Purdue University atmospheric sciences program was established in 1967, and has been a UCAR Member since 1971. Most academic and research activities are housed in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (EAPS) while some faculty hold joint appointments in Chemistry or Agronomy. The detailed renewal application and impressive set of CVs provides strong support for renewal of membership of EAPS.

Within EAPS there are 18 faculty who are primarily concerned with atmospheric science (including two professors emeriti and three faculty joining in the coming months). Further, the application points out the number of faculty working on related problems, including those faculty affiliated with the Purdue Climate Change Research Center (www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/climate/), bring the number of faculty to > 60. Research facilities include the Purdue Stable Isotope geochemistry facility, the Airborne Laboratory for Atmospheric Research, and the EAPS Climate Research Station at the Agronomy Center for Research and Education. The application points out that there has been significant faculty turnover since its last application, but that the University has supported the hiring of replacement faculty. As a result there has been a strengthening of research in climate and extreme weather. EAPS faculty and students have published 782 papers during the last five years, including 14 articles in Science, 25 in Nature, and 2 in PNAS. During that period faculty submitted proposals totaling more than $106 million, mostly to federal agencies. Of these proposals a total of $25.7 million were funded.

The application briefly summarizes the impressive commitment to both undergraduate and graduate education. They have 70 undergraduate atmospheric science majors, with 15 students graduating per year with a B.S. degree. They have 78 graduate students and graduate 8-9 PhDs per year. A quick scan of the dissertation titles shows quite a broad set of dissertation topics and advised by a variety of faculty. The application details an extensive set of scientific and programmatic UCAR-related activities by five faculty (Agee, Baldwin, Chavas, Dawson, and Tanamachi). The renewal application provides plenty of detail to address the three membership criteria. 1. Program of Studies and Research. Purdue’s contributions at both the undergraduate and graduate level are very strong. 2. Progress in the Atmospheric Sciences. Purdue’s scholarly contributions are massive. 3. Participation in the activities of UCAR. Purdue’s involvement is more than sufficient to merit reappointment.