UCAR Members Meeting

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Status of the FY 2005 Budget

- National Science Foundation
- NOAA
- NASA
- U. S. Geological Survey
- Department of Energy
- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of Defense
Status of Other Policy Issues

- NASA reauthorization - Moon/Mars vs. Science
- NOAA reauthorization
- Commission on Ocean Policy Report
- NOAA Research Review Team recommendations
- High Performance Computing Legislation
- NSF Director & NSB Nominations – Kelvin Droegemeier
FY 2006 Budget Process

- FY05 – Continuing Resolution – until November 20 – then?

- August 12 – OMB and OSTP issue FY06 R&D priorities memo: computing, nanotechnology, climate change, etc. – words vs deeds

- November elections – little real FY06 budget action on going at the staff level until after the elections.

- FY06 budget environment – with deficit as high as it is, the pressure will continue to restrain overall spending

- Key Senate Committees will see major changes in their leadership next year.
Concluding Thoughts

- When will federal R&D “breakout” of the budget/policy doldrums?

- S&T issues -- not high priority for this Administration or the Congress at large.

- S&T issues are important to a relatively small number of federal decision makers.

- UCAR advocacy efforts focused on maintaining the health of the “UCAR disciplines” targeted at influential set of public policy officials.

- Broader-based UCAR grassroots activities should be used once it is clear the intended audience is more likely to respond to the message.