

University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

DRAFT

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting
16-17 May, 2007
National Science Foundation
Arlington, VA

Trustees present for all or portions of the meeting were:

Kelvin Droegemeier, University of Oklahoma, *Chairman of the Board*
Richard Anthes, UCAR
Eric Barron, University of Texas at Austin
Rosina Bierbaum, University of Michigan
Robert Dickinson, Georgia Institute of Technology
Barbara Feiner, Washington University in St. Louis
Rana Fine, University of Miami
Efi Foufoula-Georgiou, University of Minnesota
Shirley Malcom, American Association for the Advancement of Science
Berrien Moore III, University of New Hampshire
Franklin Nutter, Reinsurance Association of America
Robert Palmer
Leonard Pietrafesa, North Carolina State University
Orlando Taylor, Howard University

Counsel and Corporate Officers

Lise Carney, Board Counsel, Holland and Hart
Jack Fellows, Asst Secty and Vice President for Corporate Affairs & Director of UOP
Susan Friberg, Assistant Secty, Program Liaison, Corporate Affairs, UCAR
Tim Killeen, Director, NCAR
Jeff Reaves, Associate Vice President, Finance & Administration, UCAR
Kathryn Schmoll, Asst Treasurer, Vice President, Finance & Administration, UCAR
Dan Wilson, Asst Treasurer and Director of Treasury Services, UCAR
Larry Winter, Deputy Director, NCAR

UCAR, NCAR, UOP

Peter Backlund, Director of Research Relations, NCAR
Aneka Finley, Administrative Assistant, UCAR
Jeff Fiedler, Office of Government Affairs, UCAR
Meg McClellan, Director, Office of General Counsel, UCAR
Melissa Miller, Director, Budget & Finance, Finance & Administration, UCAR
Delaine Orendorff, Human Resources, Finance & Administration, UCAR
Raj Pandya, Director, Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science, UCAR
Robert Roesch, Director, Human Resources and Employee Relations, UCAR
Steve Sadler, Director, Safety and Site Services, UCAR
Karyn Sawyer, Assistant Director, EOL
Cindy Schmidt, Director, Office of Development and Government Affairs, UCAR
Catherine Shea, Executive Administrator to the Director, NCAR

Kathryn Strand, Special Projects Officer, UCAR President's Office
Michelle Travis, UCAR Finance & Administration
Dan Wilson, Director of Treasury Operations, UCAR
Shawn Winkelman, Director, Information Technology, Finance & Administration,
UCAR

National Science Foundation

Richard Behnke, Acting Division Director, ATM/GEO
Jay Fein, Program Director, Climate and Large Scale Dynamics Program
Bernard Grant, UCAR & Lower Atmospheric Facilities Oversight Section ATM/GEO
James R. Huning, Facilities Manger ATM/GEO
Cliff Jacobs, Head, UCAR & lower Atmospheric Facilities Oversight Section ATM/GEO
Steve Meacham, Program Director, Information Technology Research,
Peter Milne, UCAR & Lower Atmospheric Facilities Oversight Section, ATM/GEO
Jarvis L. Moyers, Acting Assistant Director, Geosciences
Stephan Nelson, Program Director, ATM/GEO
Sarah Ruth, Program Coordinator, ATM/GEO

Other guests

April Burke, Lewis-Burke Associates
Joel Widder, Lewis-Burke Associates

Wednesday, 16 May 2007

The Board convened in Executive Session from 8:00am to 9:00am to act on the recommendations of the Personnel Committee regarding the NCAR Senior Scientist nominations and discuss the NCAR Data Center. The minutes are kept in the corporate offices.

1. WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Chairman Kelvin Droegemeier convened the meeting and asked for introductions. He requested that each Trustee and the UCAR Officers sign the Directors' and Officers' Insurance and Export Certificate and return it to the Corporate offices. He reported that the Board, in the earlier Executive Session, approved the appointments of the following NCAR staff to senior scientist: Jeffrey Anderson (ESSL), Christopher Cantrell (ESSL), William Collins (ESSL), David Edwards (ESSL), Tom Horst (EOL), Bette Otto Bliesner (ESSL). In addition, the Board approved Emeritus Senior Scientist positions for Joach Kuettner and Brian Ridley, and Affiliate Scientist positions for Dale Jamieson, New York University; Roger Kasperson, Clark University; and Mark Rast, University of Colorado.

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Rosina Bierbaum presented the minutes from the February 2007 Board of Trustees' meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. None were made. **It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes as written.**

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Trustee and Treasurer Barbara Feiner reported on the consolidated financial reports, received by the Trustees in advance of the meeting. She noted that funding to NCAR is down by approximately \$4M. In addition, there is a decrease the UCAR management fee revenue as NOAA has received new legal interpretations that question the collection of management fees on their cooperative agreements. However, the good news, Feiner said, is that the investments have done well and the returns have been higher this quarter than expected. It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

4. AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Feiner introduced the debt refinancing resolution. The Trustees received copies of this in advance of the meeting. This resolution concerns the advanced refunding of three UCAR bond series—1996A, 2002, and 2003—at a fixed rate that may result in present value savings in excess of \$1M. UCAR is asking for approval to proceed with initial steps. Approving this resolution would mean that UCAR is “Tee'ed up and ready to go” to take advantage of a good interest rate if the opportunity presents itself. Feiner further explained that UCAR can take advantage of this only once, that there may be out of pocket costs, and that NSF approval is needed.

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the resolution authorizing Series 2007 Bonds for Advance Refunding of 1996A, 2002, and 2003 series debt.

5. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

In the absence of Personnel Committee Chairman Steve Rutledge, Len Pietrafesa gave the report. He reviewed the committee meeting held the previous day, reporting on the committee's deliberations and recommendations for senior scientist, affiliate scientist, and emeritus senior scientist appointments. Discussion followed on various aspects of building a diverse scientific workforce, including sensitivities about “raiding” the small pool of diverse scientists at one institution to improve statistics at another.

6. NSF Report

Cliff Jacobs, Head of ATM's UCAR and Lower Atmospheric Facilities section, reported on the change in personnel at GEO with Margaret Leinen's departure. He noted that Jarvis Moyers was acting GEO Associate Director until a new AD is hired, and that Rich Behnke is acting ATM Director. Jacobs discussed the NSF cyber infrastructure vision for the 21st Century cutting across all directorates, emphasizing the importance of the bottoms up and local approaches to cyber infrastructure, of considering the science drivers shaping new cyber directions, the interdisciplinary questions, and of addressing questions of data, balance, leadership, staffing, and O&M budgets.

7. NCAR Data Center

NCAR Director, Tim Killeen, reviewed the history of supercomputing at NCAR and the situation leading up to the current planning for the next generation supercomputing center to address current needs in the atmospheric sciences. He reviewed the current process leading up to the selection of Wyoming as a partner to develop the new computing center, noting that they offered the greatest capabilities in the shortest amount of time at a significantly lower cost. Killeen said

that Wyoming's status as an EPSCoR state was also an attractive feature, and that, overall, the choice of Wyoming allows NCAR to return to leadership class supercomputing by 2011. He said there would be a proposal developed later this summer, and that an external panel review would take place after that. Discussion centered on the importance of having a facility that can handle inter- and multi-disciplinary modeling to be able to more fully address how the changing earth will affect society.

8. NSF DIRECTOR REMARKS

NSF Director, Arden Bement, spoke with the Trustees about various foundation concerns such as the federal science budget, the importance of transformative research and the attendant difficulties of looking into the future to know what's needed, the low success rate of proposals, and the growth of international programs as a strategic area.

9. LEWIS BURKE ASSOCIATES REPORT

April Burke and Joel Widder from Lewis Burke Associates talked with the Trustees about the visits to the Hill planned for the next day to talk with Congressional staffers and congress people about their views of, and questions around, climate change and other atmospheric science issues. Joel Widder reported that NSF, DOE and NIST budgets were in good shape, and that NSF's credibility remains very high on the Hill. One caveat he noted is that more funding will be undoubtedly available for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, and that this may be at the expense of research funding.

The Board convened in Executive Session from 12:30–5:00 pm. (The minutes are kept in the corporate offices.)

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Thursday, 17 May, 2007

The Board met from 8:00-9:30 am at the Rayburn House Office Building for a breakfast meeting hosted by Rep. Mark Udall (CO) with congressional staff and science committee members.

End of Minutes

Minutes approved by:

Rosina Bierbaum
Secretary of the Corporation

Minutes prepared by:

Susan J. Friberg
Assistant Secretary of the Corporation

