UCAR Membership Committee Review of
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California – San Diego

The Scripps Institution of Oceanography has been a member of UCAR since 1982. The primary UCAR-related research divisions at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) are Climate, Atmospheric Science, and Physical Oceanography (CASPO), the Marine Physical Laboratory (MPL), the Integrative Oceanography Division (IOD), and the Geosciences Research Division (GRD).

Program of Studies and Research

The renewal application packet reveals that SIO remains committed to its UCAR-related program of studies and research. Overall SIO has a staff of around 1700, including 163 professors and researchers, 315 other academics, 101 post docs, and 259 graduate students. An examination of the web link provided within the packet to perhaps the most UCAR-relevant division shows CASPO to be an active community of 42 professors and researchers, 20 post docs, and 47 graduate students. The description of the work done in each of these four divisions that is provided in the renewal application shows that their research is interdisciplinary and covers a wide range of UCAR-related subjects. SIO has an annual budget of $187 million.

Scripps Institution of Oceanography grants M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in three academic program areas, the Climate – Ocean – Atmosphere Program (COAP); Geosciences of the Earth, Oceans and Planets; and the Ocean Biosciences Program. Included within the COAP area, the most relevant to UCAR-related research, are Applied Ocean Sciences, Climate Sciences and Physical Oceanography. For the period of this review, 30 M.S. degrees (14 in Climate Sciences and 16 in Physical Oceanography) and 27 Ph.D. degrees (15 in Climate Sciences and 12 in Physical Oceanography) have been granted. The list of courses taught at SIO is wide ranging, and covers physical, chemical and biological aspects of the atmosphere – ocean – earth system allowing students to get a well-rounded, interdisciplinary education. The packet also provides detailed description of the rather well-endowed instructional and research facilities at SIO.

Progress in Atmospheric Sciences

SIO has demonstrated continued commitment to progress in UCAR-related sciences. More specifically progress in atmospheric science research at SIO has been made on atmospheric trace gases, exchanges between the ocean and atmosphere, sea-ice and ice-ocean interactions, climate modeling, long-term change in the ocean, the role of aerosols in radiative transfer and climate, paleoclimate and abrupt climate change studies, and climate prediction. During the current membership period, SIO scientists have published an extensive number of peer-reviewed papers on UCAR-related subjects.

Participation in UCAR Activities

The renewal application packet shows that SIO researchers and graduate students participate in the activities of UCAR. Examples provided are participation in UCAR meetings, development and/or use of NCAR models, collaborations with NCAR scientists, and service
on NCAR and NOAA/UCAR committees.

**Recommendation and Assessment of the Evaluation Committee**

The UCAR Membership Committee concludes that membership criteria are fulfilled, and recommends to the Members’ Representatives that the membership of Scripps Institution of Oceanography be continued as provided by the bylaws.