

Dr. Dragana Brzakovic
Science and Technology Centers: Integrative Partnerships
National Science Foundation
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

26 August 2020

Dear Dr. Brzakovic:

As the Program Leads for the *Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science* (SOARS[®]) program at the *University Corporation for Atmospheric Research* (UCAR)'s Center for Science Education, We are writing to confirm our intent to participate in the proposed Columbia-led **STC: Center for Learning the Earth with Artificial Intelligence and Physics (LEAP)**. Specifically, we will:

- Share the SOARS programs' best practices with LEAP Fellows and postdocs based at NCAR for summer visitations;
- Host a Professional Development workshop on climate data science for prospective SOARS protégés, co-taught by LEAP Fellows and postdocs;
- Help LEAP recruit interested returning SOARS Protégés into LEAP's 10-week summer research internships in climate data science;
- Connect LEAP Fellows and postdocs with interested SOARS Protégés for mentoring via monthly telecons, which would support the Protégés' acquisition of data science literacy and research skills before the summer internships;
- Disseminate calls for participation in LEAP's various programs and events to SOARS Protégés and alumni.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Kadidia Thiero, SOARS Program Lead



John D. Ristvey, Jr. Director, Center for Science Education
SOARS Principal Investigator