

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASENCAR Holds Aviation Work-Study Program

Boulder, Colo.--The National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) is conducting an eight-week study-field-laboratory program this summer for university students interested in aircraft observation and instrumentation in atmospheric research.

Four students are enrolled in the program, which is designed to familiarize graduate students with the skills and techniques required for efficient use of research aircraft in the atmospheric sciences. The students are Henry J. Bennett and Loren D. Nelson, both of the University of Chicago, Donald A. Burrows of the University of Washington, and Paul M. Tag of the Pennsylvania State University.

The program is coordinated by Gene D. Prantner, who heads the research projects group in the Research Aviation Facility of the NCAR Facilities Laboratory. According to Prantner, no previous experience in aviation was required for enrollment in the program, which spans a range of subject matter from basic aeronautics through planning and supervised direction of actual flight operations.

Topics to be covered include basic aeronautics, airmanship, airframe structure and modification, instrument theory and design, data reduction and analysis, and design of experiments. During the last part of the program, each student will put his newly-acquired knowledge into practice by designing and executing an actual flight operation, reducing and analyzing the data, and reporting on the operation.

This is the second summer program that the NCAR Research Aviation Facility has held. The success of last year's program was recognized by the Aviation Facility Advisory Panel, composed of scientists from various institutions with broad experience in research aviation. The panel has endorsed the continuation of the program on a regular basis.

July 28, 1967

The research aviation summer program is part of NCAR's continuing effort to familiarize outstanding students with the challenges and opportunities that exist for careers in atmospheric research. Other NCAR programs in support of education include postdoctoral appointments under the Advanced Study Program; UCAR fellowships for graduate study, supported through NCAR's parent organization, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research; and the NCAR Affiliate Professorship Program, under which NCAR staff scientists teach or participate in other academic activities on university campuses.

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