



# **Charter for the ARM Climate Research Facility Science Board**

April 13, 2004

## **Mission Statement for the U.S. Department of Energy's ARM Climate Research Facility**

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) ARM Climate Research Facility (ACRF) has been designated a national user facility for the purpose of providing this unique asset for the study of global change to the broader national and international research community. Research at this facility will include the study of alterations in climate, land productivity, oceans or other water resources, atmospheric chemistry, and ecological systems that may alter the capacity of the Earth to sustain life. Global change research also includes the study, monitoring, assessment, prediction, and information management activities to describe and understand:

- The interactive physical, chemical, and biological processes that regulate the total Earth system
- The unique environment that the Earth provides for life
- The changes that are occurring in the Earth system and the environment and how these changes are influenced by human actions.

## **Objective of the ACRF Science Board**

The objective of the ACRF Science Board is to promote the nation's scientific enterprise by ensuring that the best quality science is conducted at the DOE user facility known as the ARM Climate Research Facility (ACRF). The goal of the user facility is to serve scientific researchers by providing unique data and tools to facilitate scientific applications for improving the understanding of climate science.

## **Function of the ACRF Science Board**

The function of the ACRF Science Board is to review proposals for use of the ACRF. These proposals may be submitted by the ARM Science Team or by any other interested users of the facility, including U.S. government agencies engaged in scientific research, colleges and universities, and other interested international scientific and educational bodies. The Science Board will coordinate with the ACRF Infrastructure Management Board to assess the availability and resource requirements of the proposed facility usage. While the ACRF does not provide direct funding for scientific research, small amounts of funding might be provided to allow the facility to assist with logistics, the development of data streams and archiving, and other activities associated with facility usage. The ACRF Science Board will consider facility usage proposals in a timely manner to assist scientific investigators with their proposals for funding from their prospective funding agencies.

An example of a proposal that would be considered by the ACRF Science Board includes the conduct of an Intensive Operational Period (IOP) at the ACRF, especially requests associated with use of the ARM Mobile Facility. The board may set up specialty teams to address particular issues under its mandate, e.g., logistics associated with use of the ARM Mobile Facility.

## **ACRF Science Board Members**

The ACRF Science Board will consist of eleven members, one of whom will be the chair. The members will consist of both ARM-supported scientists and scientists from the broader external community who have an interest in climate science—but with no direct prior relationship to the ARM community. The chair will be selected by the DOE ARM Program Manager and will be one of the members from the external ARM community. The ARM Chief Scientist, by virtue of his or her position, will be a de facto member of the board. The other four ARM board members will be the chairs of the ARM Science Working Groups unless otherwise directed by the DOE ARM Program Manager in consultation with the ARM Chief Scientist. All board members will serve a term of 2 years, which is renewable. In order to have the members serve overlapping terms, some initial members may be selected to begin as second year members with his or her term automatically being renewed for 2 more years—meaning the member is initially appointed to serve for 3 years. The DOE ARM Program Manager will approve all Science Board members.

The DOE will provide financial support for the ACRF Science Board. Board members with current ARM Program funding will be expected to cover the cost of travel and other items related to board activity under their current funding agreement. Other board members will have their costs reimbursed through agreements with the DOE.

## **ACRF Science Board Meetings and Communications**

The board will meet, at a minimum, once a year. Additional board meetings may take place at such times and places as determined by its members. Most communications are expected to take place via email and conference calls. The board will work by consensus of its members, and disputes will be mediated by the chair in conjunction with the DOE ARM Program Manager. Additional technical experts may participate in board deliberations at the invitation of the members.

In addition to the ACRF Science Board members, the ACRF Administrator and ACRF Science Liaison participate in meetings and assist with communications. The ACRF Administrator will be responsible for organizing meetings and teleconferences of the ACRF Science Board. The ACRF Science Liaison will serve as the executive secretary for the ACRF Science Board and will keep the minutes of the board meeting. The ACRF Science Liaison will also serve as the liaison between the ACRF Infrastructure Management Board and the ACRF Science Board.