UCAR Trustee Candidate

Soroosh Sorooshian

Dr. Soroosh Sorooshian has served UCAR as an Institutional Trustee from the University of Arizona for the previous three years. His primary research is in surface hydrology, with particular emphasis on precipitation runoff modeling utilization of remote-sensing information in hydrology of arid/semi-arid regions, as well as water resources management issues. He has served on numerous panels and committees, and is currently the Chair of the Academy's Global Energy and Water cycle EXperiment (GEWEX) panel. This year, the National Academy of Engineering elected Dr. Sorooshian as a new member, for his work on developing flood forecasting models that are used worldwide. He has accepted a position at the University of California-Irvine and will begin his duties there this Fall. Dr. Sorooshian has been an active participant and contributor to the Board of Trustees and is currently a member of Board Executive Committee and the Personnel Committee. The Members’ Nominating Committee enthusiastically renominates Dr. Sorooshian to continue to bring his expertise and breadth of experience to the Board of Trustees for another three-year term.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

My first term as a member of UCAR Board of Trustees has been truly an educational experience. I have learned a lot about how UCAR is organized and functions to serve its university members, as well as the scientific community at large. I must admit that before being elected to Board three years ago, I had no appreciation for the broad range of activities UCAR is involved in. This ranges from its support of the research, education at all levels, as well as very strong and proactive outreach and community service programs. As a member of the Board, I have also heard from colleagues from respective university members, with respect to their concerns about the general state of the atmospheric and related sciences, and the role of UCAR in the greater scheme of things. As a member of the Board, I have had the opportunity to observe the efficient manner in which the UCAR staff manages the corporation and to experience the effective way the Board is used. The issues the Board has been dealing with in the past 3 years ranged from the purchase of the Center Green campus to accommodate the current space shortage, planning for expansion and remodeling of the various facilities including the Foothill and the NCAR’s Mesa Campus, and the purchase of a new research aircraft (HIAPER).

As a Board member with a background in hydrologic sciences, I have also had an opportunity to make good on my promise of my statement three years ago, which was to bring a new perspective related to hydrologic and water resources to UCAR and the Board. Of course, this has to be a continuing effort given that indeed UCAR’s mission goes way beyond only the atmospheric and meteorological issues.

As a member of the Personnel Committee of UCAR, and currently as its Chair, I have also come to appreciate the rigorous process UCAR has put in place for the evaluation, promotion and rewarding of excellence of scientific and staff employees of NCAR and UCAR. Of course, the personnel committee’s role in this process is also viewed as serious and it is based on the
Personnel Committee’s recommendations that the Board of Trustees acts. I am looking forward to continuing my role on the Board for an additional term and to serve the community to the best of my abilities.

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

**Title/Position:** UCI Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Department of Earth System Science.

**Institution:** University of California, Irvine

**Education:**
- 1971 B.S., Mechanical Engineering (highest honor), California State Polytechnique Univ.
- 1973 M.S., Operation Research, UCLA
- 1977 Engineer Degree Systems Engineering, UCLA
- 1978 Ph.D., Engineering (Water Resources & Hydrologic Systems Analysis), UCLA

**Area of Specialty:** Surface hydrology, hydroclimate modeling, application of remote sensing in hydrology, flood forecasting and control, identification and stochastic parameter estimation, system simulation and analysis

**Research/Academic Experience:**
- 1978-81 Asst. Professor of Systems Engineering & Associate Faculty of Civil Engineering, Case Western reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
- 1981-82 Asst. Professor of Systems & Civil Engineering, Case Western Reserve University
- 1983-87 Assoc. Professor, Departments of Hydrology & Water Resources and Systems & Industrial Engineering, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona
- 1988-99 Professor, Departments of Hydrology & Water Resources and Systems & Industrial Engineering, U of Arizona
- 1989-96 Department Head and Professor, Department of Hydrology & Water Resources, U of Arizona
- 2000-03 Regents Professor, Department of Hydrology & Water Resources, U of Arizona

**Other Activities:**
- Former Chair of Academy’s GEWEX panel
- Present, Chair of World Climate Research Program’s GEWEX Science Steering Comm.
- Former, Member of NOAA Science Advisory Board
- Former, Member of Climate and Global Change (CGC) Panel-OGP
- Former, Member of Climate Monitoring Working Group (CMWG) NOAA
- Former, Member of Subcommittee for Information Systems and Services (ESISS), Earth Systems Enterprise ESE-NASA

**Administrative Experience:**
- Former Head, Department of Hydrology & Water Resources, U of Arizona
- Former Editor of *Water Resources Research*, published by AGU
- Former member of Council of AMS
- Past President of Hydrology Section of AGU
- Former Special Editor for Hydrology of *BAMS*
- Former Director of NSF Science & Technology Center on “Sustainability of semi-Arid Hydrology and Riparian Areas” (SAHRA), U of Arizona
- U.S. Member, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Commission for Hydrology (Chy)
Member, UNESCO Theme Advisory Board of the Sixth Phase of the International Hydrological Programme, Theme Area 1: Global Change and Water Resources

UCAR Participation:
Member, UCAR Review Panel for NCEP
Member, Board of Trustee, UCAR

Additional Information:
Member, National Academy of Engineering (NAE), 2003
Corresponding Member to International Academy of Astronautics (IAA), 2002
Regents Professor, University of Arizona, 2000
Fellow, American Geophysical Union (AGU)
Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
Fellow, American Meteorological Society (AMS)
Fellow, International Water Resources Association (IWRA), 2001
Life Fellow, Indian Association of Hydrologists, Roorkee, India
Life Member, Phi Kappa Phi
Group Honor Awards for Excellence, U.S. Department of Agriculture, for “Leading a multi-agency effort to provide critical hydroecological information and new measurement for sustaining our precious semi-arid natural resources”, 2001
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Award, 1989 and 1998