MONDAY MEMO

Happy Halloween Week! All A&GS students, faculty, and staff are invited to bring your
little trick-or-treaters to the National Weather Center this Thursday, October 29th, from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

This is the tenth week of the Fall 2015 semester.

**ALERTS:**

• There will be no Walk-In Hours today (10/26) or Friday (10/30).
• **THIS IS YOUR FINAL WEEK** to drop a class **without needing permission** from your instructor or the Dean; you have until Friday, October 30th at 5:00 PM. Go to Buchanan Hall, Room 230 to process the drop. A ‘W’ will appear on your permanent record and apply toward the 5 Ws you are allowed at OU. Please note that if you are currently on academic contract, you must still obtain permission from the Dean to drop a class. **Beginning Monday, November 2nd, the drop process becomes much more complicated.**
• Advance Registration for Spring and Summer 2016 starts **TODAY!** Have you been advised yet?
• **The National Weather Festival** takes place this Saturday, October 31st, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in
the National Weather Center. Go here for all the details.

• GIS Day is now just 23 days away! We still need student volunteers to serve as guides at the GIS Expo for a group of prospective students on Tuesday, November 17\textsuperscript{th}; if you’re interested in volunteering, please go here to sign up.

• The final day to apply for this year’s South Central Climate User Group (SCAUG) scholarship is next Friday, November 6\textsuperscript{th}! For details and the application form for this $1500 scholarship, go here.

A&GS Outstanding Junior and Senior

We are pleased to announce the 2015-2016 Outstanding Senior, Outstanding Junior, and Outstanding Senior Alternates. Please congratulate these students when you see them!

The 2015-2016 Outstanding Senior is Brett Borchardt. Brett will graduate with a BS in Meteorology, Summa cum Laude, May 2016. Brett was also named the College’s Outstanding Junior last year. He is from Naperville, Illinois. Brett has participated in a number of extracurricular activities, including OWL, the SoM Peer Mentoring Program, and SCAMS, as well as
volunteering for the Big Event, the National Weather Festival, and the Naperville (IL) Emergency Management Association.

The 2015-2016 Outstanding Junior is Tyler Wawrzyniak. Tyler is a meteorology major from China, Michigan. He is a member of OWL, serves as a mentor to freshmen meteorology majors, and is working with Dr. Chilson on the CLOUDMAP UAV research project. Tyler is also a member of the American Meteorological Society and has participated in “Relay for Life.”

The first alternate to Outstanding Senior is Reagan Metz, who will graduate with a BA in Environmental Sustainability - Planning & Management, Summa cum Laude, May 2016.

The second alternate to Outstanding Senior is Lisa Mae Fiedler
who will graduate with a BA in Environmental Sustainability-Culture & Society, with Distinction, May 2016.

All four A&GS students will be honored by the College of A&GS at a special dinner on Thursday, December 10th. Brett Borchardt and the Outstanding Seniors from OU’s other degree-granting colleges will also be recognized by President Boren on Friday, November 6th in Beaird Lounge.

_Congratulations, everyone!_

_Congratulations, everyone!_

_Give a HOOT and attend the OWL Workshop this Wednesday!_

**OWL’S Next Workshop on Wednesday**

The Oklahoma Weather Lab (OWL) will hold their monthly workshop this Wednesday, October 28th at 8:00 PM in the Linux Lab on the fifth floor of the National Weather
Center. They will be teaching everyone about SHARPpy, a revolutionary sounding visualization tool developed by OWL’s own deputy director of development, Kelton Halbert. This software is the future of forecasting tools...so be sure to drop by and learn how to use it! The doors to the NWC will remain unlocked past 7:00 PM, so all are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Brett Borchardt at brett.s.borchardt@ou.edu.

**Teaching Scholars Initiative Next Friday**

We strongly encourage A&GS faculty and graduate students to attend this year’s Teaching Scholars Initiative (TSI), a colloquium that takes place next Friday, November 6th from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM in the Oklahoma Memorial Union. The theme this year is “Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in Higher Education.” In addition to the usual breakout sessions, this year the TSI will feature the University of Missouri’s Interactive Theatre Troupe. The Troupe will present thought-provoking scripts on "Parts of Speech" and "Identity Politics." Registration is free, and both breakfast and lunch are provided. And on-site child care is also an option. Go [here](#) to register and for all the details.
Dr. Thornton has logged 975 hours in space, including 21 hours of extravehicular activity.

Presentation by Astronaut Kathy Thornton this Friday

The Gallogly College of Engineering invites everyone to a free presentation by Astronaut Kathy Thornton (Space Missions STS-33, STS-49, STS-61, and STS-73) who will share her experiences as a NASA astronaut and the impact of STEM education during her lecture this Friday, October 30th at 3:00 PM in the Reynolds Performing Arts Center.

AGS-NWC Photo Contest

The poster-worthy winners from the 2013 AGS/NWC Photo Contest

Entries due to the Dean’s office by November 20th
Contact t.guthrie@ou.edu or come to NWC Room 3630 for entry forms and/or more information.
2015 Photo Contest

It’s time for the AGS/NWC Photo Contest (held every other year) and we look forward to receiving your entries. The contest is open to all A&GS Faculty, Staff, and Students in addition to anyone who has an office assigned to them in the National Weather Center. Please stop by the Dean’s Office (NWC 3630) to pick up your entry form today!

This Week’s Seminars:

On Monday, October 26th, the National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL) hosts Dr. Krzysztof Orzel from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst, who will present “From Phase-Tilt to Phase-Spin Weather Radar” at 3:00 PM in the National Weather Center, Room 3910.

On Tuesday...
National Weather Center Colloquium
120 David L Boren Blvd
Norman, Oklahoma 73072
(405) 325-6561
http://www.nwc.ou.edu

Dr. Dusan Zrnic
Senior Scientist
National Severe Storms Laboratory, NOAA
October 27th, 4:00 pm, NWC Room 1313
Refreshments will be served at 3:30 pm

Of NOAA and Polarization: saga about how it happened
This talk traces the events that lead to acceptance of the dual polarization technology by the National Weather Service (NWS). The understanding and thinking about this technology since circa the seventies are reviewed. The initial dilemma which polarization basis to favor is exposed, and the choice made by NSSL is explained. The unique capability to record time series data from several range locations was crucial for making further advances in the field. Cameron radar provided data on which a way to separate the Doppler from polarimetric measurements was demonstrated. Moreover, two additional polarimetric variables were proposed and demonstrated on the data. Computation and display of these polarimetric variables in real time was accomplished in 1992. This enabled measurements that favorably influenced the fate of polarimetry. Enjoyed by initial successes, NSSL began to advocate an alternative design for dual polarization radar. Thereafter, the pace of development and scientific understanding accelerated. Of utmost importance was the transfer of the KOUN radar from the NWS to NSSL. The Joint POLarization Experiment was conducted with the KOUN that provided convincing evidence of several benefits that amply justified the upgrade.

Dr. Zrnic is a fellow of the IEEE and AMS. He developed several scientific and engineering aspects of polarimetric weather radar technology leading to implementation on the WSR-88Ds. He was inducted into the USA National Academy of Engineering in 2006 “for development of ground radar methods that have greatly enhanced operational weather detection and warning and advanced meteorological research” and recognized by the AMS Remote Sensing Purse in 2008 “for pioneering and substantial contributions to improvements of meteorological radar for both research and operational applications.”

Fall 2015 Speakers

Dr. Dusan Zrnic
Senior Scientist
National Severe Storms Laboratory, NOAA
October 27th

Dr. Tommy E. Weckwerth
Scientist
National Center for Atmospheric Research
November 10th

Ms. Ariel Cohen
Ph.D. Candidate
Storm Prediction Center, School of Meteorology, OU
November 17th

Dr. Sergey Mateson
Senior Scientist
NOAA, Boulder
December 1st

Dr. Mark Redwell
Scientist
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
December 10th
Student Success Series:

University College’s fall 2015 Student Success Series (SSS) offers THREE seminars this week:

Tuesday, October 27th  Using Your Strengths to Succeed  3:00 PM - 4:00 PM  Wagner Hall, Room 250

Wednesday, October 28th  Exploring the College of Arts & Sciences  11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  Wagner Hall, Room 250

Thursday, October 29th  Finding Academic Motivation  3:00 PM - 4:00 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.

Actor John Travolta is the proud owner – and pilot – of a Boeing 707-138B.

On This Day In History:

In 1774, the First Continental Congress of the U.S. adjourned in Philadelphia. The Congress had convened on September 5, 1774 to address acts imposed by the British Parliament (known in the Colonies as “The Intolerable Acts”). Although the Congress originally planned to work with the British government, they quickly decided instead to adopt the much more radical Suffolk Resolves, which advocated independence and led to the Revolutionary War.  In 1825, the Erie Canal opened in upstate New York after nearly a decade of planning and eight years of construction. The canal was built to create a navigable water route from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean by way of the Hudson River. The canal – an impressive feat of engineering – ran for 363 miles and was considered by many at the time to be the Eighth Wonder of the World.

In 1858, Hamilton E. Smith patented the rotary-motion
washing machine. Smith continued to improve his machine, and obtained a second patent in 1863.

**In 1859,** New York City experienced its earliest snowfall ever - and a substantial one to boot - when four inches of snow fell.  
**In 1881,** the Gunfight at the OK Corral took place in Tombstone, Arizona. The legendary shoot-out pitted Marshal Wyatt Earp, his two brothers and Doc Holiday against the Ike Clanton Gang. The fight actually took place six doors down from the OK Corral, in a small vacant lot by a photography studio, and lasted only 30 seconds – but those pesky details didn’t stand in the way of the growing myth. The Gunfight at the OK Corral went on to spawn over a dozen movies, numerous TV shows, books, and paintings commemorating the event.

**In 1916,** birth-control advocate Margaret Sanger and two other women were arrested for “obscenity” at the women’s clinic Sanger had opened ten days earlier. When she was released, Sanger re-opened the clinic, only to be arrested again. When she tried to reopen the clinic a third time, police closed it for good. It would take another twenty years for US Federal courts to rule that birth control (a term coined by Sanger) was not, in fact, obscene.

**In 1949,** President Harry S. Truman raised the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour, equivalent to about $7.50 an hour today – but the U.S. minimum wage in 2015 is only $7.25 an hour! **In 1958,** Pan American Airways flew its first commercial Boeing 707 flight, from Idlewild Airport in New York to Le Bourget in Paris. The 707s were the first successful commercial jets. They went out of production in 1978, but only because they were considered to be too small by then.
In 1990, 29-year-old hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky (aka “The Great One”) became the first NHL player to score 2,000 points. It was Gretzky’s 12th season in the NFL and his 857th game. Although he was not the biggest, strongest, or fastest hockey player to ever play the game, he was without question the smartest (and he didn’t approve of the fighting). Gretzky played for nine more years, retiring in 1999 with a total of 3,239 points (including playoff games) and over 40 NFL records.

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch hit Central America with a vengeance. Mitch was the worst hurricane to hit the Western Hemisphere in over 200 years. Estimates put the loss of life between 11,000 and 18,000 people; 2,000 of them in Posoltega, Nicaragua alone after a horrifying mudslide. In Tegucigalpa, Honduras the water rose as high as 10 feet. Damage – including loss of homes, livestock, and crops – was estimated to be over $4 billion dollars.

And your parting shot:
Graffiti artist Shae Petersen aka SRIL (pronounced “surreal”) has taken his once maligned art form to a stunning new level. Peterson recently completed his largest mural ever, a thrilling 100 ft. long piece that includes portraits of Neptune, Zeus, Hades, and the Eye of the Universe. The huge mural is now part of the Stone Unlimited building in Salt Lake City, Utah. SRIL received permission to paint the wall and did not use any stencils or tape -- and he only uses spray paint (no brushes!). Go here to see more of the mural and more gorgeous work from this gifted artist: http://www.srilart.com/

Please remember to like us on Facebook