

INCREASING ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN THE ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science (SOARS®) is a four-year program dedicated to increasing the number of African American, American Indian, and Hispanic/Latino students enrolled in master's and doctoral degree programs in the atmospheric and related sciences (www.ucar.edu/soars). SOARS "protégés" spend their initial summer at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) or the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research's (UCAR) Office of Programs (UOP) in Boulder, Colorado, while subsequent summers may be spent at NCAR, UOP, or one of several DOE, NASA, or NOAA national laboratories. During this time, protégés participate in ongoing research projects that may result in publishable papers and/or conference presentations; participate in an eight-week scientific writing and communication workshop; participate in seminars with peers and scientists; benefit from long-term mentoring from respected scientists and professionals; learn about education and career opportunities; are encouraged to apply to graduate programs; and may receive financial support for a graduate-level program. Now in its eighth year, SOARS continues to work with and celebrate its 84 protégés representing over 40 participating universities and colleges.

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