Sandy Delgado attends Meteorological Conference in Havana

Earlier this month I visited Havana, Cuba to be part of the VIII Cuban Congress of Meteorology. The event took place between December 1st and 4th in the historic Hotel Tryp Habana Libre, previously Habana Hilton. There were two sessions taking place simultaneously between 9 am and 4 pm. The program was diverse and included topics on Forecasting, Agrometeorology, Climate Change, Pollution, Oceanography and more. There were speakers from different nations, including Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Austria, United States and the host country. I gave a presentation on the reanalysis work we are performing and commented on the reanalysis of a few of the major hurricanes that have affected the island in the past century. Those in attendance had many questions and were very interested in the work we are doing. Many understand that there are intensity and track problems in HURDAT2 that need to be corrected for a proper record of the Atlantic hurricane history and its use. I had the pleasure to meet and briefly talk to Dr. José Rubiera, the Chief Meteorologist of Cuba's Instituto de Meteorología. Mr. Rubiera has earned the trust and admiration of the people of Cuba for his knowledge and communication skills, especially when a hurricane is threatening the island. I grew up watching him impart the weather on TV and he was an inspiration for me to become a Meteorologist. Overall, the trip was a great success as I was able to talk about the reanalysis, learn about other topics in Meteorology and meet great people.

Dr. José Rubiera (left) and Mr. Sandy Delgado (right)

Dr. José Rubiera presenting in Salón Solidaridad