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AAS NEWSLETTER

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Inside

3-4
President's
Column

4
Minneapolis
Meeting

5
Election Results

5
Council Actions

7-10
Pasadena
Recommendations

15
2005 Prize Winners

16
San Diego
Meeting Highlights



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AAS EXECUTIVE OFFICER BOB MILKEY TO RETIRE IN 2006

Bob Milkey, who has ably served as AAS Executive Officer for nearly 11 years, has announced his intention to retire at the end of June 2006. After a long orbit through Baltimore, where he worked at the Space Telescope Science Institute, and his service to the AAS in Washington, Milkey is eager to return to Tucson, where he served on the scientific staff of the Solar Division of the Kitt Peak National Observatory.

AAS President Bob Kirshner praised Milkey's contribution: "Until I became President, I had only a vague idea of what the Executive Officer did. Now I know that having someone like Bob Milkey, who understands what the Society is about and who has the skill and good sense to help us do those things every day, is essential to make the AAS operate successfully. He's been an excellent Executive Officer and we will need to work hard to make sure we find a worthy successor."

Kirshner is taking the lead to form a search committee to help define the job and to find the next Executive Officer. Full details of the search will be announced through the AAS electronic announcements and the *AAS Job Register*. The goal is to find a successor by January 2006 to provide adequate time for the new person to benefit from Bob's knowledge before he departs. The Executive Officer is responsible for smooth functioning of the full range of activities of the AAS in accord with the policies and guidance provided by the AAS Council.

Picture (SNN) at AAS at San
Diego on p. 19

PUBLICATION NEWS

***Astrophysical Journal* Editor in Chief to step down**

Professor Robert C. Kennicutt, Jr., University of Arizona and Editor-in-Chief of the *Astrophysical Journal* has announced that he will relinquish his position as Editor-in-Chief effective with the completion of his current term at the end of 2006. He has served as the Editor-in-Chief since 1999 when he was chosen as Editor to succeed Helmut Abt. As a result of his impending departure, the American Astronomical Society is soliciting applications and nominations of candidates to assume the position of Editor-in-Chief of the *Astrophysical Journal* at the end of 2006. The Search Committee has been formed and a longer advertisement, statement of desired qualifications, and list of application materials will be placed in the *AAS Job Register*, and sent via email. Professor Patrick S. Osmer, Chair of the Department of Astronomy at Ohio State University and a member of the AAS Publications Board will Chair the Search Committee. The Committee welcomes applications or nominations, and both should be sent to the *ApJ* Search Committee, American Astronomical Society, 2000 Florida Ave, NW, Suite 400, Washington DC 20009-1231 or by e-mail to apj-search@aaas.org.

New *AJ* Editorial Office Opens

On 1 January, Jay Gallagher began his term as Editor of *The Astronomical Journal (AJ)*, and the *AJ* editorial office moved to the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Authors are encouraged to submit articles using the new Web-based Peer Review service on the *AJ* website. Authors can also continue to submit manuscripts electronically via FTP. Complete instructions are available on the *AJ* website at www.journals.uchicago.edu/AJ. Questions should be directed to Anita Makuluni, Managing Editor (aj@astro.wisc.edu).

Linking Initiatives

The AAS journals have introduced three new linking and tagging options for the electronic editions this year, in collaboration with ADS, CDS, and NED.

1. New AASTeX 5.2 markup will now allow authors to insert links in the electronic text to data sets at participating data centers, via ADS. The September 2004 *Spitzer Space Telescope* special issue of *ApJS* is the first issue to demonstrate this new capability.





Bruce Draine (left, Princeton U.) received the Dannie Heineman Prize for Astrophysics from Marc Brodsky, CEO of the American Institute of Physics, and lectured on "Interstellar Dust."



"Gadgets and Gizmos" to help teach astronomy attracted the interest of many.



Among the most convivial attendees were Christopher Wanjek (left) who writes press releases for NASA and jokes for The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and Dana Berry, a space artist/TV animator who wrote Smithsonian Intimate Guide to the Cosmos. Photo by Michael McClare.



Antonella Nota (left, Space Telescope Science Institute) noted possible pre-main sequence objects in the Small Magellanic Cloud. Jeonghee Rho (center) and William Reach (both, Spitzer Science Center) described "spectacular, young and sequential star forming regions of the Trifid Nebula."



Eric Sauder (Hempfield H.S., Landisville, PA) studied relations between sunspots and flares. For this, he was awarded the 2004 Priscilla and Bart Bok Award of the ASP.



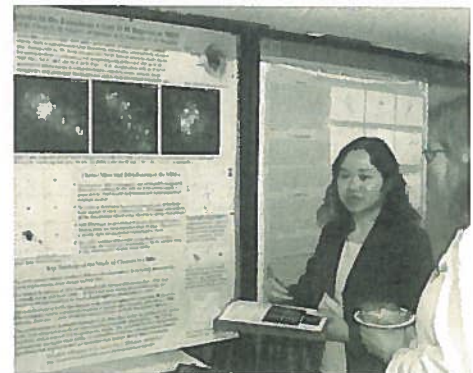
Crystal Martin (U. California, Santa Barbara), presented an invited talk on the role of feedback in galaxy formation.



Lisa Rios (left, Northern Arizona U.) found an unusual contact binary in Cygnus OB2 and shared the story with Sultana Nahar (Ohio State U.)



Steven Squyres, Principal Investigator for the Mars Exploration Rovers, told a full house about the discoveries of Spirit and Opportunity.



Rosie Chen (U. Illinois) studied the formation of star clusters in giant HII regions in M101.



Pamela Gay (Harvard U.) reported on open source instructional laboratory administration software for physics and astronomy instructors.



John Debes and Steinn Sigurdsson (both, Penn State U.) searched for planets around white dwarfs by high-contrast imaging with HST, Gemini North, and CFHT.