MEMORANDUM
TO: University Relations Committee
FROM: Jack Fellows, Rick Anthes, and Susan Friberg
SUBJECT: 2007 October Members’ Meeting Planning

Purpose of this Memo. A key URC role is planning the Annual Members meeting. The purpose of this memo is to provide some suggestions for the URC Annual Meeting planning agenda item (#7).

Background and 2007 Members Meeting Suggestions. Each Annual Members’ meeting has included corporate business (e.g., electing the UCAR Board) and some type of community forum (see "Past Annual Meeting Forums" below). Typically, the audience is ~100 Member Representatives, Academic Affiliates, and URC members. Some suggestion for this year, include:

1. Early Career Faculty (ECF). Last year we invited Members to bring ECF members. It was a chance for them to network, experience an Annual Meeting, meet the NCAR ECF, and learn more about UCAR programs. The feedback was excellent and we would like to continue this. Are there any ideas how to further engage and integrate the ECF at the meeting? These are our community’s future leaders. We could have the ECF focus be on the new NCAR Data Center, which will provide unprecedented opportunities for university scientists and students.

2. Reverse Open House. In the past several years, we have held Open Houses featuring UCAR programs and sessions exploring new UCAR-Member collaborative opportunities (breakouts, poster sessions, etc – 2005 as an example.). Could we ask the members to come prepared to present their programs and collaborative opportunities?

3. Community Issues. At last year’s Annual Meeting forum, we received suggested actions in each of the UCAR Strategic Plan goal areas (e.g., better use of the Annual Meeting, better community observation and computing tools, recruiting, diversity, a national-level earth science curriculum, more bi-direction visits, more tech transfer, making our science more connected to societal needs, etc.). Should we pick several key recommendations and ask Members to come prepared to discuss next steps in breakout groups?

4. Environmental Workforce and Citizen. Our community is uniquely posed to equip and educate the next generation of workers and citizens that can tackle and understand pressing environmental challenges. That is particularly true as issues like global warming are becoming increasingly debated throughout public and private society. One suggestion is for UCAR to convene a high-level summit (with scientists, governors, industry, politicians, university presidents, religious leaders, etc.) to look at this issue. This could clearly raise the visibility of our
university departments and highlight the importance of our science. Should we address this in the Annual Meeting? How? In a break out session?

5. **NCAR Day at the Annual Meeting.** Set aside one day of the Annual Meeting to visit NCAR laboratories and divisions. The goal would be to increase collaborations by increasing Member and Affiliate awareness of the resources at the national center, and to increase NCAR staff awareness of work being done at the universities. It could also be an informative day for the Early Career Faculty attendees.

We look forward to discussions some ideas with you in Monterey!

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**Past Annual Meeting Forums**

- **2001 and earlier:** We had several forums focused on how the community (UCAR, UOP, NCAR, university, and agencies) should position itself to meet the opportunities and challenges of the next several decades. We did a major community survey in 2000 (and will update this survey very soon) and had breakout groups on: (1) observational facilities, instrumentation, and field program support; (2) computing facilities and community models; (3) real-time and archived data; (4) education and training; and (5) recruiting graduate students.

- **2002:** Our theme was private, public, academic partnerships for weather and climate research and services. Our keynote was John Lumsden (Director of the Meteorological Service of New Zealand) who focused on his experiences in privatizing the weather service of that country. We had a panel of speakers from each of the sectors that spoke of their experience with these partnerships.

- **2003:** We focused on two things: (1) The future of universities (key note by Jim Duderstadt) and a community panel and (2) Geoscience Connections: UCAR and the universities (introduction by Tim Killeen and a panel focused on the water cycle, biogeo sciences, cyberinfrastructure, next generation observing systems, and next generation faculty).

- **2004:** Our theme was "The Role Of The National Center In The Future Of The Geosciences". Kelvin Droegemeier and Rick Anthes introduced the topic by talking about what the competition means and our community's responsibility to human civilization. A panel chaired by John Merrill with Neal Lane, Kaye Howe, Tim Killeen, and Sepi Yalda and a panel of young scientists gave their perspectives on this topic. There were no breakout groups and we opened the floor for comments after the panel's comments.

- **2005:** We held an Open House that included facility tours, a poster session highlighting UCAR programs and collaborative community opportunities, and a range of receptions. These events focused on university participants and UCAR staff having a two way dialogue on (Open House Challenge):
  1. What is the UCAR program doing for the community?
  2. What are university capabilities and needs in this area?
  3. How could we be working closer together in this area to achieve something we can't do separately?

- **2006:** We had three elements for this year:
  1. **Pre-meeting Tours.** A number of NCAR and UCAR labs and programs held presentations and tours of their scientific facilities, and research and education activities.
  2. **Early Career Faculty.** We invited each institution to bring one early career faculty to participate in the tours, meeting, and special early career faculty events.
  3. **UCAR Strategic Plan Forum.** We conducted breakout groups in each of the draft UCAR Strategic Plan goal areas, and discuss how the universities, NSF and other sponsors, UCAR and NCAR can best work together to achieve these specific goals. Each session was two hours and co-chaired, by a UCAR/NCAR/UOP person and a Member/Affiliate/URC representative.