The University of Iowa has been a UCAR Member since 1993. The University of Iowa conducts atmospheric research through its Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research (CGRER). The CGRER was established in 1991 and currently has 72 faculty members drawn from multiple academic departments, including Civil and Environmental Engineering, Geography, Geosciences, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physics and Astronomy, Chemistry, and Occupational and Environmental Health. All of these departments offer M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs and most offer B.S. degree programs. In the past three years, the departments have awarded approximately 100 graduate degrees based on dissertations connected to the atmospheric and environmental sciences. In addition to degree programs through these departments, the CGRER offers a non-degree program leading to a Certificate of Sustainability. The CGRER is also actively involved in outreach and community education, some of which is supported through NSF funding.

GCRER faculty are actively involved in atmospheric science research leading to scholarly publications, with a primary emphasis in atmospheric chemistry, air pollution, aerosol science, and climate. University facilities, either through the CGRER or GCRER member departments, used in atmospheric and environmental research and education include a large computational hardware and software infrastructure, a well equipped Stable Isotope Laboratory, an Environmental Engineering Laboratory to the chemical and biological of water with a focus on water treatment, a well equipped Hazardous Substance Research Laboratory designed to study the properties of chemical compounds of environmental concern, and a biological field station on West Okoboji Lake.

GCRER faculty members have participated in UCAR activities. Specifically, GCRER faculty have served on UCAR’s Membership Committee, have stood for election to the UCAR Board of Trustees, and have routinely participated in the UCAR Annual Meeting. Faculty, staff and students use a variety of NCAR models (e.g., WRF, CCM, MEGAN TUV), data generated from these models, and related software data access and visualization tools. They have participated in several workshops and user meetings related to these models, data, and tools. Several GCRER faculty and students also use NCAR computational facilities and have recently participated in the VOCAL Rex field campaign. Several GCRER faculty have served on advisory boards for MIRAGE and WRF development.

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