

Greetings to the EOL staff! You are getting this newsletter from me instead of Al. He asked me send it out directly.

1. HIAPER was delivered on 11 March. Many of us were at Jeffco to see the landing – it was a great day after so many years of planning and waiting for the platform. Now the hard work is underway to turn the aircraft into a first rate research platform.

2. We are currently working hard on the ‘annual’ ABR process. I put ‘annual’ in quotation marks because it has been less than a year since the last exercise, and the schedule has been compressed this year in an attempt for NCAR to be better prepared with budget details at the beginning of a fiscal year – hence, we are now working on the details for FY06 and will be making some strategic projections for FY07. As mentioned in the January Newsletter, EOL is in relatively better shape than the rest of NCAR in terms of budgets; however, we still have requests that amount to more than the available money, so I have been working with the various managers during the past several weeks to refine our priorities. Our ABR meeting with Tim and Larry was on April 19th – sometime after that I’ll have real budget news for EOL. Our ABR is the first one in NCAR, so news will not be immediately forthcoming.

3. The OFAP will meet here in Boulder from 9-11 May in the Atrium. Requests being considered at this meeting may be found at http://www.atd.ucar.edu/dir_off/OFAP/panels/May05/panelMay05Requests.html Feasibility studies and cost estimates have now been completed for requests being considered at this meeting.

4. Reorganization discussions have been plentiful and detailed over the past few months. Meetings are being held with the JOSS staff member who will be moving over to EOL to determine where their skills will best fit into the reorganized Laboratory. Roger, Al and I have had several detailed discussions about the emerging form of the reorganization and Al expects to have a communication out to you with more details very soon.

5. NCAR received an effusive thank you letter from the RICO PIs – Tim was thrilled to receive it and shared it enthusiastically with the NCAR Director’s Committee. You can view the letter at http://www.atd.ucar.edu/generalinfo/newsletter/rico_kudos.pdf . EOL clearly did a remarkable job in supporting the RICO program. Congratulations and thanks to all!

6. I have joined EOL as Assistant Director. I’m working half-time until 1 July 05 when I’ll begin full time in anticipation of Roger’s arrival around 15 July. My extension is 8681, I’m in office 2062 in FL1, and my email is karyn@ucar.edu.

7. We've all been working hard on this year's performance evaluations. I want to thank the EOL staff who chaired various committees looking at particular job categories. Their diligent work made for an even-handed and consistent process for all staff. We're now in the process of salary setting to match the reviews. This year the range movement at UCAR is 2.5% and the cap is an average of 3%. Raises become effective 1 June this year. As soon as we have approval of our salary proposals from HR, the amounts of individual increases will be communicated by your supervisor.

8. Tim Killeen will be holding Town Meetings at the end of April – I encourage all interested staff to attend. Here is the schedule:

Tues., Apr. 26	3:30 p.m.	FL2 1022
Wed., Apr. 27	3:30 p.m.	ML Main Seminar

Announcements will appear in "Today@UCAR" and will be repeated closer to the dates. Tim will provide updates on a number of recent NCAR activities and highlights, the status of the reorganization process, and the current budget situation. He will also discuss the development of the next NCAR Strategic Plan.

9. At the last NCAR Directors' Committee meeting, UCAR outlined general plans for the 2005 Members' Representatives and Board of Trustees meetings, which are to be held in Boulder from October 3-6 this year. One of the features of this year's Members' Representatives meeting will be visits to the NCAR Laboratories by the members. Certainly for EOL this will involve (at least) a visit to RAF to see HIAPER – as plans evolve, we'll see about visits to other facilities within EOL. This is just a heads-up – no action needed just now.

10. Recently Tim and Larry sent a survey/questionnaire to a number of NCAR staff – and so far there have been few responses. The subject of the survey is collaborations across NCAR. If you have received a survey and haven't responded, please do so soon. A good sample of NCAR staff responses is needed for the survey to have any meaning for us.