



Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 23, 2012
2 PM

Members in attendance: R. Casini, A. deWijn, Y. Fan, H. Liu, B.C. Low, G. Lu, S. McIntosh, M. Rempel, M. Thompson (Chair), S. Tomczyk, M. Wiltberger

Attendees: B. Johnson (Minutes)

1. HAO Awards (Thompson)

John W. Firor Publication Award: The committee recommended that the 2012 award recognize “Anomalously low solar extreme-ultraviolet irradiance and thermospheric density during solar minimum”, *Geophysical Research Letters*, **37**, L16103 (2010)--S. Solomon et al.

Walter O. Roberts Scientific and Technical Advancement Award: The committee recommended that the 2012 award recognize Matthias Rempel’s sunspot simulation work.

2. NCAR Strategic Planning Process (Wiltberger)

Wiltberger gave a brief overview of the NCAR Strategic Planning Process discussions that took place at the October UCAR Members’ Meeting. UCAR and NCAR used the UCAR Members’ Meeting as a forum to identify science opportunities and issues that should be considered during the creation of a new strategic plan for NCAR that will cover 2014-2019. The next NCAR plan will again be organized around imperatives and frontiers. Gibson and Wiltberger are NCAR Strategic Planning Council members.

It was suggested that a subset of HAO staff meet to discuss issues associated with HAO’s contribution to the new plan. An approach to identifying HAO’s relevant activities could be accomplished using a survey that ranks the work that we do that is valuable to our community.

Action Item: Members to convene in December to discuss HAO’s approach moving forward.

3. Proposed UCAR Visitor Exchange Program (Thompson)

NCAR is successful in bringing scientists in to work at UCAR/NCAR from external institutions, but our scientists don’t often go outside of our institution to work at universities. A proposal is being considered to support and encourage scientists to participate in a Visitor Exchange Program that would be funded to cover costs of visits. Thompson asked members to discuss impediments that should be considered. Suggestions included: junior staff often have family issues (some want to bring their family, which can be expensive); some staff members don’t necessarily want to teach (which requires a great investment of time and impacts research); the activities of research groups here are impacted and difficult to maintain; our science isn’t represented at many universities. Suggested approaches: We should develop stronger links with universities that would increase our contact and foster new collaborations; perhaps have faculty members and students visit HAO (implement a summer event that provides opportunities to develop closer ties), possibly targeted at recent “Faculty Development in Space Science” appointees.

Action Item: Thompson will share this committee’s feedback with Cindy Schmidt.

Post-Meeting Update: Members will meet on December 20, 10:30 am, in the Captain Mary Room.

Topics for discussion: NCAR Strategic Plan
HAO Frontier activity updates from leads