

UCAR
President's Advisory Committee on University Relations
11 October, 2007
Boulder, Colorado
UCAR Center Green Campus

DRAFT NOTES

The President's Advisory Committee on University Relations (PACUR) met at the UCAR Center Green Campus in Boulder, Colorado.

URC Members present:

Kerry Cook, Cornell University, Chair
Gordon Farquharson, NCAR/EOL
Vanda Grubisic, Desert Research Institute
Eve Gruntfest, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
Bob Hart, Florida State University
John Merrill, University of Rhode Island
Richard Orville, Texas A&M University
Alan Robock, Rutgers University
Wendy Schreiber-Abshire, UOP/COMET
Lisa White, San Francisco State University
S.T. Wu, University of Alabama at Huntsville
Sephi Yalda, Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Sharon Zhong, Michigan State University

NSF:

Cliff Jacobs, Head of UCAR & Lower Atmospheric Facilities Oversight Section
Sarah Ruth, ATM Program Coordinator

UCAR/NCAR/UOP:

Richard Anthes, UCAR
Jack Fellows, UCAR Corporate Affairs & UOP
Tim Killeen, NCAR
Larry Winter, NCAR
Susan Friberg, UCAR Corporate Affairs
Aneka Finley, UCAR Corporate Affairs
Karen Chambers, NCAR Budget & Planning Office
Valerie Koch, NCAR Budget & Planning Office
Raj Panja, SOARS
Bob Hensen, UCAR Communications
Catherine Shea, NCAR Directors Office
Rana Brasher-Alleva, NCAR Budget & Planning
Roger Wakimoto, EOL/NCAR

1. Welcome and Introductions. Kerry Cook called the meeting to order and welcomed participants. She introduced two of the recently elected committee members: Bob Hart from Florida State University and Sharon Zhong from Michigan State University. The other members who were elected to the PACUR are Roger Samelson, Oregon State University, Greg Hakim, University of Washington, and David Nolan from the University of Miami. Cook also thanked outgoing members John Merrill and Michael Morgan for their past six years of hard work on the committee.
2. Approval of the Agenda. Kerry Cook asked for the approval of the agenda. No changes were made and the agenda was approved.
3. President's Remarks. Rick Anthes welcomed the committee and thanked everyone for attending. He gave an overview of the URC activities over the past year for the new members of the committee. Anthes also reported that the membership had voted to approve the University Relations Committee (URC) name change to the President's Advisory Committee on University Relations (PACUR). He reminded everyone that while the name has changed the charge for the committee has not.
4. Approval of the April 2007 Meeting Notes. Kerry Cook asked for the approval of the notes from the April 2007 PACUR meeting. With a few minor changes, **it was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the notes.**
5. Members' Meeting Post-mortem. Kerry Cook lead the discussion about the Annual Members' Meeting held during the past two days. Committee comments included the following:
 - a. Some Members Reps expressed confusion about the reason for the name change since there wasn't any change in the charge. A few Member Reps felt they were not given enough information about a topic they were being asked to vote on. It was noted that all the information about the name change was posted on the web site and that some people simply had overlooked it.
 - b. Lack of time for unstructured discussion during the Members' meeting.
 - c. There was some confusion about the review of the non-NSF proposals. It was agreed that the PACUR should give a report to the Members about how the committee conducts the proposal reviews. It was also suggested that Larry Winter should give a report from the NCAR side on what NCAR does to prepare for the proposal review.
 - d. Alan Robock commented that there should be an easier way for people to communicate with the members of the PACUR. One idea mentioned was to hold a PACUR sponsored forum just prior to the Annual meeting.
 - e. Roger Wakimoto suggested that next year we use colored tags to identify Trustees and members of the PACUR.

- f. Presentations during the meeting should be less UCAR/NCAR focused, and that the Members Reps should be more involved in the meeting, not merely passive spectators.
- g. The response to the idea of the reverse open house next year was positive-many people said they would participate. There was an idea to do the poster session during the reception and also have presentations from the Members Reps at break-out groups.
- h. It was decided to send a post-meeting note to the Members from the PACUR Chair, explaining the name change in more detail, and reminding the Members of the reverse open house next year.

Further discussion will be held at the PACUR committee meeting in the spring.

- 6. UCAR Partnerships with Tribal and Community Colleges. Lisa White gave a presentation on some ways that UCAR and NCAR could reach out to community and tribal colleges. She reported that the diversity break out group during the Members Meeting had a good discussion about how to involve community college colleagues in UCAR and NCAR. She suggested that UCAR/NCAR could host some workshops or even some field activities for community college professors and students. It was also suggested that they become involved in SOARS. Raj Pandya reported that UCAR is already developing relationships with some of the tribal colleges. He said that the tribal colleges can be very tied to their communities and that many students do not want to leave their campuses to study elsewhere, especially a government funded facility. A group of tribal colleges has asked NCAR to help create programs in their communities as a way to begin to build trust. Rick Anthes said that UCAR does have some money to put into these kinds of programs, but much thought needs to go into how the programs will be able to sustain themselves. Tim Killeen suggested that some current programs could be adjusted to include community and tribal colleges; he also said that maybe 5 or 6 additional spots could be added to the leadership workshops.
- 7. Non-Core Proposal Review Sub-committee Report. ST Wu presented the report of the non-core proposal review subcommittee, and said that all the proposals that the sub-committee reviewed satisfied the criteria. The sub-committee reviewed 12 proposals from NCAR and 3 from UOP. Larry Winter said he would prepare an outline for the UOP and NCAR scientists that better describe the process and the history of this review process. Cliff Jacob pointed out that the NCAR proposals are different from UOP because NCAR is an NSF FFRDC, while UOP is not. It was also agreed by the committee that it was much better for the sub-committee and UCAR and NCAR management to meet in person rather than via phone. Volunteers were asked to serve on the sub-committee for the upcoming year. Vanda Grubisic will serve as chair; Eve Grunfest, Dick Orville and Sharon Zhong also volunteered to serve.

8. NSF report. Cliff Jacobs provided some background on the non-NSF proposal review. He said that all non-NSF proposals used to go through NSF for review. However, in the early 90's there were more proposals than NSF could reasonably handle, so NSF, NCAR, and UCAR along with the URC, developed guidelines for all non-NSF proposals coming from NCAR scientists, and it was agreed that the PACUR would conduct the review for unfair competition. Jacobs reported that NSF takes this activity very seriously. He explained that since over 30% of NCAR's funding comes from outside sources and that, for the most part, research funded in this way must be of a collaborative nature, it has led to many more university collaborations and has resulted in an increase in opportunities for universities. Non-core funding has also enhanced NSF's investment in NCAR, by helping to increase the body of knowledge and education. Jacobs reminded the committee that dialog is very important and that NSF wants to know if the university community perceives unfairness with the non-NSF funded projects.

The meeting adjourned so that the committee could meet with the scientists from NCAR, E&O and UOP to discuss the non-core proposal activity.

~End of PACUR minutes~