St. Louis University

UCAR Membership Renewal Review - 2010

Saint Louis University was a founding member of UCAR in 1959. Atmospheric and related sciences at St. Louis University are located within the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. The Department offers several degree programs in Meteorology including: B.A., B.S., Masters in Professional Meteorology, M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. There are currently 32 undergraduate students and 16 graduate students. During the period 2003-2008, the program conferred 43 undergraduate (B.A. and B.S.), 16 Masters, and 6 Ph.D. degrees.

There are thirteen faculty members in the Department with seven faculty members teaching courses and advising students in the meteorology degree programs. Six are tenured or tenure track faculty with one professional broadcast meteorologist that serves as an adjunct faculty member. The faculty members possess expertise in range of UCAR related fields including: climate modeling and climate variability, mesoscale precipitation systems, air pollution and turbulence modeling. The faculty members have demonstrated a consistent history of publishing in both American Meteorological Society and other geophysical related peer-reviewed journals.

The facilities at St. Louis University support the research and teaching programs mentioned above. The program has a computer lab with nine recently upgraded Sun workstations and they have both IDD and NOAA-port access to the Unidata data that are used to visualize and analyze weather data. The program has partnered with a private company to build and maintain over 100 stations in a state-wide mesonet. They have a computer cluster that supports the data acquisition and archive from this mesonet as well as real-time mesoscale modeling that utilizes the mesonet observations.

The Department faculty members are active participants in UCAR activities. There are a number of active collaborations with several NCAR scientists that have resulted in publications and PhD dissertations. A representative regularly attends the UCAR annual meeting. Several students have participated in the NCAR Undergraduate Summer Leadership Workshop. Finally, faculty members regularly use the WRF model and attend WRF workshops. The research conducted at St. Louis University makes wide use of Unidata and other software developed at UCAR/NCAR.

The UCAR Membership Committee concludes that the membership criteria are fulfilled, and recommends to the Members' Representatives that the membership of St. Louis University be continued as provided by the bylaws.