Students meet, work, and interact across institutions through CISM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provide graduate students with opportunities for broad-based research in CISM related fields and with professional mentoring and role models.</td>
<td>A thriving, diverse community of graduate students actively engaged in CISM research and related activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide undergraduates (2 and 4 year) with research opportunities (academic year and summer) as well as mentoring and role models.</td>
<td>A thriving, diverse community of undergraduate students actively engaged in CISM research and related activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide graduate and undergraduate students with opportunities to develop professional relationships with peers and working scientists in CISM related fields</td>
<td>Both CISM and non-CISM students interacting with peers and working scientists thorough CISM provided means</td>
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Conference Support

CISM students can provide mutual support to each other at conferences. Graduate students make a point to attend each other’s presentations and posters. With this support, students find it easier to integrate within the scientific community.

Graduate Student Retreat

Each year we hold a retreat for all CISM graduate students, lead by Jeffrey Hughes. The retreat is intended for students who are or will be engaged in CISM research and whom we expect to be within CISM for a few years, completing their thesis or dissertation on a CISM topic.

What Graduate Students Think

During individual confidential interviews, students expressed the following:

- One student commented that s/he likes being a part of an intimate active research community. S/he feels that people know what they are doing and that s/he have a “unique identity in the group” and that s/he “has a purpose in the group”.
- CISM provides and opportunity to interact with a diverse group of researchers at all levels.
- CISM provides a sense of being part of a big effort to develop something that can be useful.
- CISM provides opportunity to meet positive role models, particularly for women.

Shared Research

Students at different institutions work together on several research areas of CISM. The CISM Graduate Student Forum, monthly Access Grid meetings and the Graduate Student list server are used for a general call out for help or information, while phone calls and emails to individuals are a common occurrence.

Undergraduate Community

CISM encourages the involvement of undergraduates in research. In the last year there were 23 undergraduates involved in CISM research experiences distributed among 8 CISM institutions including 11 women and 5 US citizens from underrepresented groups. Undergraduates are mentored by their research advisor and graduate students in how to be a scientist. Exposure to current research topics through mentorship, community all-hands meetings and REU experiences at other CISM institutions makes their course work more relevant. Beginning in the Fall of ’06 we are planning to hold a Weekend Overview of Space Weather at NCAR and hope to visit the operations center at SEC.

Broader Experiences

Beyond their individual research areas and those emphasized in their own institutions, CISM graduate students
- Gain familiarity and experience with problems of the whole the sun-earth system.
- Work with established scientists at other institutions
- Are exposed to leaders in the field through presentations at CISM all-hands meetings and professional conferences.
- Form professional relationships with peers that will continue past graduate school.