University of Virginia

The University of Virginia has been a UCAR member since 1979. The Department of Environmental Sciences is the primary UCAR related unit within the University; it is not a traditional atmospheric sciences department. Other research on UCAR related topics is done in the School of Engineering and Applied Science. The Department of Environmental Sciences is an academic department offering instruction and conducting research in the areas of ecology, geomorphology, low-temperature geochemistry, hydrology, and atmospheric sciences. Thus, it operates in several UCAR disciplines. The Department of Environmental Sciences offers B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. The undergraduate enrollment in Environmental Sciences is 100 students with 50 graduating per year. Graduate enrollment includes 30 to 40 M.A. and M.S. students and 50 Ph.D. students with about 10 M.S. and 10 Ph.D. degrees granted per year. It is not specified what fraction of these students are doing their graduate research in the Atmospheric Sciences or related sciences. Graduate research in Environmental Sciences focuses on fields in atmospheric and related sciences including hydrology, coastal processes, marine biology and ecology, boundary-layer meteorology, atmospheric chemistry and pollution, and climatology.

The Environmental Sciences Faculty has 22 tenure track members and 19 non-tenure track faculty, a large fraction of whom are working in UCAR related disciplines. Computer facilities are available to support the Department of Environmental Sciences’ teaching and research in. Other resources include a number of ecological laboratories.

The Department of Environmental Sciences has an appropriate publication record in several UCAR related fields including boundary layer meteorology, synoptic meteorology, climate, aerosols, ocean dynamics, hydrology, marine biology, coastal processes and atmospheric chemistry. The degree and source of funding for this work was not specified. Environmental Science faculty members are occasional participants in UCAR sponsored activities. Examples include presentation of NCAR-ASP colloquiums, use of NCAR-EOL facilities, and NCAR visits. The Department of Environmental Sciences sends a representative to the UCAR annual meetings.

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