INTERNATIONAL EWOC'S

Educators of Weather, Oceans and Climate

Faye McCollum* Project Atmosphere, AMS/AERA Columbus, Georgia

1. INTRODUCTION

Meteorological and Oceanographic societies from around the world join forces for the Seventh International Conference on School and Popular Meteorological and Oceanographic Education. The next global conference of the EWOC's (Educators of Weather, Oceans and Climate) will be held in Boulder, Colorado, USA on July 3-7, 2006.

EWOC programs focus on education and outreach initiatives, hands-on activities, and the role of technology as a teaching and learning tool. A major purpose of EWOC participants is to encourage greater participation of educators, meteorologists, oceanographers, other scientists and media personnel in their efforts to explore and discover the global impact of climate, weather, and the oceans.

2. GOALS AND FOCUS

The VII International Conference will promote global participation in the following areas:

- Mathematics and Science education through meteorological and oceanographic activities
- The role of mass media in atmospheric understanding and reporting
- Exchange of weather phenomena similarities and differences
- Sharing weather terminology, hazards, and reporting procedures

- Ideas for public, private and school interaction
- Maintaining cultural and educational connections via email and the World Wide Web
- The teaching and importance of the metric system
- Meteorology and Oceanography on the internet
- Hands on workshops and activities
- Weather and health
- Quality educational opportunities for K-12 teachers

3. SUMMARY

Attendance at the past six International EWOC Conferences has promoted diversity, acquisition of knowledge, and the importance of atmospheric interaction in our global society. Utilization of the World Wide Web has resulted in continuous communication and collaboration between EWOC participants. The sharing of web sites from the global community has promoted not only growth in meteorology and oceanography, but also the exchange of data, ideas and cultural experiences. The next International Conference on School and Popular Meteorology and Oceanography is scheduled for July of 2006. Dr. Susan Avery, past president of the American Meteorology Society, will play a major role in assuring EWOC's that the United States will continue to be a leader in this global initiative.

^{*}*Corresponding author's address*: Faye McCollum, AMS/AERA, 6049 Charing Dr., Columbus, GA 31909; email: fmcol@knology.net