From Surviving to Thriving: Strategies for Advancing University Geosciences Programs in Times of Change
From Surviving to Thriving
Setting the Framework

• NYT: “U.S. is Losing Its Dominance in the Sciences”
• Geoscience departments have been facing increasing stresses
• Some departments have been closed
• Others have been combined with other departments
  ─ Can be successful, increasing rigor while adding breadth
• Result is 1989 to 2002: number of geoscience departments declined by 22% and 19 colleges and universities stopped offering degrees in the geosciences
From Surviving to Thriving
What to do?

• Demonstrate and publicize your department (and the science) at every opportunity
• Know the data
  – Role for AMS and AGU Heads and Chairs Committees
    • Be the Clearinghouse for sharing of planning documents and assessment information
• Do a good job with program reviews
• Invest resources and talent in core courses
• Develop alliances with other campus departments
• Collaborate with other schools and with UCAR/NCAR
From Surviving to Thriving

Be Innovative – Think Outside the Box