



Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association

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About the COAA

COAA is a member-led, all-inclusive, non-profit, professional association supporting its members and promoting excellence in oceanic and atmospheric sciences and related activities. Members have many opportunities to share information, news, studies and concerns related to the fields of oceanic and atmospheric sciences through board work, submitting correspondence or articles to the COAA Newsletter, leading workshops and making presentations at the Annual Meetings, making contributions to the COAA website, and networking with people in a wide variety of careers (from well-known senior professionals to young environmental enthusiasts).

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COAA Colorado Chapter

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Message from the New President

Happy Year of the Dog - 2018!

It is an honor and privilege for me to serve as President of the Chinese-American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (COAA) this year. COAA is a community that connects and supports our members ranging from young students to world-renowned leading scientists working in the core areas of earth science. It has been the long-standing goal of COAA to maintain a forum that will facilitate professional exchanges, promote excellence in earth science, and help career advancement for our members in the Chinese-American science community. Since its inception in 1993, the COAA family has grown from a small group of Chinese-American scientists residing in the greater Washington DC area to the current large community of more than 600 members located in different geographical regions.

As President, my commitment is to keep fulfilling the goal of COAA and fostering its growth. In 2018, we will arrange our annual technical seminar/workshop in spring to exchange our research results and ideas, we will sponsor a Ping Pong tournament in spring and a picnic in the fall to allow friends, families, and colleagues to socialize, and we will organize a reception banquet at the American Geophysical Union Fall meeting at the year end to celebrate the achievements made by our members and commemorate progresses made in earth science by our society as a whole.

This year is particularly special as it marks the 25th anniversary of COAA. I would like to extend my thanks to our past presidents and board members whose leadership has made COAA a reputable organization, to our corporate and academic sponsors whose support has proven vital for enhancing functions and development of COAA, and, mostly, to our members in the past 25 years whose participation has made COAA a vibrant, fun, and rewarding scientific community. Let us keep working together to make COAA even better!

Mian Chin
President of COAA (2018)

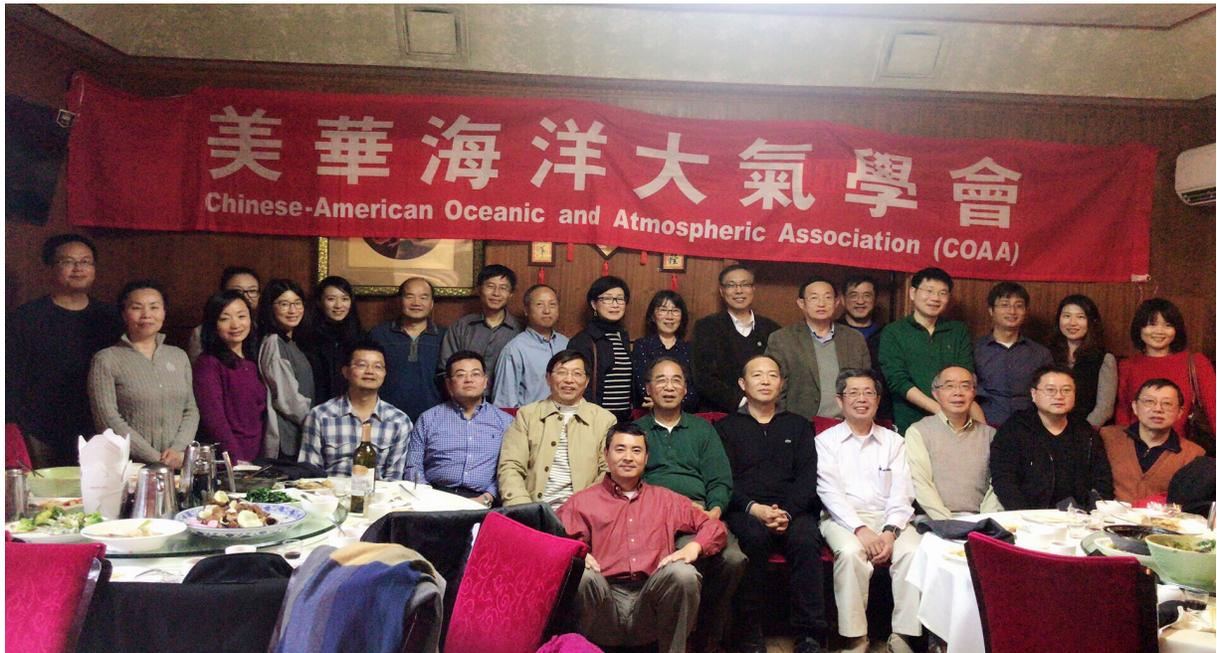
Call for nomination/volunteer of COAA Spotlight

“COAA Spotlight” is a column featuring highly successful Chinese scholars and their groups working in the atmospheric, oceanographic or land sciences. This column is designed to share successful senior scientists’ insights and experiences with the COAA members and friends (especially for early-career scientists or students). We now call for the nomination/volunteer for the COAA newsletter to be released in June 2018. You are more than welcome to inform us if you want to be interviewed, or nominate your candidate. Although scientists working aboard with international recognitions will be considered with higher priority, scientists from mainland China, Taiwan, Hongkong, and Macau are also highly encouraged to participate. Please send your recommendations to news@coaaweb.org.

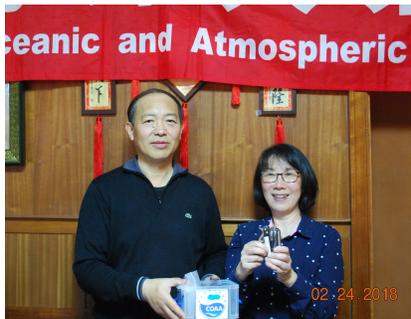
COAA 2018 New Year Luncheon

February 24th, 2018 Saturday – COAA hosted the annual Chinese New Year Luncheon at Hunan Manor Restaurant in Columbia, MD. This is a long-term tradition of COAA headquarter to celebrate the Chinese New Year and recognize of COAA’s achievements during the past year. A total of 30 COAA members, including former COAA presidents and board members, attended this event.

During the luncheon, COAA 2017 president, **Dr. Jianhe Qu** (GMU), summarized the major achievements COAA had made during 2017, and acknowledged the contributions from the boards and continuous supports from general members and COAA sponsors. He also formally presented COAA’s 2018 boards, which will be led by president **Dr. Mian Chin** from NASA GSFC and president-elect, **Dr. Cheng-Zhi Zou** from NOAA. **Dr. Chin** welcomed the new board members and presented the outstanding contribution awards to the retired COAA board members. **Dr. Jiangtao Xu** (NOAA) reported the revenue and spending of COAA’s budget in 2017. The luncheon attendees enjoyed joyful reunion as well as delicious gourmets.



COAA 2018 Chinese New Year Luncheon



Dr. Jianhe Qu (Left) and Dr. Mian Chin (Right)
(Right)



COAA Outstanding contribution awardees Dr. Hao He (Mid) and Dr. Wenzhe Yang

(Materials and Photos Provided by Chenxi Wang and Xiaohua Pan)

COAA-SCC 2018 New Year Luncheon

February 25th, 2018 Sunday – Chinese-American Oceanic Atmospheric Association Southern California Chapter (COAA SCC) held a Chinese New Year Luncheon in San Gabriel, CA. This year, we also celebrate the 10-year anniversary of COAA-SCC. About forty scholars and their families from various institutes in Southern California attended this joyful event.

The SCC chair, **Prof. Gang Chen** (UCLA) greeted all the participants with a warm opening remark. The Chinese Consul **Mr. Xianzhi Lu** briefly talked about the recent development of science and technology in China and wished everyone a happy new year. **Prof. Kuo-Nan Liou** (UCLA) gave an inspiring speech to encourage young scientists and students to achieve a better career in the Year of Dog. **Dr. Jonathan Jiang** (JPL) read two poems written by **Prof. Yuk Yung** (Caltech). Representatives from the Chinese-American Professors and Scholars Association, Environmental Protection Association, and Engineers and Scientists Association of Southern California also delivered their greetings at the party. This year, the artistic performance during the luncheon was featured by Peking Opera presented by a preliminary school student. More than



Gifts from Prof. Yuk

ten raffle prizes were drawn to our SCC members as the New Year gifts.



COAA-SCC 2018 Chinese New Year Luncheon

(Materials and Photos Provided by Yuan Wang)

COAA-CC 2018 New Year Luncheon

February 23rd, 2018 Friday – COAA-CC held its annual Chinese New Year Celebration. Members and friends gathered at a local Chinese restaurant to enjoy an authentic Chinese banquet. COAA-CC 2017 president, **Dr. Hanli Liu**, opened the meeting with a summary of last year's activities. Other board members took turns to summarize the organizations financial status and member survey results. COAA-CC's founding president, **Dr. William Kuo**, also spoke. He represented the entire COAA-CC to give a special recognition on **Dr. Ming Hu's** outstanding contribution to the organization. The board organized a couple of fun activities for this gathering. Several members won raffle prizes. Many members participated the COAA-CC fund-raising auction at the event. Special thanks to them and to the members who contributed items for this auction.



COAA-CC 2018 Chinese New Year Luncheon

(Materials and Photos Provided by Wei Wang)

Two special seminars at COAA Colorado Chapter

January 11, 2018 Thursday – COAA-CC welcomed **Dr. Xudong Liang** from the Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences (CAMS). **Dr. Liang** came to Boulder as part of his North America trip to recruit outstanding overseas, especially young, scientists. He encouraged potential collaborations between China and COAA-CC. The event was well attended with many young scientists.



Dr. Xudong Liang is introducing CAMS to young scientists and students

January 19, 2018 Friday – COAA-CC hosted a special seminar presented by **Dr. Siyuan Wang**, a NCAR Advanced Study Program (ASP) Postdoc Fellow, on modeling the oxidation chemistry of troposphere – findings from the Atmospheric Tomography Mission (ATOM). He presented the preliminary analysis of the sources, sinks and recycling mechanisms of HOx radicals in the southern hemisphere over the Pacific Ocean based on the airborne measurements from the mission and the measurement-constrained photochemical box model driven by state-of-the-art chemical mechanisms and a comprehensive global chemical transport model (CAM-Chem).

(Materials and Photos Provided by Wei Wang)

COAA Spotlight: Dr. Aiguo Dai



Dr. Aiguo Dai (戴爱国) is an Atmospheric Scientist, Climatologist, and Professor in the Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences at the University at Albany, SUNY. **Dr. Dai's** areas of research include climate variability and change, the global water cycle, hydroclimate, climate model diagnostics and evaluation, and the diurnal cycle. **Dr. Dai** received his PhD from Columbia University in 1996 and worked at Columbia University/NASA GISS as a Postdoctoral Research Scientist for one year. In 1997, he joined the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), first as a Postdoc supported by the prestigious NOAA Postdoctoral Fellowship in Climate and Global Change, and then becoming a staff scientist until 2012, when he joined the faculty at the University at Albany.

Dr. Dai has published over 130 peer reviewed articles in scientific journals and book chapters with more than 27,600 total citations and an H-index 62. He is one of world's 3000 highly cited researchers (top 1%) in all fields based on Thomson Reuters. He is also the most cited scholar at the University at Albany according to google scholar, and the most cited Chinese author in the IPCC AR4 based on a survey by the China Meteorological Administration. **Dr. Dai** also received the 5th Award (2012) for Surface Water Prize of the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (PSIPW). He was the Editor of *J. Climate* (2011-2017) and Associate Editors of many other leading journals, including *J. Hydrology* (2010-2012) and *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* (2009-2011). He is now an Associate Editor of *J. Climate*.

Dr. Dai was elected as the Fellow of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) in 2018 because of his outstanding contributions to the atmospheric sciences. It is our honor to have an interview with **Dr. Dai** to share his success and inspire us young scientists.

Q: How did you decide to study atmospheric science?

Dai: Actually, I did not choose atmospheric science as my undergraduate major. In fact, I did not know anything about it before entering college. I chose applied math as my undergraduate major. But I was admitted into the meteorology department in Nanjing University, probably because I did not do very well in my math exam. But that turned out to be a good thing, because atmospheric science is a still relatively young field compared with math and physics, which means that there are still many relatively easy problems to be worked on.

Q: Which accomplishments are you most proud of in your professional life, including your group achievements?

Dai: The work I am most proud of includes some highly cited studies on the diurnal cycle, the impact of global warming on drought, continental freshwater discharge, and precipitation response to global warming. I was lucky to stumble on a global data set of 3-hourly observations from weather stations in the late 1990s when I was a postdoc at NCAR, which allowed me to quantify and study the diurnal variations in surface air temperature, surface pressure, winds,

precipitation frequency, and humidity on a global scale. These empirical studies also allowed me to use the diurnal cycle as a test-bed to evaluate NCAR and other climate models, which led to publications of several highly cited papers on model diagnostics and evaluations. My early interactions with **Dr. Thomas R. Karl** (the former director of the National Climatic Data Center NCDC) at NCDC in the late 1990s (started with **Dr. Karl** being one of the reviewers for my short *Nature* article on diurnal temperature range as he signed his name on his review) led to a classic paper on the factors controlling the diurnal temperature range. **Dr. Karl** also provided me their Fortran codes for calculating the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI), from which I modified to study historical and future aridity change over global land, as **Dr. Karl** and others at NCDC had previously used PDSI only over the U.S. Consequently, I created a global PDSI dataset that has been widely used by a large number of researchers, including many from social sciences. **Dr. Kevin Trenberth** was also instrumental for my work on quantifying continental freshwater discharge into the oceans, as he asked me one day if we could produce an improved estimate of this important water flux in the global water cycle. Again, I was luck to stumble on another newly compiled global streamflow data set archived at NCAR; and after many weeks of manually examining the rivers on the best Atlas I could find in NCAR library, I was able to come up some novel approaches to synthesize the streamflow data with some land model simulations to provide the first comprehensive estimate of global continental freshwater discharge into the oceans. This has since become another important part of my highly cited work.

Q: Who influenced you the most in your professional life and why?

Dai: Prof. Inez Fung (now at UC, Berkeley) recruited me into the Graduate Program between Columbia University and NASA GISS, which changed the path of my life and career. **Prof. Wally Broecker** was very supportive during my PhD oral exam, which allowed me to continue my PhD study at Columbia University. Later, I was very fortunate to have had the opportunities to work with many outstanding scientists at NCAR, including **Dr. Kevin Trenberth, Dr. Tom Wigley, Dr. Warren Washington, Dr. Gerald Meehl, Dr. Clara Deser, and Dr. Roy Rasmussen**. But the person who had the largest influence on my career is **Dr. Kevin Trenberth**, who was quick to provide constructive comments on my work (which allowed me to move forward quickly with my projects) and always supportive of my career at NCAR (which is essential for a junior scientist working there). **Dr. Kevin Trenberth** was my postdoc host at NCAR, he helped me expand into other research areas beyond long-term precipitation changes (the topic of my PhD dissertation). **Kevin** is sharp and critical. To work with him, you need to have self-confidence because you will seldom hear complements or encouragements directly from him.

Q: How are you interacting with Chinese-speaking scientists in Asia?

Dai: Yes, I have been hosting a number of visitors from China, mostly supported by their own fellowships or grants. I also have published a number of papers with Chinese colleagues.

Q: What are your perspectives for future direction in our field?

Dai: I think high-resolution weather and climate simulations (needed for local and regional applications) and decadal climate predictions may represent two near-future directions. Improved long-term climate projections and the associated impacts on weather patterns will continue to be a major topic in climate science. The Arctic-midlatitude interactions will continue to be an important topic in the near future, as sea-ice loss will continue and create major impacts on midlatitude weather.

Q: What is your major advice to young scientists in our field?

Dai: First, you must like doing the research work and you are actually good at it. This will allow you to work long-hours without getting bored. Otherwise, you may consider change your career early on, which may not be a bad thing. Second, try to develop a fast learning ability and be prepared to expand into new research areas when opportunities arise. Don't be afraid to start a new research topic, but try to collaborate with experts in the area during the early stage. Third, share your research results and data sets with others, and help colleagues with their research questions as much as you can. This will increase your citations and influence. Finally, if there is something you can do to improve your study or manuscript, do it! Small things add up to form a good study.

Announcement of the COAA Spring Workshop 2018

COAA is pleased to announce the 2018 COAA Spring Workshop to be held at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD, on **May 5 (Saturday), 2018**. The COAA Spring Workshop provides a platform for COAA members with various research expertise and interests to communicate and exchange ideas and experiences. It is also a mean for senior scientists to help students and early-career scientists to advance their careers.

DATE: May 5th (Saturday), 2018

TIME: 09:30– 15:00

LOCATION: ESSIC Conference Room 4102, 5825 University Research Ct, Suite 4001, College Park, MD 20740

Agenda:

09:30 – 09:45 On-site Registration

09:45 – 10:00 “Welcome and workshop goals”, Mian Chin (NASA GSFC)

Invited Talks:

10:00 am – 10:45 am

“Satellite remote sensing of atmospheric composition and fires: Making the invisible visible and beyond”, **Prof. Jun Wang** (University of Iowa)

10:45 am – 11:00 am

Coffee break

11:00 am – 11:45 am

“Operational Ocean Reanalyses at NCEP: Global Ocean Monitoring, Uncertainty Quantification and Upgrade Plan”, **Dr. Yan Xue** (Climate Prediction Center/NOAA)

12:00 am – 01:00 pm

Lunch break

01:00 pm – 02:00 pm

Panel discussion on proposal processes

Panel members: Drs. **Hongbin Yu** (NASA GSFC), **Qing Liang** (NASA GSFC), **Zhibo Zhang** (UMBC), and **Chungu Lu** (NSF)

Panel member presentations include information on

- key elements of writing a successful proposal,
- insights on panel review processes, and
- proposal selection criteria.

02:00 pm – 03:00 pm

Discussions and questions/answers

Registration:

If you plan to attend this event, please register in the following form by April 30, 2018.

[Registration form](#)

If you have not joined COAA or have not renewed your membership for 2018, you can do it either now (<http://www.coaweb.org/membersonly.php>) or on-site during the workshop.

Please join the March for Science 2018

On Saturday, 14 April, the second March for Science is occurring in cities and towns around the globe. In addition to local marches happening around the globe, there is a large-scale event planned in Washington, DC again this year. The DC event begins with a rally on the National Mall at noon with other festivities to follow.

As a non-profit organization comprised of more than 600 Chinese-American scholars working in the United States on Earth sciences, COAA is joining this event to further strengthen voices of the Earth science community. We would like to invite you to a small kick-off gathering at **701 Pennsylvania AVE NW, Washington, DC 20004**.

COAA members will first meet at 10 am, then join in the March together at 11 am. The March will take about 2 to 3 hours. The COAA team will discharge right after March. However, there are other activities (such as concert) you can participate by your own if you prefer.

If you plan to attend this event, please register in the following form **by April 10, 2018**.

[Registration form](#)

Thanks and hope to see many of you there.

COAA Board

Job Announcement

Associate Senior Lecturer at University of Gothenburg

We are recruiting an Associate Senior Lecturer in climatology, focusing on one or more of the following fields: regional climate change, atmospheric circulation, biosphere-atmosphere interactions, and surface processes in Asia and high-latitude regions.

The appointment as Associate Senior Lecturer (Swedish “biträdande universitetslektor”) represents the initial step of a tenure track system with the clear intention that the chosen candidate develops their strengths and independence as a researcher.

The duties of the position include developing your research area at the department by carrying out independent research at a high international level. Your research should complement and strengthen the existing research areas within climatology at the department. You are expected to actively apply for external financing to create, build up and support a research group. You are also expected to develop your research work cooperatively within the department and externally at the national and international level.

The work duties also include a small amount of teaching in courses such as meteorology, climate modelling and other related earth-system-science courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels. This includes the planning and carrying out of such courses. In addition to classroom teaching, courses can involve field and lab work as well as cooperation with stakeholders in society. Additionally, you can be asked to supervise thesis work at the bachelors and masters level as well as to supervise doctoral students. It is essential that you create a good atmosphere in the classroom and that you take responsibility for assigned duties. You are expected to carry out the necessary administrative work for courses on the university web pages.

You are also expected to collaborate within the academia as well as with the surrounding society. Candidates without university-level teacher training should participate in pedagogy courses for higher education within two years of hiring. The successful candidate is expected to teach in Swedish within two years. The university offers courses to learn Swedish as a second language.

Further information about the position as well as detailed instructions how to apply can be found at: https://www.gu.se/english/about_the_university/job-opportunities/vacancies-details?id=1204

Regarding the position, please contact: Mark Johnson, Head of Department +46 (0) 31 786 2808 mark@gvc.gu.se

Invitation to renew your COAA membership

Dear COAA members,

As you may already know from many COAA activities, COAA is a non-profit organization comprised of more than 600 Chinese-American scholars working in the United States on Earth sciences. COAA dedicates its activities to promote science through communications and mentoring young scholars. As part of your COAA membership, you will receive the following benefits:

- Networking with your peers and other professionals
- Receiving regular COAA newsletters and notifications of COAA events
- Participating COAA organized seminars, conferences, and social events
- Travel grant opportunities for COAA Conferences
- Enjoying special member price for attending COAA conferences, COAA reception banquets, and other activities

Your participation and dues make these and other valuable COAA services possible. To improve the COAA experience for its members, we invite you to renew membership for 2018 as:

- Regular: \$10/year
- Student: \$5/year
- Life: \$200
- Corporate: \$500/year

You can renew your membership online through the link below:

<http://www.coaaweb.org/membersonly.php> (although you may not get an automated confirmation email, your payment will go through. If you want to make sure you may contact the treasurer or membership coordination to confirm the payment. Their contact information can be found at: <http://www.coaaweb.org/team.php>). You may also pay your membership dues during any COAA activities throughout the year.

If you do not plan to renew, please send us a quick email and we'll take you off the list. In either case, we would appreciate any feedback you are willing to share regarding your decisions on renewing COAA membership.

Thank you for your support for COAA and we are looking forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

Best regards,
COAA Board 2018

A new way to donate to COAA at no cost: AmazonSmile

Dear COAA members,

COAA is a non-profit organization striving to serve the Chinese-American oceanic and atmospheric professional community, and COAA heavily relies on donations and supports from its members, friends and sponsors.

Now if you are an Amazon Shopper, there is a new way to show your support to COAA at no cost to yourself:

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. Select your charity by searching “Chinese American Oceanic and Atmospheric Association”
3. Shop at Amazon starting at smile.amazon.com
4. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to COAA

Please spread the words to our dear COAA colleagues and friends. Together we will grow COAA with better and better service to our own community!

Thank you!

COAA Board