North Carolina State University

UCAR Membership Renewal Review – 2010

North Carolina State University has been a member of UCAR since 1978. The University conducts atmospheric research through its Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (MEAS) in the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. This department currently has 33 tenure track faculty members, 12 of which are in atmospheric sciences. The department offers Bachelors, Masters and Doctoral degree programs. The current sizes of the atmospheric sciences programs are approximately 150 at the undergraduate level and 40 at the graduate level. In the past five years, the department has awarded 157 B.S. degrees in atmospheric sciences, and 98 M.S. degrees and 36 Ph.D. degrees department wide. MEAS is currently in the process of applying for approval of a professional master’s degree in climate change and society.

MEAS faculty are actively involved in atmospheric science research leading to scholarly publications, with a primary emphasis in air quality, physical and dynamical meteorology, and weather and climate prediction. Facilities include a computer lab dedicated to teaching atmospheric sciences, linux clusters and access to the university’s high performance computer cluster for research, and a dedicated warehouse for field equipment that includes a mobile chemical lab vehicle for air quality studies. Supercomputing access is also available through RENCI and ORNL through NCSU partnerships. MEAS is also affiliated with the Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites (CICS-NC) located in Asheville, NC.

MEAS faculty members have participated in UCAR activities. Specifically, MEAS faculty have served on a variety of UCAR committees and panels, have been elected to the UCAR Board of Trustees, and have provided leadership within the Unidata Program. They have participated in many workshops and user meetings related to UCAR/NCAR models, data, and tools. Several faculty maintain close collaboration with NCAR scientists that have led to peer-reviewed publications, and have also participated in the recent VORTEX2 and VOCAL field campaigns.

The UCAR Membership Committee concludes that the membership criteria are fulfilled, and recommends to the Members’ Representatives that the membership of North Carolina State University be continued as provided by the bylaws.