

**Communication among UCAR and its members: your thoughts?**

PACUR briefing • Bob Henson • 22 September 2008

UCAR is uniquely positioned to facilitate partnership and communication among its members and affiliates. In the coming year we plan to enhance our communication tools in several ways. We'd like your input.

**What are the goals?**

- Publicize research findings and other news from NCAR and from UCAR members
- Build new ways for members to share news and thoughts with each other
- Improve the usefulness, appeal, and cost-effectiveness of our print and online products

**What options are being considered?**

- UCAR Update: Redesign this monthly service as a full-featured HTML e-mail, with links to NCAR and member news
- UCAR Quarterly: Shift to a magazine-style format and a thrice-yearly schedule, which would help keep printing and postage costs in line
- New website: Launch a site that merges the two products above with frequently updated news from UCAR and its members
- Community blog: Provide a forum for regular and occasional contributors, including UCAR staff as well as students and faculty from members and affiliates

Attached are recent issues of the UCAR Update and UCAR Quarterly. Please see the back of this page for a couple of short questions; you can provide your input in advance and/or bring it to the PACUR meeting. Thanks for your help.

**Questions for PACUR members on internal/external  
communication**

Please send comments to Bob Henson, c/o UCAR, Box 3000, Boulder CO 80307 •  
bhenson@ucar.edu

(1) In thinking about communication among UCAR members and affiliates, and between these groups and NCAR/UCAR/UOP, do you see any unmet needs that we might help fill?

(2) Are there any aspects of our current communication tools that you find especially useful and/or problematic? (e.g., UCAR Update, UCAR Quarterly, UCAR Governance website, proflist and oppslist listserves)

(3) If we created a community blog, how likely is it that you would

	Very likely	Possible	Unlikely	It depends
read it?	_____	_____	_____	_____
contribute articles?	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____				
post comments on articles?	_____	_____	_____	_____

Other comments on how a blog might best serve the UCAR community?

(4) Any other input related to communication?