

# UCAR Academic Affiliates



**7:15 am, 4 October 2005  
Room 2126, Center Green**

# **Academic Affiliates**

The Academic Affiliates program (AAP) is comprised of colleges and universities which grant Bachelors' and/or Masters' degrees in the atmospheric and related sciences, and was developed to provide the opportunity for these institutions to participate in the UCAR community's scientific and educational activities.

# AAP MEMBERSHIP

1. Air Force Institute of Technology
2. **University of Charleston**
3. Clark Atlanta University
4. **Jackson State University**
5. University of Kansas
6. University of Louisiana at Monroe
7. **Lyndon State College**
8. **Universidad Metropolitana**
9. **Millersville University of Pennsylvania**
10. State University of New York at Brockport
11. **University of North Dakota**
12. **Plymouth State University** 🏆
13. **Saint Cloud State University** 🏆
14. **San Francisco State University** 🏆
15. **San Jose State University** 🏆
16. **South Dakota School of Mines & Technology**
17. **United States Naval Academy**
18. **Florida Institute of Technology (new)** 🏆

# Guests

- Rick Anthes (UCAR),
- Jack Fellows (UCAR/UOP)
- Tim Killeen (NCAR)
- Tim Spangler (COMET)
- Mohan Ramamurthy (Unidata/BHE)
- Kelvin Droegemeier (BOT, Chair)
- Shirley Malcom (BOT)
- Ron McPherson (AMS)
- Bob Henson (UCAR Newsletter)

# *Major Agenda Items*

- AAP's place in the re-competition of NCAR management (R. Anthes)
  - Currently in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of cooperative agreement
  - Community building and engagement as a hallmark of UCAR
  - Importance of AAP involvement/inclusion in the proposal (don't underestimate the importance of AAP)
  - The need for solid institutional support for inclusion in the proposal
  - Linkage between UCAR and NCAR would be impossible to re-create today (Kelvin)
- New interactions and opportunities b/w NCAR and AAP member institutions emerging from the reorganization (T. Killeen)
  - Update of NCAR Strategic Plan; call for input from AAP members
  - Five lab structure better for cross-cutting and support for research at the boundaries of traditional disciplines: New observations (e.g. HIAPER), Future of supercomputing, multi-scale weather-to-climate thrusts, including GIS, partnerships in hydrologic sciences
- Access to the NCAR Library for certain online subscriptions (Web of Science/Met Monographs) – the ongoing saga (J. Fellows)
  - Some progress was made toward providing access to the *Web of Science* as a package deal for 100+ institutions (AAP and regular members), but it is laced with legal issues that are far from being resolved. Don't yet ask for a username and pswd.
  - Overview of new initiatives within UOP

# *Major Agenda Items*

- AMS Policy on the B.S. in Atmospheric Science/Meteorology (M. Ramamurthy)
  - Many suggestions came out of last year's AAP meeting; some were incorporated into the policy statement
  - The policy statement over-specifies the curriculum without recognizing caps on total semester hours in degree programs at many universities
  - Wording on the math requirement doesn't allow for math courses taught within the degree program or other innovative and yet equally rigorous approaches to the calculus/ODE sequence.
  - Technical writing, writing across the curriculum, recitation/problem solving components, and capstone courses were also discussed.
  - Tony Hansen will lead the development of a draft proposal to review the policy language to make it less rigid and more malleable while maintaining the rigor and comprehensiveness that is expected.
  - Several issues remained unresolved due to time limitations: AAPs will continue this discussion via email.
- The Radar Module and other COMET initiatives (T. Spangler)
  - COMET currently has available 300-350 hours of multi-media instruction free to educational institutions (20% of users are students and faculty)
  - Webcasts are being embedded in COMET modules – Jim Moore in Jet stream Circulations
  - Coming soon on a PC near you. The darling of undergraduate faculty: An interactive skew T-log p module. Look for it by the spring semester.
  - To get COMET announcements, register through the COMET homepage.
  - COMET Workshop in August (7<sup>th</sup>) 2006
  - COMET will Webcast the Radar Conference in ABQ and make the slightly edited version available via COMET MetEd – in lieu of a Radar Module, or maybe as a prelude to a Radar module. There is broad community support for a Web-based Radar module to replace the antiquated large-pizza sized laser disk of years ago.

# *Other Initiatives*

- Mohan announced the next Unidata workshop which will be schedule in mid-June 2006. The theme will be: *Expanding the Use of Models in Higher Education*. Topics include models in GIS format; ensembling; WRF to IDV.
- Stemming from last year's meeting came a request to organize the NCAR Webcasts onto a single, easily locatable, Web site (except for Unidata Webcast which are distributed via all\_community listserv. Working with Eron Brennan and his staff, we can now get to all the NCAR Webcasts via

<http://www.ucar.edu/webcasts/>

- Some institutions are building short courses around these Webcasts. Lyndon State, for example, is offering a noontime course where students and faculty use a Webcast to spawn discussion on a particular topic, and faculty are there to help interpret the content.
- AAP working with UCAR IT to expand real-time participation in NCAR seminars via Access Grid. Access grid, however, it not necessarily convenient or robust.



*Special thanks to our guests and the  
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Friberg and Susan Warner for  
assisting with meeting logistics*