

University at Stony Brook
Astronomy Program
Stony Brook, New York 11794-2100

This report covers the interval 1 October 1995 to 30 September 1996.

1. PERSONNEL

The faculty and research associates in the Astronomy Program are: J. Barrett, M. Forman (adjunct), R.F. Knacke (adjunct), K. Lanzetta, J.M. Lattimer, T. Mooney, D.M. Peterson, M. Simon, P.M. Solomon, F.M. Walter, A. Yahil, and S. Zoonematkermani.

J.J. Lissauer resigned to assume the position of Space Scientist in the Space Sciences Division, NASA Ames Research Center.

There are 14 graduate students associated with the Astronomy Program in the Dept. of Earth and Space Sciences.

J.M. Lattimer continued service as Associate Chair of the Dept. of Earth and Space Sciences.

2. DEGREES AWARDED

S. J. Wolk defended his PhD. dissertation entitled "Watching the Stars Go 'Round and 'Round.'" He is now at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

Two masters degrees were awarded: James Bauer's thesis is entitled "IRTF Observations of Saturn's Faint Outer Rings and Small Moons in the Near-IR." He is now at the Institute for Astronomy, University of Hawaii.

N. Adams' thesis is entitled "Rotation Periods of Low Mass Stars in the Upper Scorpius OB Association." She is now at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

3. RESEARCH AND FACILITIES

Astronomers in the Dept. of Earth and Space Sciences pursue research programs in the areas of extragalactic and

galactic astronomy, stellar physics, star formation and subsequent evolution, supernovae and nuclear astrophysics, and origins of Solar System. Research in nuclear astrophysics is also carried out with G.E. Brown, M. Prakash, and several students in the Physics Department. Research in planetary atmospheres is conducted with members of the Institute of Atmospheric Sciences.

Most of the Astronomy Group's observing is conducted at the national centers, foreign observatories, and with space observatories. Details may be found through our World Wide Web listing (see below). At Stony Brook, the department's 14" Celestron, which is equipped with a CCD camera and auto-guider, is used by graduate students, undergraduate astronomy majors, and local high school senior for research projects. Plans are in progress to relocate the 24-inch telescope, presently being refurbished, at a dark site on the North Fork of Long Island.

The Astronomy Group maintains a well-equipped cluster of computers. It now includes 18 workstations, several X-windows terminals, and a variety of I/O devices.

4. FURTHER INFORMATION

Detailed information concerning the Astronomy Program, particularly including graduate study and research activities, is available over the World Wide Web. Our URL home page address is:

<http://sbast3.ess.sunysb.edu/home.html>

F.M. Walter