

EPA Urban Heat Islands Webcast

November 12, 2008

Slide 13: Information on Upcoming AMS Meeting

Neelam Patel: Okay, in that case, I would like to introduce our next speaker, Dr. Tony Brazel. Tony Brazel is currently an associate director of the School of Geographical Sciences and professor at Arizona State University. He is a team member on the Climate Science Team of the Decision Center for Desert City, a National Science Foundation project at Arizona State University. He is a co-planner on the Central Arizona-Phoenix Long-Term Ecological Research NSF project on urban ecology, the Center for Climate, Ecosystem Program areas. He is a former member of the Board on Urban Environments of the American Meteorological Society, and the Scholarship Committee of the International Association on Urban Climate. This afternoon, Dr. Brazel will be discussing the upcoming AMS meeting, so I'd like to turn it over to him.

Tony Brazel: Good afternoon everybody, I'm coming to you from sunny Phoenix, Arizona here. Just about two months from now, almost exactly, there'll be a National American Meteorological Society Meeting. And within that meeting is the Urban Symposium, which you'll see in the Powerpoint that I have here, it's mostly about that. One important thing on the first slide is my email, if there are any questions about this. The second thing on the first slide is the website of the AMS, in which you'll just go crazy exploring everything you want to know about the AMS and certainly about the upcoming conference.

Slide 14: The 89th Annual AMS Meeting will be held 11-15 January 2009 at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona

Tony Brazel: On the second slide it just lists typically what you find in a very large annual meeting. But I will point out to you that the title of this particular meeting is "Urban Weather and Climate: Now and the Future." So this particular annual meeting has an overall theme of urban weather and climate.

Slide 15: The Reason the Meeting is not in July

Tony Brazel: The third slide just shows the temperatures here in July, which is one reason we're meeting in January. But I would just point out too that here in Phoenix, we're working on making a pedestrian-friendly downtown and place to live, even in the summer. And actually some of the meeting is going to address papers on that issue.

Slide 16: Presidential Forum

Tony Brazel: The next slide just says that there is a Presidential Forum—it's on the first major day of the conference, which is Monday. The title is "The Quadruple Convergence of Urbanization, Population, Growth, Climate Change, and Coastalization – a Perfect Storm?" And here on this slide you can see the distinguished participants, the panel. There is also to be an

electronic forum hotline—I show the site for that—and that will be set up to submit questions, much like we’re doing in this webcast, in advance for the panel.

Slide 17: American Meteorological Society Board on the Urban Environment

Tony Brazel: The next slide simply shows the fact that there is a Board on the Urban Environment – this is a website link to the program, which will give you the details at this point of all the speakers, and the abstracts, and the sessions and when they are given, and so forth. So that’s what that particular slide is, and you can take a look at that website if you desire.

Slide 18: Eighth Symposium on the Urban Environment

Tony Brazel: The next slide is entitled “Eighth Symposium on the Urban Environment”—they had the seven previous symposiums in various locations. This is just a list of the program chairpersons—I was fortunate to part of that group to put together the program, and again if there’s any questions you might have, you can go back to that first slide using my email address.

Slide 19: T.R. Oke Symposium

Tony Brazel: The next slide indicates that there is a series of special symposiums, but one that particularly tugs the heart of the people in the urban community is called the T.R. Oke Symposium. I’m sure most of you have heard of Tim Oke, who is a research scientist in this area of urban climatology. There will be a symposium of that, and again you can get on the website and see the details of who is presenting and so forth. There is a special speaker, Gerald Mills, talking about Luke Howard (one of the first people to write about urban heat islands way back in 1833), Tim Oke, and the study of urban climates. And Gerald Mills has created a special volume now available on the website shown in this slide on Luke Howard and the climate of London.

Slide 20: The Timothy Oke Symposium, 12 January 2009

Tony Brazel: The next slide again is just a statement about honoring Dr. Oke and his contributions to urban meteorology and climatology. The symposium is on the 12th of January, all day.

Slide 21: Many Sessions

Tony Brazel: The next slide shows that there are, in the Urban Symposium itself, many sessions. I’ve listed them all here; I won’t bore you with going through each and every one. Again, you can find out who is presenting, and what the papers are, and who the authors are that you may want to contact, or eventually learn about.

Slide 22: Three Examples

Tony Brazel: And I’ve drawn out, by example, three particular sessions which treat public health, biometeorology, human comforts, sustainable urban design, and mitigation studies on the urban heat island. And I’ve put some details in the next couple of slides on these three sessions,

which I won't have time to go through, but you can take a look at that and find it on the AMS website.

Slide 23: Urban Heat Islands – Mitigation Studies

Tony Brazel: Here is just a list on the next slide of the mitigation papers, and there are a couple from Phoenix, again worrying how hot it is down here and what to do about it.

Slide 24: Urban Heat Islands – Mitigation Studies (continued)

Tony Brazel: And the next slide is just a spillover from that session's papers.

Slide 25: Sustainable Urban Design

Tony Brazel: The next couple of slides indicate the other two – sustainable urban design – and we have a featured speaker, Emily Talen, who is a certified planner. She happens to be in our university, and has much experience in reduction of urban sprawl and many issues that relate to urban climate.

Slide 26: Biometeorology and Public Health in Urban Areas

Tony Brazel: The last slide on biometeorology and public health—there's a number of distinguished people from around the world talking on various aspects of thermal comfort, mortality, and so on that relates to public health and human comfort in urban areas. There's also a series of poster sessions—again you discover all of these on the website—which highlight other really good papers at the conference. So that is kind of it in a nutshell. Again, if you have any further questions don't hesitate to email me, or just discover on your own using the AMS website, all about the upcoming meeting. I hope that any of you would like to come and are coming, it should be very good weather at least in January. Thank you.

Neelam Patel: Thank you. So I'll ask Lauren—did we get any questions on Dr. Brazel's presentation?

Lauren Pederson: No, not really about the presentation. One about downloading the Powerpoints—and once again, in the upper right-hand corner of your screen there is a button you can click that says "Handouts," and it will bring out PDFs of all of the presentations that are given today, so you can use that to download the presentations.

Neelam Patel: Thank you. So I would like to ask the audience if you have any questions on the meeting coming up? Okay—just a note on the meeting—Jason Ching, who is presenting shortly on modeling programs and tools will also be presenting at the AMS meeting in January.