Thank you for considering me as a candidate for UCAR trustee. I take very seriously the importance of representing the University community and ensuring that UCAR serves our science and nation.

A decade ago, a list of our most significant challenges would have focused almost exclusively on scientific topics – advances in forecasting; observation systems and their continuity, climate prediction, and fostering interdisciplinary science – and on important UCAR-specific topics including the breadth of NCAR, observational and computational facilities, and UCAR’s role in educational programming. These continue to be extraordinarily important, and will remain so for many decades to come. Forecasting and prediction, and the observational systems that support scientific advancement, are simply too important for the protection of life and property, environmental stewardship and economic vitality. Further, as leaders in science of prediction, the atmospheric and ocean sciences are most certainly the foundation for forecasting and prediction advances in a host of other sciences, ranging from water resources to human health.

However, more than ever, we are dependent on resources, on the efficiency of our operations, and on our ability to prioritize during budget cuts and wisely invest when resources are available. Further, we must be able to consistently and persistently articulate the value of our science, and demonstrate through real measures that we are effective and efficient.

It is my hope that my combined experience in institutional leadership and university research will allow me to serve our community in a manner that matches our many challenges.