

Spring 2026 FPAW Meeting

April 21-23, 2026

Oklahoma State University (OSU), Stillwater, OK

(405) 744-5000

Meeting Theme: A Mélange of Aviation Meteorology for both Grizzled and Younger Constituents

Meeting Location: Room 410, Morgan Business Accelerator, 1201 S. Innovation Way, Stillwater, OK

Lunch: Food trucks, Student Union or On Your Own in Stillwater

Suggested Dress Code: Business casual (ties, except for bolos, are discouraged ☺)

Meeting Agenda

Note #1: Session Days and Topics are set; Presenters, Orders of Presentation, Times and In-Person or Remote [r] Participation are subject to change

Key:

Breaks or Lunch	Special Event
Social Event	Tours

FPAW Steering Committee (SC) Member

Student

[r] Remote

Day 2, Wednesday, April 22, 2026		
Start	Stop	Activity
0800C	0900C	FPAW Pre-Meeting Tour – OSU Flight Center
0800C	0900C	<p>Tour Coordinator: Sammy Rodriguez – OSU</p> <p>Join us for a tour of the OSU Flight Center, home of the Flying Aggies! Located just south of Stillwater Regional Airport, the versatile facility includes state-of-the-art simulator technology, debriefing rooms where student pilots receive feedback, a student lounge and locker room, an academic suite, flight simulation rooms, dispatch space and workstations for flight instructors.</p> <p>Participants will be responsible for their own transportation to/from the Flight Center, where there is open parking.</p> <p>Sign-up sheets will be available in the meeting room. Space is limited, so sign up early!</p>
0900C	0905C	<p>Day 2 FPAW Welcome Matt Fronzak – MITRE and Nathan Polderman – United Airlines, FPAW Co-Chairs)</p>
0905C	1005C	Session 3: Survey of the Weather Radar Landscape
0905C	0910C	<p>Session Lead Introduction and Opening Remarks Anthony Reinhart – NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory (NSSL)</p>
0910C	0915C	<p>Panelist Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Reeves – University of Oklahoma (OU)/Cooperative Institute for Severe and High Impact Weather Research and Operations (CIWRO) • Randy Silver – NOAA NWS Radar Next • Race Clark – NOAA NSSL • Apoorva Bajaj – Climavision
0915C	0950C	<p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Weather Radar and Aviation: Where we are now and the Wild Blue Yonder of Tomorrow” (Heather Reeves) • “Radar Next Program” (Randy Silver)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “An Overview of the Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor (MRMS) System” (Race Clark) • “Falling Behind the Curve: FAA and the Low Altitude Weather Radar Coverage Problem” (Apoorva Bajaj) • “Phased Array Radar: How Technologies are improving our Future Observations” (Anthony Reinhart)
0950C	1010C	Panel/Audience Conversation The Weather Radar Landscape session lead and panelists will engage the FPAW community. They will answer aviation-related weather radar questions, and solicit feedback on efforts underway to improve the state of weather radar in the U.S.
1010C	1015C	Closing Remarks Anthony Reinhart
1015C	1025C	Break
1025C	1215C	Session 4a: New Weather – Who This??? Know-How for Student Aviators Tackling Novel Weather Experiences
1025C	1030C	Session Co-Lead Introductions and Opening Remarks Christian Amaral – Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) and Tyler Bell – OU Schools of Meteorology and Aviation
1030C	1035C	Panelist Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim Elmore – OU/CIWRO • Sammy Rodriguez – OSU • Ken Carson – OU
1035C	1135C	Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The Best In-Flight VFR Enroute Meteorological Data Update Possible? Your Window, But Only if You Learn to Use It” (Kim Elmore) • “Oklahoma Aviation Weather: A Student’s Perspective” (Sammy Rodriguez) • “Veteran Commercial Pilot Hazardous Risk Mitigation Viewpoints over 40+ years” (Ken Carson)
1135C	1215C	Panel/Audience Conversation The Session Leads, the Panelist/Presenters, the OSU/OU students in the room and all the students online, based on their own experiences and what they’ve learned so far, will engage in a conversation centered on learning how to safely and effectively aviate in weather conditions that are atypical and infrequently experienced in the training environment. The following topics will be explored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weathering the Flight: Pilot and Student Perspectives • What other opportunities exist to expose new pilots to these experiences?
1215C	1315C	Lunch (BABS Food Truck or On Your Own in Stillwater)
1315C	1600C	Session 4b: New Weather – Who This??? Know-How for Student Aviators Tackling Novel Weather Experiences
1315C	1320C	Session Co-Lead Remarks Christian Amaral and Tyler Bell
1320C	1325C	Panelist Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Splitt – Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) • Wayne Sand – Big Sky Weather Consulting • Dan Halperin – Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)
1325C	1445C	Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Density Altitude and Mountain Flying” (Mike Splitt) • “Icing Hazards due to Supercooled Large Droplets (SLD)” (Wayne Sand) • “Teaching Winter Weather from the Sunshine State: Is Building Awareness and Simulating Experience enough?” (Dan Halperin)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “How GA Weather Hazards stack up in Airline Ops, and tackling Imposter Syndrome for Aspiring Aviators (Christian Amaral)
1445C	1500C	Break
1500C	1555C	<p>Panel/Audience Conversation</p> <p>The Session Leads, all available Panelist/Presenters, the OSU/OU students in the room and all the students online, based on their own experiences and what they’ve learned so far, will engage in a conversation centered on learning how to safely and effectively aviate in weather conditions that are atypical and infrequently experienced in the training environment. The following questions will be explored:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is patience and learning by doing enough? • What other opportunities exist to expose new pilots to these experiences? • What is the current state of the art for low cost simulation, hurdles to adoption, and what are the needs?
1555C	1600C	<p>Closing Remarks Christian Amaral and Tyler Bell</p>
1630C	1800C	FPAW Student Mixer
1630C	1800C	<p>Student Mixer Coordinator: Trinity Patton – OSU Oklahoma Aerospace Institute of Research and Education (OAIRE) Student Mixer Sponsor: Jamey Jacob – OSU OAIRE</p> <p>Chat with giants of the aviation weather community in this OSU-sponsored social activity. Did we mention free refreshments?</p> <p>Here’s a challenge. Based on the belief that there will be approximately twice as many “oldsters” as students, all veteran session leads, presenters, panelists and FPAW audience members attending the mixer must introduce themselves to at least three students. And all students attending the mixer must engage in conversation with at least five “oldsters” (there should be plenty floating around).</p> <p>Finally, make sure you’re wearing your FPAW badge, so that we can all put visual, aural and written references together!</p>
1900C	????C	FPAW Dinner
1900C	No Later Than 2300C	<p>FPAW Dinner Coordinator: Trinity Patton</p> <p>Empire Slice House 116 W. 10th Ave. Stillwater, OK 74074 Phone: (405) 937-0776 Menu: https://www.empireslicepizza.com/slice-houses-menu/</p> <p>Ready to continue the conversations from the Student Mixer? Been wanting to find a moment to chat with another in-person FPAW participant?</p> <p>Join us for a very informal dinner (pizza and beer, anyone?) at a location designed for mingling, coming and going (and, of course, pizza and beer).</p>