



UCAR News Release

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UCAR Media Advisory: Students To Explore Geoscience Careers at GEO Forum 2004

BOULDER - Undergraduate students interested in graduate studies in the geosciences will have a chance to explore career opportunities at GEO Forum 2004. GEO Forum, short for Grand Experiences and Opportunities in the Geosciences, will be held on Tuesday, March 30, at the National Academy of Sciences building in Washington, D.C.

The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) is cohosting the forum along with The National Academies, the American Meteorological Society, and the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area. Sponsors include TIAA-CREF, the Weather Channel, and RS Information Systems, Inc.

GEO Forum will give students a chance to learn more about careers in the geosciences, including opportunities in weather and climate, oceanography, seismology, geology, and public policy. Presenters include a scientist studying volcanoes on Mars, a broadcast meteorologist, a hurricane specialist, an astronaut who worked on the International Space Station, and more. The speakers will talk about what drew them to their careers, the surprises and rewards of their work, and the relevance of the geosciences to society. Warren Washington, a climate expert from the National Center for Atmospheric Research and chair of the National Science Board, will deliver a keynote address. UCAR President Richard Anthes will moderate a discussion on how students can make a difference with their careers. Margaret Leinen, assistant director for the geosciences directorate at the National Science Foundation, will be one of the panel members.

The goal of the forum is to increase the number of graduate students, particularly those from underrepresented groups, in the geosciences. Recruitment of future geoscientists has become a concern in recent years because the number of U.S. students entering graduate programs in the geosciences is decreasing, foreign students face greater difficulty in obtaining visas since September 11, and the median age of geoscientists currently in the field is rising.

Students can register for the event at www.ucar.edu/oga/geo_forum/registration.html.

The University Corporation for Atmospheric Research is a consortium of 68 universities offering Ph.D.s in the atmospheric and related sciences. UCAR manages the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and the UCAR Office of Programs (UOP).

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[More information about GEO Forum 2004](#)

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