Enjoy this Conversation with Emily CoBabe–Ammann from the CSP Quarterly, April 2014

Please describe your work in climate services; what are UCAR’s greatest strengths?
[The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research] UCAR Community Programs are a set of eight independent service and education training programs that were all established to support the atmospheric and climate community. We’ve been looking at climate services as an area where these programs can work together, providing a way to build a bridge from stakeholders back to science, and translating the science such that non-specialists and decision makers can use it. Some of the areas that current UCP Programs have identified for this emergent work include international education and training programs and climate services and capacity building, including climate product evaluation, risk communication, and economic valuation of climate risk.

What do you see as the largest challenges to the development of climate services?
From where I’m sitting, it’s understanding user needs and finding ways to meet them. Every user and Stakeholder sits in a different spot. There’s not a way we can stick a scientist in everyone’s living room, so how do we connect the science to sectors and user groups? We’re all struggling with scalability because as soon as we have a model that works, we get fifty phone calls; it’s easy to outstrip our ability to address the increasing need for services. I think there is a role in virtual space to play in building solid communities of practice. But we will still need the human capacity to facilitate the use of very specific and technical tools, especially at the scales that are on the horizon.

What are your goals for the future of UCAR?
In addition to supporting the core missions of our programs, we’re aiming to find emerging areas of work; climate services and international education will allow the UCAR programs to work together in support of the international community. If we can achieve some level of integration and identify specific niches that are unique to UCAR, that is really the definition of success for me.

What is your favorite part of your work?
Climate services for UCAR involve a whole bunch of moving parts. We have programs with individual goals and personalities. We support 100 universities in addition to [the National Center for Atmospheric Research] NCAR, and then there is the national and international terrain. Finding a way to fit those moving parts together to meet our mission (“science in service to society”) is definitely the most fun for me.

How would you define climate services?
It’s interesting, everyone thinks about it in a
different way. When I think of climate services for UCAR, I’m thinking about the translation of science for stakeholders that provides both context and an understanding of uncertainty so that effective decisions can be made.

**We Want to Hear From You**

The UCP Director’s Office now has an online anonymous suggestion box as another way for staff to communicate directly with Emily. Comments or suggestions will be submitted anonymously to Emily’s email: https://www.fin.ucar.edu/ucpdir/internal/suggestionbox.php3

**Unidata News:**

Dr. Richard Signell of the United States Geological Survey has been awarded the 2014 Russell L. DeSouza Award by the Unidata Users Committee. The DeSouza Award honors "individuals whose energy, expertise, and active involvement enable the Unidata Program to better serve the geosciences."

Dr. Signell is a research oceanographer at the US Geological Survey in Woods Hole, MA. He has been a tireless proponent of Unidata software tools for more than twenty years. For more on Dr. Signell, the DeSouza Award, and a link to the recording of the award lecture, see http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/blogs/news/entry/rich_signell_receives_2014_desouza

**SciEd Update:**

**Resource for You!**

UCARConnect has purchased 25 music albums from Smartsound for UCAR video projects and other work–related multimedia needs. Please contact Teri Eastburn, UCARConnect Lead, if you are interested in accessing or reviewing this free–to–use music library.

**Mark Your Calendars:**

The UCAR Center for Science Education will be holding a brown–bag meeting from noon to 1 pm at FL2 1003 to explore educational ideas that address computer science (CS) and computational thinking in K–12 classrooms on Thursday, October 9th for all interested staff. We will share the statistics that convey the current CS landscape and why UCAR SciEd has an interest in helping address “a need where we lead.” Come and share your stories, interests, and perspectives on various educational ideas, as well as some of ours as we explore an educational imperative critical to UCAR and NCAR’s workforce of tomorrow.

The next Ignite NCAR will be held after the end of the UCAR Member’s Meeting on October 15th at 3:00pm at FL2 large auditorium. UCP’s own Karyn Sawyer will be one of eight presenters! More details to follow. We hope to see you there.

Save the date! Super Science Saturday will be held at the NCAR Mesa Lab on November 8, 2014 from 10am – 4pm. Please contact Eileen Carpenter, ecarpent@ucar.edu, x2401, if you’re interested in hosting a booth or volunteering at the event. For more information: http://scied.ucar.edu/events/2014-super-science-saturday
**JOSS News:**

**From the US CLIVAR Project Office**

US CLIVAR Call for Workshops and Working Groups Requests are now being accepted for US CLIVAR sponsored workshops and new Working Groups. The call for submissions is open to the US climate science community. Sponsored annually, open community workshops are used to coordinate, develop, plan, and implement new or focused activities for the benefit of the scientific community and relevant to the goals of US CLIVAR. The initiation of two new Working Groups will be sponsored annually with an objective to undertake actionable and measurable tasks over a 2–3 year period. Requests are due by October 17. For more details review:  
[Workshop Request](#)  
[Working Group Request](#)

**From the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program Office**

**Urban Carbon:** Manuscripts produced from the U.S. Carbon Cycle Science Program sponsored workshop on urban carbon–human interactions (held in October 2013) have been accepted for publication by ‘Earth’s Future’ for their special issue. For more information, see:  

**Coastal Carbon:** A [North American Coastal CARbon Synthesis (CCARS) community workshop](#) was held at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) in Woods Hole, MA from August 19 to 21, 2014. This event will lead to a science plan that will be developed in the Fall of 2014. See [https://www.carboncyclescience.us/news/CoastalCarbonSynthesisWorkshop](https://www.carboncyclescience.us/news/CoastalCarbonSynthesisWorkshop) for details.

**January 2015:** The call for abstracts and breakouts is now open at  

**Okeanos Explorer**

JOSS is supporting interns on the current mission of the Okeanos Explorer. From August through October 2014, Okeanos Explorer will explore the largely unknown deep-sea ecosystems of the U.S. Atlantic coast. Their at-sea and shore-based science team will collect baseline data in the Atlantic submarine canyons and along the New England Seamount Chain. [Read more...](#)

**New GlobalChange.gov Multimedia Gallery**

The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) National Coordination Office—part of JOSS—has released an online gallery that includes graphics from the National Climate Assessment and other USGCRP reports, plus a collection of global change visualization resources produced by USGCRP’s participating federal agencies. The gallery can be accessed at:  
[http://www.globalchange.gov/browse/multimedia](http://www.globalchange.gov/browse/multimedia)

**JOSS Events**

- Third Capacity Building Workshop of the WMO/IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) for the North Pacific Ocean and its Marginal Seas (NPOMS–3) – Application of Regional Ocean Observations for Increasing Society’s Understanding and Forecasting of Typhoons  
  6–8 Oct 2014, Kyoto, Japan

- IPCC Synthesis Report: Approval Plenary  
  24–31 Oct 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark

**2015 PI Meeting of the North American Carbon Program (PIM-5) to be held in Washington, DC in**
COMET Update:

- Rich Jeffries is on travel in Paraguay, representing UCAR, to attend the WMO RA–III meeting.
- Wendy Abshire, a AMS council member, has recently traveled to Boston to participate in the annual AMS Council meeting.

Latest MetEd Publications

1. **GOES-R GLM: Introduction to the Geostationary Lightning Mapper**
   The first part of the lesson describes the need for real-time lightning information and introduces the capabilities of the GLM, which will fly on the next-generation GOES-R satellites. The second section lets users explore the life cycle of a typical cloud-to-ground lightning flash, how it is observed by space and ground-based detection systems, and how lightning flashes translate into GLM observations. The final section explores some of the many applications that will benefit from GLM observations.
   Refer to: [https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1080](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1080)

2. **Interviews with Frank Leitz, Senior Chemical Engineer, Bureau of Reclamation**
   In three short video interviews, Frank Leitz, Senior Chemical Engineer with the Bureau of Reclamation shares stories and lessons learned from his work on water purification and desalination projects.
   Refer to: [https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1098](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_module.php?id=1098)

For a list of all modules on MetEd, including recent translations, please visit MetEd’s Module List at [https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_detail.php](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_detail.php)

GLOBE News:

**GLOBE / NASA Satellite Partnerships – Don't Miss the Opportunity to Become Part of a NASA Mission with GLOBE**
Along with the ongoing CloudSat and CALIPSO missions, The GLOBE Program involves educators, students and scientists in two new NASA satellite partnerships in 2014–15.
- Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM), launched on 28 February 2014
- Soil Moisture Active Passive (SMAP), scheduled for launch in January 2015

The GLOBE Implementation Office (GIO) invites UCAR/NCAR scientists to get involved by becoming a member of the GLOBE International Scientist Network (GISN). Lend your expertise to students in activities related to satellite missions, Earth and atmospheric science research, and STEM education. Learn more about ways to participate on the GISN webpage. For more information contact: [mailto:science@globe.gov](mailto:science@globe.gov).

**Student Art Competition**
The GLOBE student art competition to illustrate the 2015 GLOBE calendar is currently underway. GLOBE students from around the world are submitting original art that demonstrates the benefits of Earth observing satellite missions to their school and/or community in alignment with the theme *See Globally, Act Locally: How GLOBE Connects to Earth Observing Satellites.*
Artwork from last year’s GLOBE student art competition will be on display at the Mesa Lab from October through December. This is an annual event to share GLOBE student achievements with the UCAR/NCAR community.

**GLOBE Learning Expedition (GLE) 2014, New Delhi, India**
GIO staff recently returned from another amazing worldwide GLOBE community gathering that featured GLOBE student research presentations, field investigations, and cultural events. More than 300 participants from 29 countries took part. Get a glimpse of GLOBE’s premier event by viewing this short video.
VSP Update:

Host a PACE Fellow!
Application Deadline: 28 February 2015

Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise Fellowships “Keeping pace with a changing climate”

The UCAR Visiting Scientist Programs is seeking interested host partners to submit a Joint Statement of Intent (SOI) to host a PACE Fellow.

The goal of this program is to train climate researchers to transform their knowledge into solutions and tools for the decision/risk management community.

The PACE Fellowship Program is building a pool of scientists qualified to transfer advances in climate science and climate prediction into climate-related decision frameworks and decision tools. A Statement of Interest is coordinated between the proposing Climate Research Institute and Decision Making institute partners. The statement serves as an application, and a commitment to support half of the costs for a two-year appointment, on the part of the institutional partners to participate in PACE and to jointly host a postdoctoral fellow. Acceptance of institutional partners to participate in PACE will be based on how well the Statements of Intent align with PACE goals. Strong preference is given to institutional partners focusing on real-time climate-impacted decisions. PACE fellows spend significant time at both hosting institutions and, ideally, have an office space provided by the hosts in both locations.

The Statements of Intent inform the postdoctoral candidate finalists of the research possibilities and work locations that exist for each project, and serve as an agreement on the terms and commitments of the participating institutions.

For details on Hosting and how to apply to be a Host, please visit: http://www.vsp.ucar.edu/pace
For any other questions, please call (303) 497-1605 or e-mail vspapply@ucar.edu

MacArthur Foundation
2014 MacArthur “Genius Grant”

Dr. Tami Bond, a VSP NOAA Climate & Global Change Postdoctoral Fellowship Alumni from Class 10, has been awarded the 2014 MacArthur “Genius Grant”. The MacArthur Fellowship is a “no strings attached” award in support of people, not projects. Each fellowship comes with a stipend of $625,000 to the recipient, paid out in equal quarterly installments over five years. Dr. Tami Bond is currently a Professor and Arthur and Virginia Nauman Faculty Scholar at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois. See details at http://www.macfound.org/fellows/910/

This is the 2nd time one of the Climate & Global Change Postdoctoral Fellows have become recipients of the MacArthur “Genius Grant”. Dr. Peter Huybers of Class 14, was awarded this honor in 2009. See details at http://www.vsp.ucar.edu/about/stories/PeterHuybers.html