UCAR Membership Committee Review of
University of Miami

The University of Miami was first elected to UCAR in 1968. The primary UCAR related unit within the university is the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS), with the atmospheric and related sciences being performed in the Meteorology and Physical Oceanography (MPO), Applied Marine Physics, and Marine and Atmospheric Chemistry sections. Academic programs are Bachelor of Science in Meteorology degree, a Master of Professional Science and a PhD in Meteorology and Physical Oceanography.

RSMAS is adjacent to the NOAA Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories (AOML) and Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFC) and there are collaborations with the Physical Oceanography and Hurricane Research Division of AOML and with the SEFC. Existing facilities which include research vessels and computing along with planned developments including a helicopter and sea-water complex do and will continue to provide unique opportunities for faculty and students.

The MPO division consists of 23 tenured faculty, 36 research staff, 38 undergraduate students and 61 graduate students. During the previous 5 years, the MPO division has granted 34 B.S. degrees, 9 M.S., 4 M.P.S and 16 Ph.D. degrees. Research productivity among the faculty has been exceptional, which substantial funding from NSF, NOAA, NASA, DOE and ONR. Annual research support to MPO faculty has been in excess of $40M annually for the last 5 years. Students and faculty have been recognized for achievements. Students are regular attendees at the AMS Annual Meeting and participate in programs such as the NCAR Undergraduate Leadership Workshop. One faculty member (Albrecht) received the AMS Excellence in Teaching award in 2012.

Materials submitted indicate that in addition to participation in UCAR related activities in education and research, RSMAS remains committed to participation in UCAR governance. There has been significant collaborations with NCAR scientists as evident from co-authored publications in peer-reviewed journals. In the preceding 5 years there have been 15 papers co-authored with NCAR scientists. RSMAS faculty have participated in UCAR governance, including membership on the Board of Trustees (Clement), PACUR (Nolan), Nominating Committee (Avisar), OFAP Panel (Mapes), numerous advisory boards and committees and as visitors to ACD, CGD, MMM and EOL.

The UCAR Membership Committee concludes that membership criteria are fulfilled and recommends that the membership of the University of Miami be continued according the UCAR bylaws.