Our March meeting began with announcements from Big Event, T-shirts/Polos, and the Field Trip. Big Event, a campus wide volunteer service project, has a record number 59 volunteers that will be working alongside others from the university in the community to help others. T-shirt and Polo orders are due Thursday April 1. This year we are offering an additional option to our characteristically fun t-shirts by offering a polo with the OU School of Meteorology logo. Along with our new incentive program, SCAMS has created a field trip that would allow students to explore a particular area of meteorology further. This year a group of students will be traveling to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality to learn about how pollutants are measured. At the March meeting we also began our nominations process for our officer elections to be held in April. Our speaker for this meeting was Dr. Jeffery Basara of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey. Dr. Basara spoke about the importance of urban meteorology, the mesonet, and the micronet. The challenge of urban areas is that usually mesonets are placed in open regions without many surroundings to get an accurate 'big picture' of the weather patterns. Since nearly 2/3 of the population is in urban areas it would seem beneficial to understand the physical processes that occur in an urban environment. Dr. Basara has been working with a team to design a micronet system that has several phases in process in Oklahoma City. The projects goals are to understand the effect of the urban heat island, determine the impact of severe weather on Oklahoma City, and assess the relationship between urban atmospheric processes and public health. In addition to 3 new mesonet sites, there are 40 current micronet sites are placed on traffic lights about 9 meters in the air. These sites measure 2D sonic winds, air temperature, pressure, humidity, and have an impact sensor. The sites take data every minute, collecting 640,000 observations daily. Dr. Basara presented 4 events with particularly interesting results from the micronet data including: the urban heat island and the effects of the heat wave event from July 30 – August 8, a cold front as it moved through the city, an unusual windstorm, and a supercell that had rapid development due to the apparent aid of heat from the city. Dr. Basara’s excellent speaking skills and interesting presentation was a welcome addition to our March meeting.