



## 2010 WAS\*IS Caribbean Workshop Agenda

June 6 -11, 2010  
San Juan, Puerto Rico

**Sunday, June 6, 2010**

***Caribe Hilton, Salon Condado***

Workshop attendees arrive during the day.

### SUGGESTED READINGS:

Demuth, J.L., E.C. Gruntfest, R.E. Morss, S.D. Drobot, and J.K. Lazo, 2007: Weather and Society \* Integrated Studies: Building a community for integrating meteorology and social science. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. 88(11):1729–1737.

<http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/BAMS-88-11-1729>

Hayes, J., 2009: Social sciences improve NWS's ability to protect lives. *Weather and Society Watch*. 3(2):1,11. [http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_January\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_January_2009.pdf)

Lazo, J.K., R.E. Morss, and J.L. Demuth, 2009: 300 billion served. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. 90(6):785–798. <http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/2008BAMS2604.1>

- 5:30 p.m. Reception at Caribe Hilton, Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, Main Building
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner at Caribe Hilton, Salon Condado
- 7:00 p.m. Welcome to the **WAS\*IS** Family - Welcome to the workshop, introduction of Organizing/Advisory Committee Members
- 7:15 p.m. Participants' 1-minute introductions
- 7:45 p.m. What is **WAS\*IS** and Why **WAS\*IS** Caribbean now?—Tom Behler, Jeff Lazo, and Emily Laidlaw
- 8:15 p.m. WAS\*IS Veterans Panel
- 8:45 p.m. Adjourn

Monday, June 7, 2010

Caribe Hilton, Tropical Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Main Building

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🔗 Daily Theme: Laying the Foundation for WAS\*IS Success 🔗

**SUGGESTED READING:**

Barnes, L.R., E.C. Grunfest, M.H. Hayden, D.M. Schultz, and C. Benight, 2007: False alarms and close calls: A conceptual model of warning accuracy. *Weather and Forecasting*. 22(5):1140–1147.  
<http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/WAF1031.1>

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m. Get ready for the day
- 8:30 a.m. Welcome, overview of the week, and discuss logistics
- 8:45 a.m. Getting to know your fellow **WAS\*ISers**: 4-minute intros to say (a) what you do, and (b) what you want from **WAS\*IS**  
Moderator: Tom Behler  
12 Participants:
- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Hayden Billingsy   | Adanna Robertson    |
| Donovan Campbell   | Jennifer Santos     |
| Myriam de la Parra | Evan Thompson       |
| Shonel Dwyer       | John Toohey-Morales |
| Hugo Hidalgo       | Jorge Trabal        |
| Antonio Joyette    | Hubert Whyte        |
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. Getting to know your fellow **WAS\*ISers**: 4-minute intros to say (a) what you do, and (b) what you want from **WAS\*IS**  
Moderator: Emily Laidlaw  
11 Participants:
- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Pablo Alvarez      | Josiah Hudlin      |
| Farzaana Baksh     | Miguel Lopez       |
| George Braithwaite | Ahira Sanchez-Lugo |
| Ian Colon-Pagan    | Susan Soltero      |
| Estatio Gutierrez  | John Tibbetts      |
|                    | Adrian Trotman     |
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch (Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, main building)

- 12:45 p.m.**      **The importance of using common terminology and clear messages when communicating about weather; how to effectively communicate risk and uncertainty**  
**Moderator: Tom Behler**
- Susan Soltero
  - John Toohey-Morales
  - Evan Thompson
- 1:45 p.m.**      **Communicating Risk: A Sociological View – Betty Morrow, Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Florida International University**
- 2:30 p.m.**      **Break**
- 3:00 p.m.**      **Group discussion on common terminology /clear messages/communicating risk & uncertainty**
- 3:30 p.m.**      **KEYNOTE SPEAKER—Eric Holthaus, Research Staff Associate, International Research Institute for Climate and Society, “Caribbean Hurricane Preparedness – Red Cross and Others”**  
**Moderator: Jeff Lazo**
- 4:30 p.m.**      **Question and discussion KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Moderator: Tom Behler**
- 5:00 p.m.**      **Logistics, plans for the week, first impressions**
- 5:30 p.m.**      **Adjourn**

**NO organized group dinner- but informal dinner can be arranged!**

**Tuesday, June 8, 2010**

**Caribe Hilton, Tropical Room**

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**☞ Daily Theme: Breaking Ground on Integrating Meteorology and Social Sciences ☞**

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**

Barjenbruch, K., 2008: Societal impacts analysis featured in Super Tuesday tornado outbreak service assessment. *Weather and Society Watch*. 2(3):2,7,9.

[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_April\\_2008.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_April_2008.pdf)

Lazo, J.K., 2009: From the Director: What Are Social Sciences? *Weather and Society Watch*. 4(1):4-5,12.

[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_October\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_October_2009.pdf)

Behler, T., 2009: Theoretical perspectives in modern sociology as useful tools for meteorological, hydrological, and societal impacts work. *Weather and Society Watch*. 3(2):4,5,15.

[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_January\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_January_2009.pdf)

Eosco, G., 2009: Perspectives on communication: A self-ethnography for why communication research is vital to the weather community. *Weather and Society Watch*. 3(4):4-5,12-13.

[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_July\\_2009.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_July_2009.pdf)

- 8:00 a.m.      Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m.      Get ready for the day
- 8:30 a.m.      Social science and societal impacts – Jeff Lazo
- 9:30 a.m.      Overviews of basic social sciences part I  
Moderator: Tom Behler  
Sociology – Jenniffer Santos  
Anthropology / History – Myriam de la Parra  
Geography - Donovan Campbell
- 10:15 a.m.      Break
- 10:45 a.m.      Overview of basic social sciences part II  
Moderator: Emily Laidlaw  
Economics - Jeff Lazo  
Communications – Susan Soltero
- 11:30 a.m.      Group discussion – How does all of this apply to the unique concerns for the Caribbean region
- 12:00 noon      Lunch (Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, main building)

- 12:45 p.m.      **Group picture**
- 1:00 p.m.      **The role of served agencies and other organizations Part I.**  
**Moderator: [Emily Laidlaw](#)**
- **Perspectives from Weather Forecast Offices (60 min)**  
Shawn Rossi  
George Braithwaite  
Antonio Joyette  
John Tibbetts
- 2 p.m.      **The role of served agencies and other organizations Part II.**  
**Moderator: [Tom Behler](#)**
- **Perspectives from emergency management (20 min)**  
Adanna Robertson
  - **Perspectives from the Park Service (20 min)**  
Hayden Billingsy
  - **Perspectives from the Water Resource Authority (20 min)**  
Shonel Dwyer
- 3:00 p.m.      **Break**
- 3:20 p.m.      **The role of served agencies and other organizations Part III.**  
**Moderator: [Fernando Gilbes](#)**
- **Perspectives from the media (20 min)**  
Evan Thompson
  - **Perspectives from the private sector (20 min)**  
Pablo Alvarez
- 4:00 p.m.      **Brainstorming assignment (possibly in teams) - How does all this relate to the social sciences.**
- 4:45 p.m.      **Report back and discuss brainstorming activity**
- 5:00 p.m.      **Evening logistics and Adjourn**
- 6:00 p.m.      **Be at designated meeting area to board transportation to restaurant**
- 6:30 p.m.      **Group dinner at Ajili –mojili, Avenue Ashford 1006, Condado**

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010**

**Caribe Hilton, Tropical Room**

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**☞ Daily theme: The Howtos and Wherefores of Social Science Research ☞**

**SUGGESTED READINGS:**

Lazo, J.K., 2010: From the Director: Do improved forecasts save lives? *Weather and Society Watch*. 4(2):4-5.  
[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_January\\_2010.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_January_2010.pdf)

Gruntfest, E.C., and C. League, 2007: Incorporating impacts into your research, the right way! *Weather and Society Watch*. 2(1):1,7.  
[http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_October\\_2007.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_October_2007.pdf)

Pennesi, K., 2007: Improving forecast communication: Linguistic and cultural considerations. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. 88(7):1033–1044.  
<http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/BAMS-88-7-1033>

- 8:00 a.m.      Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m.      Get ready for the day
- 8:30 a.m.      The importance of problem definition  
Moderator: Tom Behler  
Brief interactive exercise with Nate Johnson
- 9:00 a.m.      Introduction to social research – brief summary overviews of major quantitative and qualitative methods  
Moderator: Emily Laidlaw  
Betty Morrow  
Jenniffer Santos
- 10:00 a.m.      Break
- 10:30 a.m.      Overview of major research activities at the CASA Student Test Bed—Jorge Trabal
- 11:00 a.m.      Group Discussion – topics raised by the group – from the last 3 days
- 11:30 a.m.      Lunch (Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, main building)
- 12:30 p.m.      Roles of culture in people’s access, interpretation, and use of weather – Caribbean examples  
Moderator: Rafael Mojica  
Ian Colon-Pagan  
Ahira Sanchez-Lugo

- 1:30 p.m.      **Vulnerability and resilience to weather and climate impacts – in the Caribbean**  
**Moderator: [Fernando Gilbes](#)**  
**Adrian Trotman**  
**Farzaana Baksh**
- 2:30 p.m.      **Break**
- 3:00 p.m.      **How Weather Information is Used and Misused – Caribbean examples**  
**Moderator: [Jeff Lazo](#)**  
**Hubert Whyte**  
**John Toohey-Morales**
- 4:00 p.m.      **Uses and applications of GIS technology in the Caribbean region – weather awareness  
and impact prevention**  
**Moderator: [Emily Laidlaw](#)**  
**Miguel Lopez**  
**Greg Dobson**
- 4:30 p.m.      **An introduction to the Virtual Meteorology Center**  
**Estatio Gutierrez**
- 5:00 p.m.      **Group discussion**
- 5:30 p.m.      **Adjourn**

**NO organized group dinner- but informal dinner can be arranged!**

☞ Daily theme: Real-Life Examples of the Intersection of Weather and Society ☞

Morss, R.E., O.V. Wilhelmi, M.W. Downton, and E.C. Grunfest, 2005: Flood risk, uncertainty, and scientific information for decision making: Lessons from an interdisciplinary project. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*. 86(11):1593–1601.

<http://journals.ametsoc.org/doi/pdf/10.1175/BAMS-86-11-1593>

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m. Get ready for the day
- 8:30 a.m. Hurricanes, tropical storms, storm surges  
Moderator: Fernando Gilbes  
Ian Colon-Pagan  
Myriam de la Parra
- 9:30 a.m. General hydrology and flooding  
Moderator: Rafael Mojica  
Hugo Hidalgo, Costa Rica  
Adrian Trotman
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. General hydrology and flooding continued  
Moderator: Rafael Mojica  
Guest Speaker: Althea Austin Smith, Service Hydrologist, San Juan
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch (Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, main building)
- 1:00 p.m. Tsunamis and tsunami awareness  
Moderator: Fernando Gilbes  
Rafael Mojica  
Guest Speaker: Christa Von Hillebrandt, Caribbean Tsunami Center, Manager
- 2:30 p.m. Break



- 3:00 p.m.**      **Special concerns of disadvantaged Caribbean population groups: social and public policy**  
**Moderator: Tom Behler**  
**Josiah Hudlin**  
**Pablo Alvarez**
- 3:45 p.m.**      **Group brainstorming and discussion**
- 4:30 p.m.**      **Report back and discuss brainstorming activity**
- 5:00 p.m.**      **Evening logistics and Adjourn**
- 6:00 p.m.**      **Be at designated meeting area to board transportation to restaurant**
- 6:30 p.m.**      **Final group celebratory dinner at The Barrachina, Fortaleza St. 104, Old San Juan**

**Friday, June 11, 2010**

**Caribe Hilton, Tropical Room**

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**☞ Morning theme: Building a Sustainable Future for WAS\*IS and You ☞**

**SUGGESTED READING:**

Schumacher, 2008: After WAS\*IS ecstasy, the laundry: One atmospheric scientist's experience. *Weather and Society Watch*. 2(2):7. [http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW\\_January\\_2008.pdf](http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/pdf/WSW_January_2008.pdf)

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m. Get ready for the day
- 8:30 a.m. **WAS\*IS Tomorrow: Some Future WAS\*IS Directions** Tom Behler
- 9:00 a.m. Reflecting on the week and moving forward: Tom Behler, Jeff Lazo, and Emily Laidlaw
- Group discussion: How we as **WAS\*ISers** can continue to change the culture
  - Strategies for building a stronger community
  - Strengthening and developing **WAS\*IS** resources to serve YOU
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. After the **WAS\*IS** ecstasy, the laundry and logistics
- 11:00 a.m. Final group discussion  
Adios! And images of **WAS\*IS** Caribbean 2010
- Noon Adjourn **WAS\*IS** and Lunch for anyone who can stay (Salon Condado, 9<sup>th</sup> floor, main building)

### 🔗RELEVANT WEBSITES 🔗

Here are some websites that will be relevant to our workshop discussions and to your future **WAS\*IS** work.

WAS\*IS resources webpage – <http://www.sip.ucar.edu/wasis/background.jsp>

SIP's *Weather and Society Watch* newsletters (current and past issues) –  
<http://www.sip.ucar.edu/news/index.jsp>

SIP's publications page – <http://www.sip.ucar.edu/publications.jsp>

Eve Gruntfest's publications page – <http://www.evegrunfest.com/ECGpubs.htm>