Coastal Carolina University

Report to UCAR Membership Committee on 2009 Academic Affiliate Application

Although Coastal Carolina University (CCU) does not yet have an Atmospheric Sciences or equivalent department, it does have BS-degree concentration programs in atmospheric sciences in the both their Department of Chemistry and Physics and also their Department of Marine Sciences. These departments contribute to atmospheric sciences by offering classes in Atmospheric Physics, Atmospheric Chemistry, Remote Sensing and labs related to atmospheric sciences. Their class offerings also encompass many other atmospheric sciences relevant classes. Obviously, their Physical Oceanography class has a strong atmospheric sciences component as well. CCU has eight faculty who teach atmospheric sciences related classes and conduct atmospheric sciences related research. CCU is committed to extend these programs. The departments together graduated 342 BS in the past five years. There is no information on how many of the students graduated in the atmospheric sciences concentration. They involve their students in undergraduate research. They plan to develop a new major in meteorology in the next three to five years. All these facts indicate that CCU has a definitive, substantial, and continuing commitment to a full, coherent, and integrated program of course studies related to atmospheric sciences.

CCU has various facilities in the departments that contribute to atmospheric sciences. CCU has seven faculty who publish in atmospheric sciences related research in peer-reviewed journals. Some of these publications are co-authored by students. CCU’s faculty secured various atmospheric sciences related grants. All these facts document a definitive, substantial, and continuing commitment to progress in their concentrations of atmospheric sciences.

CCU has not been contributing directly to UCAR activities, but their faculty and students are active in using software developed by UCAR/NCAR and also UCAR/NCAR facilities. It has to be assumed that they indirectly contribute by feedback based on their use of these products and tools. Such feedback and publishing research based on these products and tools strongly helps UCAR/NCAR to document the need for their efforts. In the future, more details should be provided where relevant.

The application material indicates that Coastal Carolina University meets the criteria for Academic Affiliate Membership in UCAR. The UCAR community looks forward to the continued growth of UCAR-related education and research programs at CCU and strong interactions in the future.

On 15 June 2009, the UCAR Membership committee voted to accept Coastal Carolina University into the UCAR Academic Affiliate Program.