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2-17-2020

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Recommended Citation

Ohio University College of Arts & Sciences, "OHIO Named American Meteorological Society Outstanding Student Chapter" (2020). *All Forum Articles*. 7442.

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OHIO Named American Meteorological Society Outstanding Student Chapter

February 17, 2020

Categories: News

Tags: Geography news, meteorology club, OUCAMS, Pete Hein, Ryan Fogt



Ohio University Chapter of American Meteorological Society students with AMS President Jenni Evans at the 100th AMS Annual Meeting.

From [Ohio University News](#)

The Ohio University Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (OUCAMS) was recently awarded the "Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year" for the 2018-19 academic year by the American Meteorological Society.

"It's a really big honor," said chapter adviser [Dr. Ryan Fogt](#), Associate Professor of [Geography](#) and Director of the [Scalia Lab weather station](#). "We apply each year and there have been several years we get placed on the honor roll, a step below this award. The students do a lot of work and it's awesome to see them recognized on a national level."

OUCAMS was recognized during the national 100th AMS Annual Meeting in Boston in January. Several students attended the meeting in person, where they were recognized during the Student Chapter Award Breakfast.

"What this award means to me is that our chapter is willing to go out and help the Athens community," said **Pete Hein**, the student chapter president. "All of the activities we do are strictly volunteer based. This is what makes this so meaningful to me."

According to AMS, [the award](#) is rewarded for "for outstanding commitment to providing educational, mentoring, and networking opportunities to members, and for exemplary community service."

One way OUCAMS showcases exemplary educational service is by working to renew the [National Weather Services' StormReady status](#) for OHIO's Athens campus. Students work with a variety of University officials to have emergency weather plans in place and help officials be prepared, from training on weather radios to learning how to secure buildings.

The National Weather Service checks the plans each year to recertify the campus. The chapter will hold a ceremony in early March to celebrate the recertification.

The chapter has also participated in Adopt-A-Highway for five years now. The students clean a stretch of highway four to five times each year.

"To the chapter, I believe every current and past member is really proud of the work they have put into this award. Many of us were shocked when we first found out we were winning such a high honor in the American Meteorological Society," Hein said.

This is the second time OUCAMS has been recognized with this national award. The group previously won the Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year award for the 2014-15 academic year.

“We’ve only been a chapter for 10 years and now we’ve won it twice,” Fogt said. “It’s exciting to see our small campus compete at the national level and succeed.”

The chapter is open to all majors and weather enthusiasts, with weekly meetings on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in Ellis Hall room 114.