparing now by going here: https://www.ou.edu/content/enrollment/final_exams.html to view all the rules and regulations governing finals and to check out the Spring 2015 Final Exam Schedule.

➢ Calling all vocalists! We are in need of a vocalist to sing the “OU Chant” and “Oklahoma” at the A&GS Spring Convocation on Saturday, May 9th at 8:00 PM. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the College’s Events Planner Mona Springfield at mspringfield@ou.edu.

➢ Sooner Saturday now takes place in April – and we need student volunteers! Mark your calendars for NEXT Saturday, April 25th, when the College will host High School juniors and their parents for a day of fun and information. Please e-mail Mona Springfield at mspringfield@ou.edu if you’d like to help out.
DGES majors in Action

The University of Oklahoma’s annual Big Event is an official day of community service. Each year, more than 5,000 OU students serve as volunteers at non-profits, churches, schools, and other community organizations throughout the Norman and Oklahoma City areas. Now in its 16th year at OU, the Big Event took place this past Saturday, on April 11, 2015 – and students from the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability (DGES) heard the call! A BIG THANK YOU to DGES majors who took part, for all your enthusiasm, optimism, and hard work. Despite the weather you did a fantastic job!
Meteorology PhD Candidate wins Fellowship

BIG congratulations to meteorology doctoral degree candidate Larissa Reames, was just awarded a Blue Water Fellowship. Blue Waters Graduate Fellowships provide PhD students with a year of support, including a $38,000 stipend, up to $12,000 in tuition allowance, an allocation of up to 50,000 node-hours on the powerful Blue Waters petascale computing system, and funds for travel to a Blue Waters-sponsored symposium to present research progress and results.

The Blue Water program cuts across a wide range of fields that make intensive use of supercomputing, so the competition is steep. Among the ten winners last year were investigations into how galaxies change through cosmic time, ionized plasma, data corruption on large super computing systems, accelerated particles and issues in weather and climate. The universities for last year's winners included Cal Berkley, Harvard, Stanford, and the University of Illinois. Thanks to Larissa, OU is on that list this year!

The honor is well deserved. Larissa earned her BS in Meteorology with Special Distinction in May of 2009 and her Master of Science in Meteorology in December 2012. She is a strong and enthusiastic researcher who serves as an excellent mentor to the School’s incoming graduate students.

Once again, CONGRATULATIONS, Larissa!
Two Job Openings at CIMMS

The Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies (CIMMS), located in the National Weather Center, has announced two student job openings:

- Student Research Assistant – Assist in processing and quality control single radar data and multi-radar, multi-sensor data as part of the Multi-Year Reanalysis of Remotely Sensed Storms (MYRORSS). $9.50-$11/hour. The job requisition number is 22055.
- Student Research Assistant – Assist with a real-time weather verification experiment (SHAVE). $9.50-$11/hour. The job requisition number is 22058.

You can apply for both at jobs.ou.edu.

Interested in learning MATLAB or Python?

HOOT, the weather data resource for the Oklahoma Weather Lab (OWL), is partnering with OU Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering (WECE) to host an interactive
Undergraduate Workshop on Python & MATLAB this Saturday, April 18th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in classrooms in Bizzell Library on main campus. A small breakfast will be served, along with lunch, and three different sections will be held (you may only choose one!). The three are:

- Introduction to Beginning MATLAB - max 20
- Introduction to Advanced MATLAB - max 10
- Introduction to Python - max 20

**Please bring your own laptop.** However, if you would like to take the MATLAB section and do not have a purchased license, the library will have laptops with it installed for you to use.

Sign up for just ONE section only via the link below before they fill up!

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JV29JBX](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JV29JBX)

If you have any questions, please e-mail Rachel Norris at [rachelbnorris@ou.edu](mailto:rachelbnorris@ou.edu).

**This Week’s Seminar(s):**

Reed Timmer, doctoral degree candidate in the School of Meteorology, will present *Relationships Between Monthly Agroclimate Variability and Local Crop Yield in the Central and Eastern United States and Southern Canada*, TODAY, Monday, April 13th at 2:00 PM, in the National Weather Center, Room 5820.
And on Tuesday....
Development and Testing of Surface Hydrometeor Classification Algorithms at NSSL

An accurate analysis and prediction of the surface precipitation type during winter is one of the greatest forecast challenges. A major ongoing initiative at NSSL is to devise a surface classification algorithm that uses multiple datasets. The algorithm is comprised of two components: a background classifier, generated using numerical model analyses, and a refiner that uses the dual polarized observations. This talk will present details on the testing and development of various background classifiers. A new spectral bin classifier that explicitly calculates the amount of melting and refreezing for a spectrum of hydrometeors will be introduced. A second classifier to be presented explicitly uses observations to drive an artificial-intelligence or machine-learning classification technique called a random forest. Random forest is an ensemble classification method that constructs a multitude of decision trees using predictors or attributes associated with the observed precipitation type. Random forests are very fast, resistant to over-fitting, and are among the most powerful and general artificial intelligence classification tools available.

Dr. Reeves earned her B.S. from Central Michigan University and M.S., Ph.D from North Carolina State University. She joined NSSL as an NRC fellow in 2007 and has since transitioned to a research scientist with OU/CIMMS and NSSL. She is also an Adjunct Professor of SoM. Her most recent work revolves around aviation and transportation applications.

Dr. Elmore earned his B.S. (1978), M.S. (1982), and Ph.D. (2000) in Meteorology from the University of Oklahoma. After working at NCAR, he joined OU/CIMMS and NSSL in 1995. He is a member of the AMS Artificial Intelligence Committee and an Adjunct Professor of SoM. He is also a light-plane pilot, an amateur violinist, and enjoys amateur radio.
These Upper Division electives won’t stay open for long!

Take advantage of one (or more!) of these fantastic fall free electives. For permission to enroll (or if you run into any enrollment problems), please contact Asst. Dean Hempe at mahempe@ou.edu. Please note that graduate students attempting to enroll in METR 5713 will need to contact a counselor in the Graduate College for clearance.

“Managing for Climate Change” (GEOG 3890, sec. 001). Co-taught by A&GS Dean Berrien Moore, Dr. Elinor Martin from the School of Meteorology, and Dr. Renee McPherson from the Department of Geography & Environmental Sustainability. The class meets Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM, and the only pre-requisite is junior/senior status or instructor permission. For more information, please contact Aparna@ou.edu. For permission to enroll, contact Asst. Dean Hempe at mahempe@ou.edu.

METR 4970, sec. 001 “Applications of Weather Forecasting: Weather Forecasting in Support of Critical Decision Making.” Taught by Dr. Kevin Kloesel. Meets M-T from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM in the National Weather Center, Room 5600. The only pre-req is junior/senior status (contact Assistant Dean Hempe at mahempe@ou.edu if you run into any enrollment problems).

“Private Sector Meteorology.” Taught by Dr. John Snow and meets M/W/F from 9:00 AM to 9:50 AM in the National Weather Center, Room 5930. The prerequisite is a minimum of junior level in the meteorology curriculum (i.e., be concurrently enrolled in or have completed Dynamics I and Physical I). It is available to undergraduates under METR 4713 and to graduate students under METR 5713. Contact Assistant Dean Hempe at mahempe@ou.edu for permission to enroll.
**Public Forums on Water Reuse**

The Oklahoma Water Survey, together with faculty at the University of Oklahoma, staff with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, the City of Norman, Tetra Tech and Garver (engineering, planning and environmental services firms) are proud to announce a series of Public Forums on Water Reuse. These are scheduled from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM on April 23, May 14, and June 18. The forums will be held in Room 1313 at the National Weather Center, located at 100 David L. Boren Blvd., in Norman. There is no fee for the public forum, however, participants are asked to register at [www.oklahomwatersurvey.org](http://www.oklahomwatersurvey.org). Please see the attached flyer for all the details.
**This week’s Extras**

Don’t forget that the School of Meteorology’s Tutoring/Help Desk office is now located behind the OWL Student Forecast Office on the first floor of the National Weather Center. The SoM Help Desk is open from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Monday-Thursday and is intended to provide assistance for all undergraduate meteorology courses.

**This week’s Student Success Series Workshop(s):**

Wednesday, April 15  
“How to Prepare and Apply to Graduate School”  
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM  
Wagner Hall, Room 250

**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MM?**

If you have any announcement you would like posted in *Monday Memo* (e.g., meetings, seminars, jobs, internships or just some great news) please send it to Asst. Dean Hempe (mahempe@ou.edu) by Friday at noon to appear in the next week’s edition.
On this Day in History:


In **1360**, a hail storm killed an estimated 1,000 English soldiers in Chartres, France. The storm, dubbed “Black Monday,” also played a part in the Hundred Years’ War between England and France. The heavy losses suffered by the English were seen by many as a sign from God, convincing King Edward to negotiate peace with the French, on May 8, 1360. It didn’t last, though; fighting broke out again nine years later. The war did not officially end until 1453.

In **1742**, George Friedrich Handel’s *Messiah* made its debut in Dublin, Ireland. While *Messiah* is traditional Christmas fare today, it was originally intended for the Christian season of Lent.

In **1860**, the first mail was delivered by the Pony Express when a westbound rider arrived in Sacramento, California from St. Joseph, Missouri. The Pony Express mail delivery service began April 3, 1860 and lasted until October 25, 1861. The service used 120 riders, 184 way stations, 400 horses, and several hundred personnel.

In **1870**, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was founded in New York City.

In **1955**, the tiny town of Axis, Alabama, was deluged with 20.33 inches of rain in 24 hours, establishing a state record.
In 1958, 23-year-old Harvey Lavan "Van" Cliburn, Jr., of Kilgore, Texas, won first place in the Soviet Union’s Tchaikovsky International Piano Contest in Moscow. He was the first American to win the award.

In 1964, Sidney Poitier became the first African-American to win an Oscar for Best Actor, for his role as the chapel-building Homer Smith in "Lilies of the Field."

In 1970, mission control on Earth heard astronaut James Lovell’s famous statement “Houston, we've had a problem here.” Astronauts Lovell, John Swigert, and Fred Haise were all on board Apollo 13 on their way to the moon when oxygen tank No. 2 blew up. They were 200,000 miles away from home. Their mission quickly changed from moon landing to just making it back to Earth alive. Fortunately they did, touching down safely in the Pacific Ocean on April 17th. In 1995, native Oklahoman Ron Howard made an Oscar-nominated movie of the event – which somehow managed to be very suspenseful, even though the outcome was well known.

In 1986, a major spring storm quickly intensified, bringing blizzard conditions to much of the Northern Plains Region. Up to 18 inches of snow was reported in North Dakota, and in South Dakota, winds gusting to 90 mph whipped the snow into drifts fifteen feet high. Livestock losses were in the millions of dollars, and for some areas it was the worst blizzard ever.

In 1997, 21-year-old Eldrick “Tiger” Woods became the youngest person to win the Masters Tournament in Augusta, Georgia. He also set a record when he won the tournament by 12 strokes. Woods also won the Masters in 2001, 2002, and 2005.

And your parting shot(s):

Ben Bruckner’s office used to look like this:
After two years, Ben (who works for a creative ad agency), couldn’t stand the boredom any more. Although he wasn’t allowed to paint the walls, he came up with an ingenious solution that involved 8,024 carefully planned post-it notes (which apparently you can buy in “combo” packs that include black post-its). With the enthusiastic help of his co-workers (who were also bored silly), Ben’s office space is now a dazzling display of color and fun!

Please remember to like us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/OUAGS) and follow us on Twitter (@OUAGS)!

The College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
http://ags.ou.edu
ags@ou.edu