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URC Report to UCAR Members

Chris Bretherton
University of Washington
October 2002

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Role of URC

The University Relations Committee (URC) helps maintain good communication and relationships between the Corporation and members by:

- Advising the UCAR President,
- Proposing agenda items for members' meetings
- Proposing activities and programs for UCAR to undertake.
- Reviewing NCAR's non-NSF and UOP proposals to avoid unfair competition with universities.

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2001-2002 URC members

Christopher Bretherton (U. Washington) – chair

Eric Betterton (U. Arizona)

Efi Foufoula-Georgiou (U. Minnesota)

Everette Joseph (Howard U.)

John Merrill (U. Rhode Island)

Stephen Monismith (Stanford U.)

Michael Morgan (U. Wisconsin)

Ken Pickering (U. Maryland)

Mohan Ramamurthy (U. Illinois)

Patricia H. Reiff (Rice U.)

Eugene Takle (Iowa State U.)

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2002-2003 URC members

Eric A. Betterton (U. Arizona) – incoming chair (congratulations!)

Efi Foufoula-Georgiou (U. Minnesota)

Jim Hansen (MIT)

Everette Joseph (Howard U.)

Arlene Laing (U. South Florida)

John Merrill (U. Rhode Island)

Stephen Monismith (Stanford U.)

Michael Morgan (U. Wisconsin)

Ken Pickering (U. Maryland) 2nd 3-year term

Mohan Ramamurthy (U. Illinois)

Patricia H. Reiff (Rice U.)

Gene Takle (Iowa State U.) 2nd 3-year term

Sepi Yalda (Millersville U.)

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Spring in Boulder



- April 16-17: Met with heads of all major NCAR divisions and several UOP groups

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- Focus on university-divisional interactions, present modes and future strategies.
- All divisions have healthy university relations. The resulting community efforts are envied by the broader scientific community.
- A few highlights:
CCSM2 and WRF, on massively parallel SCD systems.
Field experiment participation (e.g. IHOP) and instrumentation/facilities/support.
UOP - Unidata and DLESE.
- URC divisional liaisons are conduit for university community input into divisional planning.

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2001-02 URC Liaisons to NCAR Divisions & UOP

Advanced Study Program	Ken Pickering
Atmospheric Chemistry Division	Eric Betterton
Atmospheric Technology Division	Gene Takle
Climate & Global Dynamic Division	Chris Bretherton
Environmental & Societal Impacts Group	Mohan Ramamurthy
High Altitude Observatory	Pat Reiff
Mesoscale & Microscale Meteorology Division	Everette Joseph
Research Applications Program	Efi Foufoula-Georgiou
Scientific Computing Division	Michael Morgan
UCAR Office of Programs	John Merrill

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Non-core proposal review

All NCAR/UOP non-core proposals must justify:

- Appropriateness to NCAR or UCAR.
- Does not unfairly compete with universities
- Meaningful university collaboration **or**
- Develops community resources or tech. transfer
- If cosponsored, must support and enhance NSF-sponsored core NCAR program.

URC reviews ~10 (20%) proposals twice a year.

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Non-core subcommittee report

Efi Foufoula-Georgiou (chair) John Merrill Mohan Ramamurthy

- 13/50 proposals were reviewed (11 at random, representing all 8 NCAR divisions and UOP, 2 due to high co-sponsorship level)
- Continued excellent general compliance with our guidelines.
- Co-sponsorship ‘leveraging ratio’ $LR = \$(NSF)/\$(requested)$ quite variable between divisions and proposals without obvious justification (One \$300 K proposal had $LR=0.94$).
- Very similar issues came up in our spring review
- In response, NCAR has instituted a ‘30% LR threshold’ for explicit justification of co-sponsorship level.

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