

AAS Newsletter

A Publication for the members of the American Astronomical Society

4

AAS Elections
Preliminary Slate

President's Column

J. Craig Wheeler, aaspres@aas.org

4

Council Actions

From all indications, the Hawaii meeting was a success. The hotels were near the beach, and the convention center was a great environment for the scientific presentations. The interaction with the members of the Solar Physics Division was very satisfactory. The Sun is a star, and we do have issues in common! I got my first ever Aloha shirts from a nice little shop in the Ala Moana mall and sported two leis at the banquet.

5

Member Deaths

For those of you keeping score, the summer meeting is when people elected in January take office. John Huchra is now formally President Elect. I offer my personal thanks and that of the Society to Bob Kirshner for his four years of service as he steps down as Past President. We have a new Vice-President, Lee Hartmann, but will miss Wal Sargent who has completed his three-year tour. New Councilors are Chryssa Kouveliotou, Nick Suntzeff, Jay Lockman, and Gary Ferland, who will fill out the last year of Lee Hartmann's term. Our thanks to retiring Councilors, Karen Bjorkman, Jill Bechtold, and Alan Title. Richard Green became Chair-elect of the Publications Board and next June will replace Mike A'Hearn who really pitched in during this turbulent time for our journals.

5

Prize Nomination
Form

On that front, the journal transition is going quite smoothly. The folks at IOPP are working with us with great esprit and energy.

8-9

2006 Fiscal Report

We are trying to get the Council more involved in substantial long-range planning for the Society. To that end, we met a day early, Saturday, in Honolulu, to consider such issues. The clear highest priority was the general policy area. This is consonant with the anxiety we all feel for funding, large ground and space-based facilities, and related topics. I am going to work with Council to devise strategic goals for the Society in this context. This will serve to give overall guidance to our active Committee on Public Policy. Currently, CAPP is effective, but basically reactive. As a step in this direction, I have appointed Chryssa Kouveliotou to be the Council representative on CAPP. Two key ideas were enunciated at the retreat: the AAS is unique in that it represents all of astronomy; and the Council is unique because it is elected by that community. We need to focus on using that capacity to enrich our enterprise.

Back page
Washington
News

My call for people interested in thinking about the role of new modes of communication went out in an E-mail exploder and I had the first responses within minutes. I thank all of you who showed an interest. I hope to have a Committee on New Communications (CommComm?) formed by the time you read this.

Also in Honolulu, the Committee on the Status of Women in Astronomy held a session to address harassment. The topic was handled with great sensitivity. It is clear, unfortunately, that harassment, from subtle to overt, remains an issue. The Society has an anti-harassment policy, but we do not have a set of procedures to address the issue. We will develop such a set of procedures.

At this writing, we have not yet heard the results of the Beyond Einstein study (BEPAC). Congress is moving from authorization to appropriations, and there are some hints of good news. I hope that the completion of the difficult task of the NSF Senior Review is amply rewarded. Stay tuned.

2-4-6-8 everybody NOM-I-NATE!



AAS Officers and Councilors

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John P. Huchra, President-Elect
Paul A. Vanden Bout, Vice-President
Robert W. O'Connell, Vice-President
Lee W. Hartmann, Vice-President
Hervey (Peter) Stockman, Treasurer
John A. Graham, Secretary
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Timothy F. Slater, Education Officer
Stephen P. Maran, Press Officer

Councilors

Megan Donahue	Gary J. Ferland
Margaret M. Hanson	Suzanne L. Hawley
Chryssa Kouveliotou	Felix J. Lockman
Marc Postman	Nicholas B. Suntzeff
James S. Ulvestad	

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Crystal M. Tinch, Publications Specialist

The *AAS Newsletter* (ISSN 8750-9350) is published in March, June, August, October, and December by the American Astronomical Society, 2000 Florida Avenue, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20009-1231; Tel: 202-328-2010, Fax: 202-234-2560, aas@aaas.org; www.aas.org.

The \$125.00 annual membership dues for the American Astronomical Society include \$3.00 that is applied toward a subscription to the *AAS Newsletter*. Periodical postage paid at Washington, DC.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AAS, 2000 Florida Ave, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20009-1231.

Items of general interest to be considered for publication in the *AAS Newsletter* should be sent to crystal@aaas.org. Appropriate pictures are welcome. For information about deadlines and submitting articles, see www.aas.org/publications/newsletter.html. Items submitted to the *AAS Newsletter* are not automatically included in the AAS Electronic Announcements or vice versa. Submit electronic announcement items to crystal@aaas.org.

Judith M. Johnson, Editor
Crystal M. Tinch, Associate Editor
Jeff Linsky, U. Colorado, Associate Editor, Letters

Manuscript Submissions Using AASTeX

The *AJ* and *ApJ* accept manuscripts electronically that are prepared using the AASTeX manuscript package. Following are some important addresses for obtaining information about AASTeX and electronic submission.

AASTeX Homepage:

www.journals.uchicago.edu/AAS/AASTeX/

User Support: aastex-help@aaas.org

Journal Homepages/Manuscript Submission:

AJ, *ApJ*, *ApJL*

www.journals.uchicago.edu/ApJ/information.html

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For address changes, email address@aaas.org

Letters to the Editor

Denied Access to the Astronomical Literature

You reprinted an essay in the March/April issue by Marc Brodsky of the AIP about the role of copyright for Society journals. This essay gives us authors a valuable insight into the mind of our publishers. It is also very useful in explaining how these journals add value to our papers by using copyright along with peer review, that modern equivalent of the mystical medieval trial by ordeal, to build up a brand name that benefits us.

The essay has a darker side, however. It dismisses the idea of open access with such pejorative terms as “ideologues” and “wave of populism,” insinuating that open access conflicts with a publisher’s right to choose its own business model. Personally, I think business models are legitimately constrained by market forces, including intellectual attacks on copyright, and that the biggest threat to copyright comes from the destruction of the moral authority behind it by the greed of some copyright holders. However, as a practical matter, we authors all have an interest in open access far more important than our interest in the journals’ brands. As an author, I want my papers as widely available to potential competitors as possible. This availability is the lifeblood of every living academic discipline. Yet I effectively do not have access to much of the literature. When I find a recent paper in A&A on ADP, I get directed to a propriety site requiring a password. I surmise that astronomers at small universities without library subscriptions to the journals and individuals are in the same position. Europeans may have the same experience with our journals. It’s like having a door slammed in one’s face.

How might the Society help us with this problem of access to scientific literature in today’s changing environment? The AAS has an excellent program for access to its own journals through a modest annual fee that could serve as a starting point. I would like to see us extend this program to include the main European journals with a modest increase in the fee, perhaps \$20, with reciprocity to Europeans. This involves money publishers are not collecting now. The only potential drawback I see in this scheme is the possibility it might erode the publishers’ ability to continue milking libraries to support the processing of our papers. As I understand it, subscriptions, mostly institutional, have been covering roughly a third of such expenses for AAS journals.

Joel A. Eaton
eaton@donne.tsuniv.edu

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor on current issues of importance to astronomers are welcomed. Letters must be signed and should not exceed 250 words. Send to Jeff Linsky, Associate Editor, Letters, (jlinsky@jila.colorado.edu; 303-492-7838 phone; or 303-492-5235 fax) one week prior to the *AAS Newsletter* deadline. Letters may be edited for clarity/length (authors will be consulted) and will be published at the discretion of the Editors.

From the Executive Office

Kevin B. Marvel, Executive Officer, marvel@as.org

Oh boy was it ever hard to come back to hot and steamy DC from the cooling trade wind temperatures and welcoming aloha spirit of Hawaii! Thanks to all the local astronomers for their welcoming hospitality during our summer meeting and especially the observatories on Mauna Kea who held a very productive press tour for the members of the press and helped out with a tour for members as well. Some of our staff were also treated to a visit to the observing facilities on Haleakala and all were impressed by the clarity of the night sky from this wonderful location. More importantly, they all gained a new insight into the working life of astronomers and the deep passion we all have for our profession. This insight reinforces the value of their work in serving the AAS and has left a lasting impression on them all (so did the surfing lessons and snorkeling!).

As shared by our President in his column, the council completed a day long strategy formation session with a facilitator. What amazed me in this process was how quickly the two key reasons for the Society's existence came to the surface in the initial discussions. These are enabling astronomers to network and communicating scientific results, represented in the Society's activity portfolio by the organization of meetings and the publication of scientific journals.

Knowing that networking at our meetings is of key importance; future enhancements are needed that will connect astronomers and allow them to interact effectively. At a deep level, this aspect of our meetings has been simply left to chance. We organize the meetings and this brings everyone to the same location, but little effort has been expended to facilitate making these connections. If you have some ideas about how this is best accomplished, take a minute and send me an email. My initial solution is to focus on providing space for sitting down and talking or sharing data and results. Within limits placed upon us by local fire codes, we will make this space available at future meetings. Connecting people (especially at our large winter meetings) will be more of a challenge, but we will try and find some way to enable this as well.

The transition of our journals from UCP to IOP Publishing continues apace. This week, I am attending a meeting on the future of professional communication in astronomy, which is an irregular meeting organized by André Heck. Gathering together the publishers of nearly all astronomy research journals and many editors of these publications as well as members from the online resources available in our field (e.g. ADS) will no doubt provide much food for thought for future developments of our own journals.

The *Astronomical Journal* will begin accepting manuscripts in September 2007 through IOP Publishing. Although the details of using the submission tool will be different than before, the end result will be the same: your manuscript will be submitted to the peer review process and then, if accepted, to a world-class copyediting and typesetting system

to produce a high quality manuscript of uniform technical quality. 1 January 2008 will mark the first publication of an issue with IOP for the *AJ*. Given the amount of work already invested and the rapid progress made by both the *AJ* editorial office and the IOP transition team, our members can rest assured that they should see no difference in quality or timeliness in the publication of the *AJ*. If you have concerns or encounter any problem during the transition period, please send an email to journals.transition@as.org. This email comes directly to

me and I will answer each email received, forward it to the appropriate staff either at our Journals or at IOP and take action, if needed, to resolve any problems. Please do let me know when problems arise. Only by knowing something has happened can we fix the problem.

Finally, later this summer the AAS will be conducting a small survey of a subset our membership on the location and content of our summer meetings. If you are selected to participate in this survey, please take the time to complete the short online survey for us. Your answers will be used to help guide where we meet for future summer meetings and how we organize them. Thanks in advance for your help.

"...they all gained a new insight into the working life of astronomers and the deep passion we all have for our profession."

Secretary's Corner

John Graham, aassec@as.org

2007 AAS Elections Preliminary Slate

Vice-President	Christine Jones Melissa McGrath
Treasurer	Hervey Stockman
Councilors	Jason Glenn John W. Leibacher Nancy D. Morrison Patrick O. Slane C. Megan Urry Charles E. Woodward
USNC-IAU, Cat. I	Frederic Chaffee Sara R. Heap
Nominating Committee	Bruce W. Carney George A. Doschek James W. Liebert

Additional nominations for Officer or Councilor may be submitted by mail and must be accompanied by a written statement from the nominee indicating a willingness to serve and by the signatures of at least 30 voting Full Members of the Society. Additional nominations for the Nominating Committee must be proposed by at least five Full Members of the Society and must also be accompanied by the nominee's written statement indicating a willingness to serve. All nominations and supporting materials must be received by **15 September 2007** in the Office of the Secretary. Send nominations to: John A. Graham, Dept. of Terrestrial Magnetism, Carnegie Institution of Washington, 5241 Broad Branch Rd., NW, Washington, DC 20015.

Reminder for Prize Nominations

The AAS needs your help in getting due recognition for our most outstanding colleagues.

Nominations for the AAS Prizes for 2007 must arrive in the Secretary's Office by 1 October 2007. The Prize nomination form is published in this *Newsletter* and is also posted online in the members only area of the AAS website. This year, nominations are being received for the Annie Jump Cannon Award, the Newton Lacy Pierce Prize, the Helen B. Warner Prize, the Dannie Heineman Prize, the George Van Biesbroeck Prize, the Education Prize, the Joseph Weber Award for Astronomical Instrumentation, the Beatrice M. Tinsley Prize and the Henry Norris Russell Lectureship.

Council Actions

Council Actions Taken at the 210th Meeting of the Council of the American Astronomical Society in Honolulu, Hawaii, May 27, 2007

1. Adopted the Minutes of the AAS Council's 209th Meeting (Seattle) and of the Special Teleconference of Council on April 16, 2007 to consider and vote on the recommendations for a provider of the publishing services for the Society's journals.
2. Approved Executive Committee actions taken between January 7, 2007 and May 26, 2007.
3. Accepted the AAS 2007 election results.
4. Accepted the election of Mercedes R. Richards and Faith Vilas to the 2007 AAS Nominating Committee.
5. Accepted the election of J. Craig Wheeler, John P. Huchra, Paul A. Vanden Bout, Robert W. O'Connell, Hervey (Peter) Stockman, John A. Graham, and Kevin B. Marvel to the Executive Committee for the interval between the annual business meetings May 30, 2007 to June 3, 2008.
6. Appointed Gary J. Ferland to fill out the term of Lee W. Hartmann on the AAS Council from the Business meeting on May 30, 2007 until the Business meeting on June 3, 2008.
7. Appointed James A. Klimchuk to replace John W. Leibacher as representative of the solar physics community on the Committee on Astronomy and Public Policy.
8. Appointed Jay M. Pasachoff as AAS representative to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
9. Appointed Kartik Sheth as AAS representative on the American Institute of Physics Liaison Committee on Under-Represented Minorities.
10. Approved the rules for the establishment of the Working Group on Laboratory Spectroscopy.
11. Moved to formulate a business plan for the publication of the Astronomy Education Journal.
12. Approved the Financial Reports for 2006.
13. Accepted the Audit Report for 2006.
14. Adopted an amended budget for 2008 (dues increase to \$133).
15. Elected Anne Cowley and Gary Ferland to four year terms on the Publications Board.
16. Elected Laura Danly, Mark Voit, and Sidney Wolff to 3 year terms on the Board of Education.
17. Appointed members of the Standing Committees following recommendations of the Committee on Appointments.

2007 AAS Prize Nomination Form

Please read the full descriptions of the AAS prizes and awards on www.aas.org or abbreviated information on page 11 of the 2007 *AAS Membership Directory*.

All nominations are due by **1 October 2007** and should be sent to the Secretary of the AAS:

John A. Graham
Dept. of Terrestrial Magnetism
Carnegie Institution of Washington
5241 Broad Branch Rd., NW
Washington, DC 20015

I wish to nominate (Name)

of (Institution)

for the following prize (check one):

<input type="checkbox"/> Russell Lectureship	<input type="checkbox"/> Warner Prize
<input type="checkbox"/> Pierce Prize	<input type="checkbox"/> Education Prize
<input type="checkbox"/> Van Biesbroeck Prize	<input type="checkbox"/> Heineman Prize
<input type="checkbox"/> Weber Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Cannon Award
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinsley Prize	

Please note: send a letter with this form stating upon which major scientific achievements you base your belief that this person is a suitable candidate for the prize. Enclose a curriculum vitae of the nominee, bibliography and abstracts of three papers illustrative of the candidate's merit, and request that three supporting letters also be sent to the Secretary.

Print Your Name _____

Signature _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Member Deaths

The Society is saddened to learn of the deaths of the following members, former members and affiliate members:

Kenneth L. Franklin
Michael W. Johnson
Frank C. Jones

Opting Out of AAS Publications

If you would no longer like to receive paper copies of the *AAS Newsletter*, the *AAS Membership Directory*, or the *AAS Calendar*, please send an email to address@aaas.org.

To unsubscribe from AAS emails, contact address@aaas.org

Member Spotlight

In each issue, we will feature one member, their research or other work, a bit of their history and their picture. We will accept suggestions for this feature, but no self-nominations. If you know of a fellow member who does interesting research, came to our field through interesting circumstances or is just a fantastic person, consider submitting their story to us for possible publication (500 word limit). We will only publish stories approved by members willing to be featured. Email your suggestion to Crystal Tinch, crystal@aaas.org.

Education News

AAS and ASP Pick Top Astronomy Projects at the 2007 Intel International Science & Engineering Fair

by Terry D. Oswalt

Two high school students, Temple Mu He and Emily Brook Petroff, were the recipients of the 2007 Priscilla and Bart Bok Awards sponsored by the American Astronomical Society (AAS) and Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP). Their outstanding astronomical research projects were exhibited at the 2007 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), held in Albuquerque, NM during the week of 13-19 May 2007.

Temple Mu He, an 18-year old senior at Troy High School, Troy, Michigan won the AAS-ASP Bok First Place Award and a \$5000 scholarship for his project, "Period Analysis of Cataclysmic Variable X10 and its Implication on the Origin of Low States." His teacher/sponsor was Rebecca Johns.

Emily Brook Petroff, a 16-year-old junior at Oregon Episcopal School, Portland Oregon, won the AAS-ASP Bok Second Place Award and a \$3000 scholarship for her project, "Variation in Star Formation Rate from Galaxy Cluster Center of cl1037." Petroff's teacher/sponsor was Rosa Hemphill.

The AAS-ASP judging team consisted of lead judge Dr. Catherine Garmany of the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, Dr. Robert Havlen, formerly of the ASP, and Dr. John McGraw of the University of New Mexico. Havlen presented the Bok Awards on behalf of the AAS and ASP during the Special Awards ceremonies, held at the Portland Convention Center on Thursday evening, May 17th.

Both students will be invited to present their projects to the professional community at an upcoming AAS meeting. The high school science departments of each student will receive \$1000. Since 2000, the scholarships and science department

contributions have been provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation, administered by the AAS on behalf of the participating professional organizations.

In addition, Temple He was one of three finalists of the Seaborg SIYSS Award, an all expense-paid trip awarded to three senior finalists to attend the Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar during the Nobel Prize Ceremonies in December.

The SIYSS is a multi-disciplinary seminar highlighting some of the most remarkable achievements by young scientists from around the world. The students have the opportunity to visit scientific institutes, attend the Nobel lectures and press conferences, learn more about Sweden and experience the extravagance of the Nobel festivities.

The SIYSS will be held in Stockholm, Sweden in December. Students must meet the 18-year age requirement to be considered. The history of SIYSS began as early as 1976 when the first seminar was organized by the Swedish Federation of Young Scientists together with the Nobel Foundation, with inspiration from Science Service. The award is named for the late Glenn T. Seaborg, Nobel Laureate in chemistry and Science Service trustee.

Science Service publishes the weekly *Science News*, and hosts the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. Each year more than 3 million students complete science research projects. More than 1000 students from over 50 countries earn the right to compete at the Intel ISEF for scholarships, tuition grants, internships, and scientific field trips. The Grand Prize awardees are invited to attend the Nobel Prize Ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden. Science Service began the ISEF in 1950. The AAS, ASP and IAPPP have co-sponsored special awards in astronomy at the annual ISEF since 1991. Additional information about the ISEF can be found at www.sciserv.org

SSB Announces New Membership

The Space Studies Board of the National Research Council has announced its new membership as of 1 July 2007. The SSB is a critical board of the NRC providing substantial advice to Congress and the Administration on matters related to Space Science. The AAS is proud to have a number of members on this important board.

Lennard A. Fisk, U. of Michigan, Chair
A. Thomas Young, Lockheed Martin (ret.), Vice Chair
Spiro K. Antiochos, Naval Res. Lab.

Daniel N. Baker, U. of Colorado
Steven J. Battel, Battel Engineering
Charles L. Bennett, Johns Hopkins U.
Elizabeth Cantwell, Los Alamos
Jack D. Fellows, UCAR
Fiona Harrison, CalTech
Tamara E. Jernigan, Lawrence Livermore
Klaus Keil, U. of Hawaii
Molly Macauley, Resources for the Future
Berrien Moore, III, U. of New Hampshire
Kenneth H. Nealson, USC
James Pawelczyk, Penn State
Soroosh Sorooshian, UC-Irvine

Richard H. Truly, Nat'l Renewable Energy Lab (ret.)
Warren M. Washington, NCAR
Charles E. Woodward, U. of Minnesota
Joan Vernikos, Thirdage, LLC
Joseph F. Veverka, Cornell
Gary P. Zank, UC - Riverside

AAS member names in bold



Kenneth Franklin, 1972
AMNH / S&T Archives

Kenneth L. Franklin (1923-2007)

Kenneth Linn Franklin, the first Public Affairs officer of the AAS, is said to have succumbed to complications from heart surgery in Boulder, Colorado, on June 18, 2007.

Franklin had been a staff member at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium from 1956 to 1984, when he retired. He was Chief Scientist at that institution for most of his tenure there and Chairman from 1972 to 1974. From 1973-1979, he was the AAS Public Affairs officer.

Born in Alameda, California on March 25, 1923, Ken Franklin took his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley in 1953. In 1954-1956, he was a Research Fellow at the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. It was there that he and Bernard F. Burke discovered decametric radio emissions from Jupiter. They reported this discovery at the Spring 1955 AAS meeting held at Princeton.

During the three decades that Franklin lived in New York, he brought practical astronomy to millions through his multiple roles as a producer and lecturer of planetarium shows, as Visiting Professor at New York metropolitan area colleges, and as a columnist for the *New York Times*. He was the astronomy editor for the *World Almanac* (1968-1996), and prepared data for the *Farmer's Almanac* (1980-1992). A gifted speaker, Franklin was a master at drawing connections between ideas, and exercised these gifts as a Harlow Shapley Visiting Lecturer and AAS Visiting Professor.

Ken had a keen sense of humor, much of it self-deprecating. In his office he kept a poster that read “The Universe? It’s a living.” He developed a lunar chronograph so that future astronauts could tell the time of lunation. With recent discussions of lunar bases, it may well prove to be of wider interest.

Hofstra Astronomy Outreach Brings Star-Gazing to Families of Hospitalized Kids

In March 2007, Hofstra University’s astronomy outreach program brought the stars and Saturn’s rings down to earth for hospitalized children and their families at the Ronald McDonald House of Long Island

AAS Member Donald A. Lubowich, Hofstra’s astronomy outreach coordinator who runs the monthly “Stars on Sunday” star-gazing program, provided hands-on observations of the moon, Saturn, and the stars. The program is tailored for children and includes “edible demonstrations” using chocolate, nuts and marshmallows to explain the formation of the Earth.

The program was made possible through a NASA Initiative to Develop Education through Astronomy and Space Science (IDEAS) outreach grant awarded to Lubowich and used to purchase a telescope. IDEAS is administered by Space Telescope Science Institute; and Lubowich donated the telescope to the Ronald McDonald House for future programs.

The Ronald McDonald House of Long Island provides families a home-away-from-home during their child’s treatment at local hospitals. The facility has served more than 10,000 families since 1986, with more than half coming from the boroughs of New York and Long Island.



2006 AAS Fiscal Report

The firm of Tate & Tryon audited the accounts of the Society for the year ending December 31, 2006. This audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and indicated no material problems while confirming that the AAS was in compliance with the required accounting provisions. This report was submitted to and accepted by the Council at its meeting on 27 May 2007.

The Society reports its finances in six categories (see Table 2) according to the nature of the activities and the source of the revenues:

(1) **General Programs:** This includes the Society's general operations and administration. In addition, the General Fund covers the income and expenses of all Society programs including educational and public policy activities, and meetings. Also under this heading are the general publications handled by the Executive Office, including the *AAS Newsletter*, the *AAS Job Register*, and the *AAS Membership Directory*.

(2) **Journals:** Each of the journals published by the AAS is operated as a distinct cost center. AAS bylaws, Article VIII.3, mandate that each Journal maintain a reserve fund equal or above the level of one-half of the annual operating expenses. At the end of 2006 the three AAS journals had reserve funds totaling \$6,435,255, or 98% of the overall operating costs of the journals.

At the close of 2006 the reserve fund for long-term maintenance of the journal electronic archives had reached a balance of \$398,803. To date, nothing has been withdrawn from this fund.

(3) **Divisions:** These comprise the finances of the five AAS Divisions and their related prizes. The Divisions legally fall under the oversight and fiscal responsibility of the AAS Council, but each Divisional Committee makes the financial decisions of its Division and the fiscal details are reported directly to the members of the Division. The figures in Table 2 include all Division funds whether held by the Division Treasurers or in the Society's general accounts.

(4) **Bequests and Memorials:** These include the AAS prizes and other funds established by gifts and bequests to the Society. The timing of the actual awarding of the various prizes causes the fluctuations in expenses between successive fiscal years. The balances of the principle funds on 31 December 2006 are shown in Table 1.

(5) **Grants and Contracts:** The bulk of this category is in Federal Grants

- NASA supported AAS Small Research Grants,
- NSF International Travel Grants,
- NSF funding for the Bok and Lines Awards

Table 1. Bequests and Memorial Fund Balances

Fund	Balance as of 12-31-06
Gaposchkin	40,456
Russell	200,453
Warner	53,675
Pierce	124,366
Chretien	244,665
Tinsley	59,260
Brown	110,278
Van Biesbroeck	61,007
Kovalenko/Roberts	34,163
Education Prize	53,603
Chambliss	51,849
Weber Award	109,339

(6) **Other:** This includes the General Operating Reserve and accounts for the Shapley Visiting Lecturer Program, and a variety of other special purpose funds. The General Operating Reserve stood at \$1,403,928. The fund balance for the Shapley Lecture Program was \$644,400 as of 31 December 2006.

Summary

The overall financial picture for the Society remains stable. In 2006, there was an overall increase in net assets in the amount of \$818,840; resulting in a total net assets of \$10,863,682 as of 31 December 2006. The largest change from 2005 was an increase in interest and market value of our investments. While the net assets increased in 2006, the General Fund experienced a deficit of \$475,441. This deficit is mainly attributable to the poor attendance and increased costs in Calgary. It is important to note that over the past 10-year period, the General Fund produced deficits in all years except 2000 and 2001. Overall, the average annual deficit was \$160,659 throughout the 10-year review period. In years where there were operational deficits, transfers were made from the Operating Reserve Fund to offset the loss. Due to the deficits over the years, the Operating Reserve Fund Balance has decreased by approximately \$600,000 over the 10-year review period. The Executive Office will be presenting an Operating Reserve Fund Balance policy to Council in 2007 to curtail the depletion of the reserves.

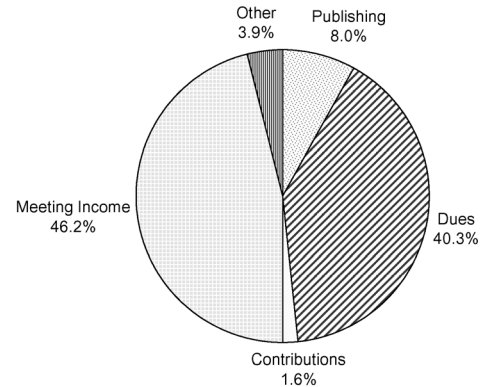
Table 2. Statement of Income and Expense for 2005 and 2006

	2005	2006
Unrestricted Net Assets		
Revenue		
General programs	1,580,681	1,680,048
Journals	6,816,546	7,489,990
Divisions	675,239	420,030
Bequests and Memorials	0	0
Grants and Contracts	225,851	323,342
Other	50,808	223,068
Released from restrictions	96,039	82,790
Total revenue (unrestricted)	9,445,164	10,219,268
Expenses		
General Programs	1,724,768	2,154,129
Journals	6,273,303	6,787,450
Divisions	614,794	409,786
Bequests and Memorials	53,518	52,659
Grants and Contracts	248,396	334,744
Other	43,328	20,965
Total expenses	8,958,107	9,759,733
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	487,057	459,535
Change in Restricted Net Assets	5,636	359,303
Change in total net assets	492,693	818,838
Net assets		
Beginning of year	9,552,151	10,044,844
End of year	10,044,844	10,863,682

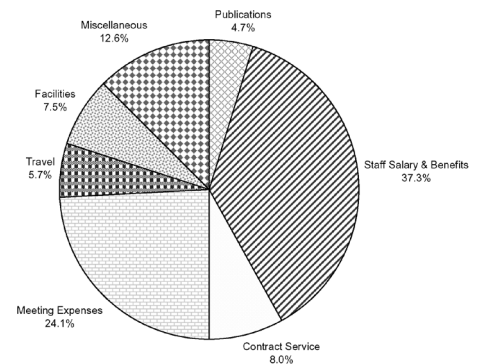
Table 3. Balance Sheet for December 31, 2005 and 2006

	2005	2006
Total Assets	13,467,208	13,663,195
Current Assets	4,124,782	2,656,469
Fixed Assets	23,958	22,321
Other Assets	9,318,468	10,984,405
Total Liabilities	13,467,208	13,663,195
Current Liabilities	820,178	697,591
Deferred Revenue	2,602,186	2,101,922
Net Assets	10,044,844	10,863,682
Unrestricted	7,988,354	8,447,889
Temporarily restricted	1,646,386	2,005,189
Permanently restricted	410,104	410,604
Liabilities & Net Assets	13,467,208	13,663,195

**2006 General Fund Revenue
\$1,680,048**



**2006 General Fund Expenses
\$2,167,7000**



Committee on the Status of Women in Astronomy

Patricia Knezek (CSWA Chair, WIYN Observatory, knezek@noao.edu)

CSWA Chair Changes Hands

I am delighted to announce that the AAS Council selected CSWA member Geoffrey Clayton to chair the CSWA for the 2007-2008 year. I have been working with Geoff on the committee for the past year, and I know he will bring some fresh ideas to the committee and do an all-around excellent job! After four exciting years as CSWA chair, I decided it was time to step down. It has truly been a pleasure serving as chair, working on many worthwhile projects, and with many wonderful people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the CSWA members who have served during my tenure, *STATUS* co-editors Fran Bagenal, Joannah Hinz, and Meg Urry, the AAS Executive Officers, Council, and staff, and the untold numbers of women and men who have helped out in various capacities. We could not do it without you! I will continue to serve on the CSWA for another year, and plan to focus my efforts on planning the next steps in the implementation of the AAS/AIP Longitudinal Study of the career paths of astronomers.

Update on the AAS/AIP Longitudinal Study

The AAS, American Institute of Physics (AIP), and CSWA are delighted to report that the initial survey of the planned long-term (10+ years) longitudinal study of the career paths of women and men in astronomy has been sent out! This first survey has been distributed to graduate students registered in 2006-2007 in astronomy and astrophysics (including planetary science and solar physics). Our goal is to track the current cadre of students as they progress throughout their careers, learning not only what their varied career paths are, but also why they are pursued. The AIP is providing in-kind contributions by administering the survey and working with the Longitudinal Study Working Group to generate a report of the findings by early 2008. The AAS is providing the funding needed to collect the surveys and publish the report. We would like to encourage all graduate students to please take the time to respond!

Activities at the May AAS Meeting in Honolulu

Special Session on Women of Solar Physics

The CSWA sponsored an outstanding special session on Thursday, 31 May 2007 at the Honolulu AAS Meeting. The session was entitled “Women of Solar Physics: Status and Science,” and reviewed the achievements of women in the field of solar physicists and highlighted the current research of three solar physicists. Joan Schmelz chaired the session.

The first talk was by Andrea Dupree (Center for Astrophysics, Harvard) entitled “Women of the Solar Physics Division,” focusing on the historical contributions of women to solar

physics. The three science talks were “Following the Trail of Heavy Ions through the Solar Corona and into the Solar Wind,” by Shadia Rifai Habbal (Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii), “Are inputs to standard solar models correct?” by Sarbani Basu (Yale University), and “A Solar Cycle Prediction Puzzle’s Possible Explanation?” by Janet Luhmann (SSL, UC Berkeley). All of the talks were followed by time for questions. The session was very well-attended, and we would like to thank both our speakers and all of those who participated.

CSWA Town Hall on Harassment in Professional Environments

The CSWA held a town hall later that day focusing on harassment issues. The goals of the session were (1) to (re)educate people about what can constitute harassment; (2) to briefly review what a victim should do if a grievance procedure exists; (3) to begin to develop a set of guidelines with the AAS and its divisions for a grievance procedure associated with incidents at official AAS/Division functions.

The session started with a presentation by myself. I noted that the session was prompted by a series of items in the AASWOMEN electronic newsletter that indicated that people are still facing harassment, and not just sexual harassment. The CSWA concluded that it was important to remind our community about harassment and how to deal with it. I pointed out that most universities, colleges, and other institutions have clear guidelines and procedures to follow if an incident (or multiple incidents) occur, and encouraged every AAS member to familiarize him or herself with the policy at their home base. However, it is clear that incidents also occur at professional meetings and other venues outside our “normal” workplace. Then it can be difficult to know how to proceed. I emphasized that the AAS is committed to non-discrimination (see www.aas.org/governance/bylaws.php). However, there are no guidelines or procedures currently in place if something occurs at one of the AAS/Division functions. I told the audience that the CSWA contacted the AAS Executive Officer, Kevin Marvel, who immediately expressed a willingness to address this issue. I concluded with the “American Physical Society Policy on Equal Professional Opportunity,” and the “American Geophysical Union Policy for Dealing with Harassment by Staff, Volunteers, and Vendors,” policies, suggesting they could possibly provide a starting point.

After my presentation, there was a very productive discussion session. Some people described personal incidents, and how they had dealt with them. Then the discussion led into the next steps for the AAS as an organization. AAS President

continued on page 13

Committee on Employment

Hiring Advice: Taking Care of Job Candidates

Academic job advice is generally offered to those on the seeking end – the job candidates. Departments will be in the best position to woo their favorite candidate if they have treated all of them well throughout the interview process. Based on the experiences of successful faculty candidates, we offer a smattering of best practices for Departments and Deans to assist in making the search process a positive experience for everyone involved. The entire process involves a huge amount of work for both the departments and the job candidates, and a few small things can make a big difference.

(1) The Chair of the Search Committee should contact (either by phone or email) everyone on the short list personally. An email from department staff can imply that the Search Committee Chair isn't really interested in a candidate.

(2) The hosting department should pay for major costs such as airfare and hotel up front. Universities can take months to reimburse candidates, and this delay can become a financial strain—particularly for someone doing several interview trips.

(3) Actively manage candidates' visits, especially by helping them keep to their schedule (i.e., rescuing them from your long-winded colleagues). A candidate is not in a position to break off a conversation to insist on making it to the next appointment on time, and a timely visit by the host helps quite a bit. Remember that they need breaks to get water, go to the bathroom, and make sure that their computer talks to the projector – including these in the itinerary is a good idea.

(4) Write down a list of questions that all candidates are asked. Every interview will be unique in some respects, but with a written list of questions the interviewers can be sure that the candidates are interviewed on a level playing field. Since the interviews are generally carried out over weeks, writing down the important questions can help ensure that nothing gets missed. This goes together with (3) above in actively managing the interviews.

(5) Give the candidate access to a private visitor's office to leave a coat and laptop and to check email. It is very helpful to have a place to go during scheduled breaks, or if a meeting gets canceled.

(6) Make sure that all candidates, and particularly women, have an opportunity to meet with at least one female faculty member. If you don't have any in your department (why don't you have any in your department?), then borrow one from a related department under the same Dean.

(7) Let job candidates know where they stand in the process. They shouldn't have to read the rumor page to learn about the latest status of the job. When the shortlist has been made, send an email rejection letter to everyone who won't be interviewed. When offers are made, send a prompt and personalized rejection or wait-list letter/email to everyone who has been interviewed. The best rejection letters include the reason the decision was made (best programmatic fit, more teaching experience, etc.). After investing significant time and energy into preparing and then performing for what is typically a grueling two full days, candidates deserve this common courtesy.

(8) Put job candidates up at decent hotels. Few people should be expecting the Ritz-Carlton, but a cheap motel in a seedy area of town really doesn't provide a good first impression of your department. It makes the department seem cheap or poorly funded, and the location unappealing. The money saved compared to a decent hotel is a tiny fraction of the cost of a job search. The minimum requirements are someplace clean and safe, with space to work and high-speed Internet access.

(9) Before the interview process starts, the department should ensure that everyone involved (interviewers, other faculty, staff, postdocs, graduate students) understands what are and are not appropriate questions to ask job candidates. Do not ask if job candidates have children, spouses, partners, etc. Do not refer to a female candidate as 'young lady.' This is not charming, even coming from a venerable emeritus faculty. Do not ask if candidates plan to have children or how they are going to manage their two-body problem. These questions are illegal in many places, and inappropriate in all.

The AAS Committee on Employment is pleased to highlight useful resources for astronomers. Please check out our website (www.aas.org/career/) for additional resources and contact information for the committee members.

News from NSF Division of Astronomical Sciences

Eileen D. Friel, Executive Officer, Division of Astronomical Sciences, efriel@nsf.gov

New Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide

NSF has published a new *Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide* (PAPPG - NSF 07-140) which is effective for all proposals submitted after 1 June 2007. This new guide combines the former NSF *Grant Proposal Guide* (GPG) and the *Grant Policy Manual* (GPM) into a single publication that provides all the documents relating to NSF's proposal and award process. It will also incorporate the *NSF Grants.gov Application Guide* at a later date. The new PAPPG supercedes all prior versions of the GPG and the GPM and can be found at: www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?pgg.

There are several important changes to the guidelines for the preparation of proposals, particularly pertaining to the requirements for formatting proposals. These include new limitations on allowable fonts, spacing, and type density. Prospective PI's are strongly encouraged to review the new guidelines and ensure that their proposals conform strictly to the requirements. Proposals that do not meet the submission requirements may be returned without review.

In the March 2007 newsletter, we provided a list of common problems with proposals that may lead to their return without review. We encourage PI's to review this list which provides more detail but remind PI's that those most detrimental to the review process are:

- failure to address broader impacts in the proposal summary and project description,
- failure to include results from prior support
- violating the requirements for font type, font size and print density
- figures which are impossible to read and that overlap into the required page margins
- lack of complete information in the biographic sketch, particularly that on collaborators.

We urge PI's to read the new PAPPG carefully for these requirements and to contact a program officer in the Division if you have any questions or would like more information. It is an unfortunate waste of effort and time to prepare a proposal that is returned without review because of lack of attention to these details.

Results from NSF support

If you hold an NSF grant and are about to publish a paper that you feel would be of interest to the public, or are planning on news releases that involve work supported by NSF, we urge you to let us know. Please contact your program director well in advance of publication of the press release so that we can coordinate possible joint releases, or prepare to highlight the work on NSF's web site. Depending on the importance of the news item, NSF may wish to plan a press conference concerning the news item.

We also remind you that *NSF Grant General Conditions* call for an acknowledgment of NSF support in any publication (including World Wide Web pages) of any material based on or developed under your award, and orally during news media interviews, including popular media such as radio, television and news magazines.

Recognition of NSF support of noteworthy scientific and educational activities is essential to our demonstrating the importance and relevance of NSF funding, so please help us in making this message as clear and as prominent as possible.

New Faces at NSF

The Division is pleased to welcome Dr. Linda Sparke to NSF as a program director in the Astronomy and Astrophysics Research Grants program. Linda comes to AST as a visiting scientist from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she has been a professor for 18 years. Her research centers on the structure and dynamics of galaxies, particularly disk systems, and the structure, stellar populations and gas distribution in galaxies. She has also been active in undergraduate and graduate education, including initiating an AST-supported REU site at Wisconsin, and is well known for her authorship of a textbook for advanced undergraduates. Linda's broad experience in galactic and extragalactic astronomy, astronomy education, and community service will be a valuable addition to the Division.

Updates on Deadlines

NSF has released a new solicitation for the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. It establishes a deadline of 13 September 2007 for FY2008 funding. Please see the program announcement NSF 07-569 at www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf07569. If you have further questions, please contact Brian Patten (bpatten@nsf.gov).

Volunteer for panel reviews

The best way to learn about the review process at NSF and to gain insights into what it takes to write a successful proposal is to participate in the proposal review process. Each year the Division calls on over 150 people to provide expert reviews and advice on the merit of the proposals submitted to the grants programs. Reviewers perform an essential service for NSF and the community. But they also see a wide range of proposals, both successful and unsuccessful, read about very good, current science, exchange ideas with colleagues on the

panel and at NSF, and learn about the process of panel review. The experience is one of the best ways to prepare for writing your own proposal.

If you would be interested in serving on a review panel at NSF, please let us know, by contacting a program officer (Nigel Sharp (nsharp@nsf.gov), Vern Pankonin (vpankoni@nsf.gov), Mike Briley (mbriley@nsf.gov), Brian Patten (bpatten@nsf.gov), or Eileen Friel (efriel@nsf.gov)).

CSWA continued from page 10

Craig Wheeler, AAS Executive Officer Kevin Marvel, and AAS Secretary John Graham were all present, involved in the discussion, and very receptive to the ideas expressed. Kevin stated that the AAS would begin working on a set of guidelines and procedures. The CSWA would like to thank all of those who attended for making it such a successful session.

The CSWA has posted the speakers' presentations for both the Women of Solar Physics and the CSWA Town Hall off of the CSWA website, see www.aas.org/~cswa/MAY07/. Presentations are available in pdf, and often in powerpoint as well.

AASWOMEN Electronic Newsletter Update

With the AAS web server migration, there have been a few glitches and bumps in the road. We apologize, and hope that all has smoothed out again now. If you think you may have missed some issues, please remember that all issues are posted off of the CSWA website, see www.aas.org/cswa/AASWOMEN.html. If you think you are subscribed, but are no longer receiving issues, please email itdept@as.org.

Below are the new instructions for submitting something to AASWOMEN for publication, as well as for subscribing and unsubscribing.

To submit to AASWOMEN:

send email to aaswomen@as.org

All material sent to that address will be posted unless you tell us otherwise (including your email address).

To subscribe or unsubscribe to AASWOMEN

go to <http://lists.aas.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/aaswlist>

and follow the instructions for subscribing to AASWList.

AASWList is the mailing list for the weekly electronic newsletter, AASWOMEN. <<http://lists.aas.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/aaswomen>>

If you experience any problems, please email itdept@as.org

New Comprehensive Biography, Maria Mitchell

A new comprehensive biography of Maria Mitchell, commissioned by the Maria Mitchell Association and the Egan Maritime Foundation, is now available. Maria Mitchell is usually celebrated as the first American female astronomer of worldwide reputation. Her achievements as a pioneer in the education of women at Vassar College, and as a national leader of women's movements in the latter half of the 19th century, are less well known. This book draws on journals, scholarly publications and letters to show how this extraordinary woman launched herself into the largely male worlds of science and education, and left a substantive mark on both.

Information at: www.eganmaritime.org/MariaMitchell.html. The book can be ordered from the publisher at: www.nantucket.net//HTTPS/eganinstitute.org/Forms/orderform.html

Session Proposals

St. Louis Meeting in a Meeting

The AAS summer meeting structure is changing to better accommodate topical sessions and workshops and an opportunity to propose content for the summer 2008 meeting in St. Louis is coming up on 15 December 2007.

Instead of two days in the middle of the meeting set aside for topical sessions of half- or full-day length, proposals are welcomed for 1, 2, 3 or 4 day sessions meeting in parallel with other contributed and special sessions. These sessions would still break at the times of plenary talks and normal break times. Additionally, the proposers would have great flexibility in structuring the oral presentations during their meeting sessions. This format could be used for workshop-type events, training sessions, longer oral presentations etc.

Essentially there is full flexibility with a "Meeting-in-a-Meeting." Let the AAS handle the logistics and you can focus on the scientific content of your meeting.

We encourage all AAS members to consider whether they have a meeting concept that would fit within the "Meeting-in-a-Meeting" format and submit a proposal accordingly. The Committee on Meetings will review the proposals and select appropriate content for the St. Louis meeting at the upcoming Austin meeting of the AAS. Proposers will be notified soon after about the status of their proposal. Submit your proposals by 15 December for full and proper consideration.

St. Louis Special Session Proposals

Special Session Proposals should be submitted by 15 December 2007. See www.aas.org/meetings/meetingcontent.html for more information.

Division News

Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS)

2007 DPS Prize Winners

The Gerard P. Kuiper Prize has been awarded to Andrew Ingersoll, Caltech, for theoretical and observational contributions to the study of planetary atmospheres. Tom Gehrels, U. of Arizona has been selected to receive the Harold Masursky award for his efforts in developing the Space Science Series of the University of Arizona Press and Francis Nimmo, U. C. Santa Cruz, is the winner of the the Harold C. Urey Prize for making fundamental contributions to the understanding of terrestrial planets and icy satellites and their evolution. The awards will be formally presented to the winners during the next Annual meeting of the DPS in October 2007 in Orlando, Florida.

Historical Astronomy Division (HAD)

Sara J. Schechner, Chair, schechn@fas.harvard.edu

HAD Officers

In my first greetings as the Chair of HAD, I am delighted to introduce the new members of the Executive Committee Thomas Hockey (Vice Chair), Joseph Tenn (Secretary-Treasurer), Jay Holberg, and Eugene Milone. Donald Yeomans remains on the Committee as Past Chair. We thank Ron Brashear for his six years as Secretary-Treasurer and Peter Abrahams and Daniel Green for their past Committee service.

News

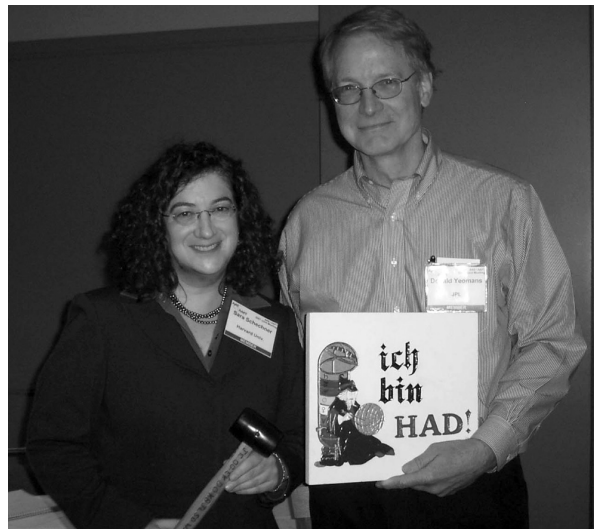
Our division has been very active in the last year. One particular project deserves special mention. In response to a request from the AAS Executive Committee, we examined the problems posed in the identification and preservation of historical astronomical sites, materials, instruments, and archives. This study was conducted in some detail by Stephen McCluskey and David DeVorkin, with inputs during a meeting at Notre Dame in 2005. The work led to a white paper that was submitted to the AAS Executive Office in the spring of 2006, and it culminated in the creation of an AAS Working Group on the Preservation of Astronomical Heritage in January 2007. The Working Group is now constituted and already at work. It is charged with developing and disseminating procedures, criteria and priorities for identifying, designating, and preserving astronomical structures, instruments, and

Rick Benzel is the new DPS Vice-Chair

With the resignation of Dr. Alan Stern, DPS Vice Chair to take on responsibilities as the Associate Administrator for the Science Mission Directorate at NASA Headquarters, a special DPS election was conducted to choose his replacement. Prof. Rick Binzel (MIT) is the winner and returns to the DPS as the Vice-Chair and will become DPS Chair at the October 2007 DPS meeting in Orlando.

records so that they will continue to be available for astronomical and historical research, for the teaching of astronomy, and for outreach to the general public. Details concerning the recommendations of the HAD report and the new AAS working group can be found online at www.aas.org/had/.

We had an excellent meeting in Seattle in January with a special session of "Case Studies in How 20th Century Observatory Directors Got Chosen." Donald Osterbrock was to give a paper at this meeting, but canceled at the last minute to take care of his ailing wife. His absence, however, did not keep him from being on top of HAD matters. I had correspondence with him right through the entire meeting. How surprised and saddened we all were to learn of his unexpected death just days later. Don was a past chairman of HAD and Doggett Prize winner.



Don Yeomans passes the HAD gavel and "Ich Bin HAD!" plaque to Sara Schechner.

Upcoming Meeting

We are already looking ahead to our next meeting, which will be held in January 2008 in Austin. Two special sessions are planned. One will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year and the dawn of space-based astronomy. The other session will recognize the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown (the first permanent English settlement in North America) and the role of astronomy in the exploration and colonization of America. Please join us!

-NSF: The amount approved for NSF was \$6.509 billion, an increase of \$80 million (or 1.2%) over the President's request. The Research and Related Activities (R&RA) account receives \$5.1397 billion, an increase of \$8 million over the request, or 0.2%. The Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction (MREFC) account is funded at the requested level of \$244.7 million. No details about the breakdown within the accounts is available at the time of this writing.

The full House Appropriations Committee was slated to take up the measure during the week of June 18, but that action has been postponed. No action has yet been taken by the Senate on the Commerce, Justice, and Science appropriations.

Appropriations for the Department of Energy were considered under a separate bill for Energy & Water. This bill (H.R.2641), currently being debated on the House floor, would provide \$4.5141 billion for the Office of Science, an

increase of about \$116 million from the President's request (or an increase of 18.9% over FY 2007). Within High Energy Physics, the House Appropriations Committee expressed its continued support for the DoE/NASA Joint Dark Energy Mission (JDEM), and commended DoE for developing its JDEM concept, the SuperNova Acceleration Probe (SNAP). However, it expressed concern that NASA has so far failed to budget for program and launch services for JDEM, and it directs DoE to assemble a science team and explore other launch options.

Again, the Senate has taken no action on Energy and Water appropriations.

The AAS will continue to monitor the budget cycle and inform you about breaking developments. Stay tuned for Action Alerts on how you can help.

Honored Elsewhere

AAS Members Elected to the NAS

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences announced the election of new Fellows in recognition of their distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Election to the Academy is regarded as the one of the highest honors in American Science.

Congratulations to the following AAS members:

Bruce T. Draine; professor, Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

David N. Spergel; professor, Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.

Simon D.M. White; Director, Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics, Garching, Germany

Clifford M. Will; James S. McDonnell Professor of Physics, Washington University, St. Louis

2007 CASCA Awards

AAS Member Ewine van Dishoeck, renowned astronomer and chemist at the Leiden University, has been selected as the Petrie Lecturer of the Canadian Astronomical Society (CASCA) for 2007. The Petrie Lecture is an invited discourse by an outstanding astrophysicist which is held at Annual Meetings of the Society, in memory of the significant contributions to astrophysical research by the late Robert M. Petrie.

Ewine van Dishoeck is a Dutch astronomer and chemist. She is Professor of Molecular Astrophysics and the director of the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Laboratory for Astrophysics at the Leiden University. She is also a member of the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences and the US National Academy of Sciences. Her main research interest is the study of the interstellar medium. More precisely, she works on interstellar molecules, trying to understand their physical and chemical evolution during star formation and planet formation.

AAS Member Steven W. Squyres, Goldwin Smith Professor of Astronomy at Cornell University and scientific Principal Investigator for the Mars Exploration Rover Project, has been selected as the Helen Sawyer Hogg lecturer of the Canadian Astronomical Society (CASCA) for 2007.

Steven Squyres's research focuses on the large solid bodies of the solar system: the terrestrial planets and the satellites of the Jovian planets. His work involves analysis of data from both spacecraft and ground-based telescopes, as well as a variety of types of geophysical modeling. He has participated in a number of planetary spaceflight missions. From 1978 to 1981 he was an associate of the Voyager imaging science team, participating in analysis of imaging data from the encounters with Jupiter and Saturn. He was a radar investigator on the Magellan mission to Venus, a member of the Mars Observer gamma-ray spectrometer flight investigation team, and a co-investigator on the Russian Mars '96 mission.

Announcements

Call for Regular NRAO Observing Proposals

Astronomers are invited to submit regular proposals for observing time on the NRAO Green Bank Telescope (GBT), Very Large Array (VLA), and Very Long Baseline Array (VLBA):

Instrument	Deadline	Observing Period	Note
GBT	2007 Oct 1	2008 Feb - 2008 May	
VLA	2007 Oct 1	2008 Feb - 2008 May	*
VLBA	2007 Oct 1	2008 Feb - 2008 May	

Note: (*) The C configuration with a maximum baseline of 3 km.

Users of NRAO instruments from most U.S. institutions may request travel support for observing and data reduction trips, as well as page charge support. In addition, a program to support research by students at U.S. universities covers student stipends, computer hardware purchases, and student travel to meetings to present observing results. Applications to this program are tied to observing proposals. Awards of up to \$35,000 are possible. For details, see wiki.gb.nrao.edu/bin/view/Observing/NRAOStudentSupportProgram

The NRAO and the European VLBI Network jointly handle proposals for observing time on the Global VLBI Network at centimeter wavelengths; the deadline is 2007 October 1 for the session in 2008 Feb/Mar. Also, the NRAO and a set of European observatories jointly handle proposals for VLBI observing time at a wavelength of 3mm; the deadline is 2007 October 1 for the session in 2008 May. The NRAO also handles proposals for the VLBI High Sensitivity Array at the same deadlines as for the VLBA; this Array includes the VLBA, VLA, GBT, and Arecibo in the U.S., plus Effelsberg in Germany.

Further information on NRAO instruments, proposal submission routes, and user support is available via the NRAO website at www.nrao.edu

CARMA (Combined Array for Research in Millimeter-wave Astronomy) Call for Proposals

Proposals for observations using CARMA during the period 1 January to 30 June 2008 are due on 13 September 2007. CARMA comprises 15 antennas operating at 3mm and 1mm on a 2200m elevation site, Cedar Flat, in the Inyo Mountains of California.

CARMA is operated by the Universities of California (Berkeley), Illinois, and Maryland, and the California Institute of Technology, under a cooperative agreement with the University Radio Observatory program of the National Science Foundation. Approximately 30% of the observing time will be awarded to PIs outside the partner universities.

Proposals should be submitted using the electronic form at <http://carma.astro.uiuc.edu/proposals/> by 13 September 2007. Detailed information, including capabilities to be offered this semester, sensitivities, and proposal submission instructions, may be found at the CARMA website, www.mmarray.org. Questions may also be addressed to Dr. Douglas Bock (dbock@mmarray.org).

SPEAR/FIMS Far Ultraviolet Spectral Sky Maps Data Release

Data from observations obtained with the Spectroscopy of Plasma Evolution from Astrophysical Radiation mission or SPEAR, (also known as the Far Ultraviolet IMaging Spectrograph or FIMS) have been released to the public.

SPEAR, launched in late 2003 on STSAT-1, contained dual imaging spectrometers that observed about 80% of the sky in the far-ultraviolet, between 900–1150 Å and 1350–1750 Å. The spectral resolution is 1/DI 550 (HEW). The spatial resolution of the instrument is 5', although attitude knowledge can impose a practical limit of 30'. The mission, instrument performance, data analysis, and early science results are described in *ApJ*, Vol 644, L153-L192.

The SPEAR team has created “all-sky” (i.e. the 80% observed by SPEAR) spectral maps for each spectrometer band-pass. These reduced data are now available to the astronomical community for scientific analysis, and may be found at <http://spear.ssl.berkeley.edu>. Details about the maps, and a brief introduction to their use are also available on the website.

SPEAR / FIMS was supported at U.C. Berkeley by NASA, and at KAIST and KASI by the Korean Ministry of Science and Technology.

GLAST Guest Investigator Proposals

The deadline for submitting proposals to NASA for the first cycle of the GLAST Guest Investigator program is 7 September.

GLAST LAT will provide continuous observations of the entire gamma-ray sky between 20 MeV to over 300 GeV with unprecedented sensitivity. The GLAST Burst Monitor will provide observations of gamma-ray bursts from 8 keV to 30 MeV.

The GI program provides an opportunity for people at U.S. institutions to obtain financial support for GLAST studies. The GI program includes funding opportunities for:

- (1) analysis of publicly released data,
- (2) correlated GLAST-related multi-wavelength observations,
- (3) GLAST-related theory, and
- (4) GLAST-related analysis methodology.

As part of this opportunity, based on an agreement between GLAST and NRAO for collaborative science, researchers may propose investigations that also require radio observations with NRAO telescopes. NRAO will make available a maximum of up to 450-600 hours per telescope (roughly 10% of the scientific observing time) on the VLA, VLBA, and the Robert C. Byrd GBT this GLAST cycle.

See the GLAST Science Support Center webpage (<http://glast.gsfc.nasa.gov/ssc>) for more details on the mission, instrument capabilities and guest investigator program.

Nominations for COSPAR Awards and Medals

The Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) is seeking nominees for the following awards and medals, which recognize the outstanding achievements of space scientists throughout the world:

The COSPAR Space Science Award honors a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to space science.

The COSPAR International Cooperation Medal is awarded to a scientist (or group of scientists) who has made distinguished contributions to space science and whose work has contributed significantly to the promotion of international scientific cooperation.

The COSPAR William Nordberg Medal is presented to a scientist who has made a distinguished contribution to the application of space science.

The COSPAR Distinguished Service Medal honors extraordinary services rendered to COSPAR over many years.

The COSPAR/Massey Award is presented by the Royal Society of London in recognition of outstanding contributions to the development of space research in which a leadership role is of particular importance.

The COSPAR/Vikram Sarabhai Award is awarded by the Indian Space Research Organization for outstanding contributions to space research in developing countries.

The COSPAR/Zeldovich Medals are conferred by the Russian Academy of Sciences to scientists 35 years of age or younger, for excellence and achievements.

The COSPAR/Jeoujang Jaw Award is bestowed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences in recognition of distinguished pioneering contributions to promoting space research, establishing new space science research branches, and founding new exploration programs.

Awards will be presented at the 37th COSPAR Scientific Assembly to be held in Montreal, Canada, 13-20 July 2008. Additional details concerning the awards and past recipients can be found at <http://cosparhq.cnes.fr/Awards/awards.htm>. Nomination forms can be obtained from David H. Smith (dhsmith@nas.edu) at the National Research Council, Space Studies Board (SSB), which is the U.S. adhering body to COSPAR. All nominations will be processed by the SSB. Completed nomination packages must be submitted to the SSB no later than 28 September 2007.

CSO Call for Proposals Due 31 October 2007

The Caltech Submillimeter Observatory (CSO) encourages observing participation by astronomers from both U.S. and non-U.S. institutions. For instructions on applying and for information about available instruments, including bolometer cameras, see www.submm.caltech.edu/cso/cso-call.html. Applications for observing time between 1 February 2008 through 31 July 2008 are due by 31 October 2007. Applications will be reviewed by an outside peer group.

NASA Infrared Telescope Facility Observing Proposals

Due date for the 1 February to 31 July 2008 semester is Monday, 1 October 2007. See <http://irtfweb.ifa.hawaii.edu/observing/applicationForms.php>. Available instruments include:

- (1) SpeX, a 1-5 micron cross-dispersed medium-resolution spectrograph (up to $R=2,500$);
- (2) CSHELL, a 1-5 micron high-resolution spectrograph (up to $R=30,000$);
- (3) MIRSI, a 5 to 25 micron camera and low-resolution spectrometer ($R=100$ to 200),
- (4) NSFCAM2, a 2048×2048 pixel, 1-5 micron camera with a 0.04 arcsec/pixel scale and a circular variable filter; and
- (5) PI-instruments including a low-resolution 3-14 micron spectrograph and high-resolution spectrographs for 8-25 microns. Information on available instruments can be found at: <http://irtfweb.ifa.hawaii.edu/Facility/>.

NSO Observing Proposals

The current deadline for submitting observing proposals to the National Solar Observatory is 15 August 2007 for the fourth quarter of 2007. Information is available from the NSO Telescope Allocation Committee at P.O. Box 62, Sunspot, NM 88349 for Sacramento Peak facilities (sp@nso.edu) or P.O. Box 26732, Tucson, AZ 85726 for Kitt Peak facilities (nsokp@nso.edu). Instructions may be found at www.nso.edu/general/observe/. A web-based observing-request form is at www2.nso.edu/cgi-bin/nsoforms/obsreq/obsreq.cgi. Users' Manuals are available at <http://nsosp.nso.edu/dst/> for the SP facilities and <http://nsokp.nso.edu/> for the KP facilities. An observing-run evaluation form can be obtained at ftp://ftp.nso.edu/observing_templates/evaluation.form.txt.

Proposers are reminded that each quarter is typically oversubscribed, and it is to the proposer's advantage to provide all information requested to the greatest possible extent no later than the official deadline. Observing time at National Observatories is provided as support to the astronomical community by the National Science Foundation.

Calendar

AAS & AAS Division Meetings

DPS 2007 Annual Meeting
7-12 October 2007, Orlando, FL
Contact: Humberto Campins
(campins@physics.ucf.edu)
www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html

AAS 211th Meeting w/HAD & HEAD
8-12 January 2008, Austin, TX
Contact: Kelli Gilmore (gilmore@aas.org)
www.aas.org

HEAD 2008 Meeting
30 Mar-3 April 2008, Los Angeles, CA
www.aas.org/head/

Other Events

IAU Symposium No. 246
Dynamical Evolution of Dense Stellar Systems
5-9 September 2007, Capri, Italy
Contact: Enrico Vesperini
(vesperin@physics.drexel.edu)

From the Sun towards the Earth; a Living with a Star Science Meeting
10-13 September 2007, Boulder, CO
Contact: Karel Schrijver
(schryver@lmsal.com)
www.lmsal.com/lws2007/

Massive Star Formation: Observations confront Theory
10-14 Sept 2007, Heidelberg, Germany
Contact: Henrik Beuther
(beuther@mpia.de)
www.mpia.de/MSF07

***Frontiers of Modern Cosmology**
10-14 Sept 2007, Waterloo, Canada
Contact: Kate Gillespie
(kgillespie@perimeterinstitute.ca)
www.perimeterinstitute.ca/Events/Frontiers_of_Modern_Cosmology/

***Advanced Maui Optical and Space Surveillance Technologies Conference**
12-15 September 2007, Maui, HI
Contact: Sandy Ryan
(sandy@amostech.com)
<http://amostech.com/>

IAU Symposium No. 247
Waves and Oscillations in the Solar Atmosphere: Heating and Magneto-Seismology
17-21 Sept 2007, Venezuela
Contact: César A. Mendoza-Briceno
(cesar@ula.ve)

***Astrophysics in the Next Decade: JWST and Concurrent Facilities**
24-27 September 2007, Tucson, AZ
Contact: Peter Stockman
(stockman@stsci.edu)
www.stsci.edu/institute/conference/jwst2007

Chandra Fellows Symposium
10 October 2007, Cambridge, MA
Contact: Dr. Nancy Remage Evans
(nevans@cfa.harvard.edu)
<http://cxc.harvard.edu/fellows/>

New Horizons in Astronomy: Frank N. Bash Symposium 2007
14-16 October 2007, Austin, TX
Contacts: Kurtis Williams
(kurtis@astro.as.utexas.edu)
Justyn Maund (jrm@astro.as.utexas.edu)
www.as.utexas.edu/new_horizons/

IAU Symposium No. 248
A Giant Step: from Milli- to Micro-arcsecond Astrometry
15-19 October 2007, Shanghai, China
Contact: Imants Platais
(imants@pha.jhu.edu)

IAU Symposium No. 249
Exoplanets: Detection, Formation and Dynamics
22-26 October 2007, Suzhou, China
Contact: Ji-Lin Zhou
(zhoujl@nju.edu.cn)

Eight Years of Science with Chandra
23-25 October 2007, Huntsville, AL
Contact: Steve O'Dell
(chandra8@head.cfa.harvard.edu)
http://cxc.harvard.edu/symposium_2007

***Chandra Calibration Workshop**
25 October 2007, Huntsville, AL
Contact: Vinay Kashyap
(ccw@head.cfa.harvard.edu)
<http://cxc.harvard.edu/ccw/>

A Population Explosion: The Nature and Evolution of X-ray Binaries in Diverse Environments
28 Oct-2 Nov 2007, St. Petersburg Beach, FL
Contact: Reba Bandyopadhyay
(xraybinary@astro.ufl.edu)
<http://conference.astro.ufl.edu/XRAYBIN/>

***Astrophysics 2020: Large Space Missions Beyond the Next Decade**
13-15 Nov 2007, Baltimore, MD
Contact: Marc Postman
(postman@stsci.edu)
www.stsci.edu/institute/conference/astro2020

12th Latin-American Regional IAU Meeting (LARIM-2007)
26-30 Nov 2007, Venezuela
Contact: Gustavo A. Bruzual
(bruzual@cida.ve)

***Galaxy and Black Hole Evolution: Towards a Unified View**
28-30 November 2007, Tucson, AZ
Contact: David Ballantyne
(agnconf@as.arizona.edu)
<http://ursa.as.arizona.edu/~rad/galagn.html>

The Evolving Interstellar Medium in the Milky Way and Nearby Galaxies
2-5 December 2007, Pasadena, CA
Contact: A. Noriega-Crespo & K. Sheth
(kartik@astro.caltech.edu, alberto@ipac.caltech.edu)
<http://ssc.spitzer.caltech.edu/mtgs/ismevol/>

IAU Symposium No. 250
Massive Stars as Cosmic Engines
10-14 December 2007, Kauai, HI
Contact: Paul A. Crowther
(Paul.Crowther@sheffield.ac.uk)
<http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/iau250/>

***Miami 2007**
13-18 Dec 2007, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Contact: Thomas Curtright
(curtright@physics.miami.edu)
<http://server.physics.miami.edu/~cgc/Miami2007.html>

*New or revised listings

Note: Listed are meetings or other events that have come to our attention. Due to space limitations, we publish notice of meetings 1) occurring in North, South and Central America; 2) meetings of the IAU; and 3) meetings as requested by AAS Members. Meeting publication may only be assured by emailing crystal@aas.org. Meetings that fall within 30 days of publication are not listed.

A comprehensive list of world-wide astronomy meetings is maintained by Liz Bryson, Librarian C-F-H Telescope in collaboration with the Canadian Astronomy Data Centre, Victoria, BC. The list may be accessed and meeting information entered at <http://cadwww.hia.nrc.ca/meetings>.

International Astronomical Union Symposia in 2008

IAU Symposium No. 251

Organic Matter in Space
8-12 March 2008, Hong Kong, China
Contact: Sun Kwok (sunkwok@hku.hk)

IAU Symposium No. 252

Art of Modelling Stars in the 21st Century
10-14 March 2008, Sanya, Hainan Island, China
Contact: LiCai Deng
(licai@boa.ac.cn)

IAU Symposium No. 253

Transiting Planets
19-23 May 2008, Boston, MA
Contact: Didier Queloz
(didier.queloz@obs.unige.ch)

IAU Symposium No. 254

The Galaxy Disk in Cosmological Context
9-13 June 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark
Contact: Birgitta Nordstrom
(birgitta@astro.ku.dk)

IAU Symposium No. 255

Low-metallicity Star Formation: from the First Stars to Dwarf Galaxies
16-20 June 2008, Villasimius, Sardinia, Italy
Contact: Leslie Hunt
(hunt@arcetri.astro.it)

IAU Symposium No. 256

The Magellanic System: Stars, Gas, and Galaxies
28 July - 1 August 2008, Keele University, Staffordshire, UK
Contact: Jacobus Th. van Loon
(jacco@astro.keele.ac.uk)

IAU Symposium No. 257

Universal Heliophysical Processes
5-9 September 2008, Ionnina, Greece
Contact: Natchimuthuk Gopalswamy
(gopal@ssedmal.gsfs.nasa.gov)

IAU Symposium No. 258

The Ages of Stars
13-17 October 2008, Baltimore, MD
Contact: David R. Soderblom
(drs@stsci.edu)

IAU Symposium No. 259

Cosmic Magnetic Fields: from Planets, to Stars and Galaxies
3-7 November 2008, Puert Santiago, Tenerife, Spain
Contact: Klaus G. Strassmeier
(kstrassmeier@aip.de)

AIP Science Fellowships

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Application deadlines vary between November and February. Fellowship terms begin the following September. For more information, please see: www.aip.org/gov/fellowships.html.

AAS Membership Calendar

As a membership benefit, the AAS Membership Calendar includes important dates, such as proposal and grant deadlines and AAS sponsored meetings. Sponsors receive selection of a photo layout page and 250 words of text. For only \$1800, your institution or department can show support for the whole astronomical community and be featured prominently in astronomers' offices across the country. Sponsors are reminded that space is provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Groups interested in sponsoring a month may contact Crystal Tinch (crystal@aaas.org) for more information and pricing details for the 2008 calendar. Deadline for sponsorship is 1 September 2007.



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Newsletter 136 July/August 2007

Washington News

L. Jeremy Richardson, John Bahcall Public Policy Fellow
richardsonlj@aas.org



While much of the political news emanating from Washington relates to the Iraq war or the seemingly-distant Presidential election, the appropriations process is well underway for FY 2008. By the time this article reaches your hands, much of this information will be out of date, so think of

this as a snapshot of the budget cycle.

Vowing to complete work on the FY 2008 appropriations bills before the start of the fiscal year on 1 October, the leadership of the new 110th Congress hopes to avoid the FY 2007 budget mess left over from the 109th Congress. In fact, Speaker Pelosi aims to pass all 12 appropriations bills by 4 July. However, it is not at all clear that they can be successful in this endeavor. For one thing, the President has promised to veto any spending bill that is above his request. Congress and the Administration are already on a collision course over the funding for the Department of Homeland Security, after the House passed a spending bill that exceeds the President's request by about \$2 billion (yes, with a "b").

Lower on the list of appropriations priorities for Congress is the bill for Commerce, Justice, and Science, which covers such agencies as NASA, NSF, and NOAA. On the House side, this appropriations bill passed the relevant subcommittee on 11 June, and now moves to the full House Appropriations Committee for consideration. Here are the preliminary numbers:

-NASA: The subcommittee approved \$17.6 billion for NASA's top line, approximately \$290 million above the request. All of the increase is to be spent on science, aeronautics, and education: a total of \$5.3 billion for the Science Mission Directorate (an increase of \$180 million), \$690 million for the Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (an increase of \$150 million), and \$218 million for NASA education programs (an increase of \$64 million). In fact, no figures for the Space Operations Mission Directorate have been released, and Space News reports that SOMD "took a hit" to support increases in science, aeronautics, and education not covered by the extra \$290 million.

continued on page 15