

## Solar Physics Division Annual Report: 2004-2005

James A. Klimchuk, Chair

The Solar Physics Division (SPD) is healthy, vibrant, and growing. Its purpose is the advancement of the study of the Sun and the coordination of such research with other branches of science. Any member of the AAS may join the SPD by application to the Treasurer of the SPD. Affiliate membership is provided for persons who are not members of the AAS but who are members of another recognized scientific society with interests related to solar physics. Membership in the SPD as of May 22, 2005 stood at 352 full, 50 associate, 64 emeritus, 38 junior (student), and 62 affiliate for a total of 566 members. Annual dues are \$8 for AAS members and \$10 for affiliates.

The SPD officers in the year preceeding the May 2005 annual meeting were Edward DeLuca (Chair), James Klimchuk (Vice-Chair), Neal Hurlburt (Secretary), and Joan Schmelz (Treasurer). The regular Committee members were Thomas Ayres, Thomas Bogdan, Douglas Braun, Steven Cranmer, and John Leibacher. At the conclusion of the meeting, Klimchuk took over as Chair, DeLuca become Vice-Chair, and Harry Warren and Gordon Holman replaced Bogdan and Cranmer.

The 2004-2005 Nominating Committee consisted of Brian Dennis (Chair), George Fisher, and Therese Kucera. The Prize Committee consisted of Terry Forbes (Chair), Lindsay Fletcher, Leon Golub, John Harvey, and David Hathaway. Gordon Emslie chaired the SPD Studentship Committee. The SPD liaisons were Thomas Ayres (stellar astronomy), James Chen (plasma physics), Victor Pizzo (solar-terrestrial physics), and Vahé Petrosian (high-energy physics). SPD members Tim Bastian and John Mariska served as scientific editors for the *Astrophysical Journal*.

The SPD sponsors several prizes. The George Ellery Hale Prize, awarded for outstanding contributions to solar physics over an extended period of time, was given to Spiro Antiochos of the Naval Research Laboratory "for his work on the thermodynamics and stability of coronal magnetic fields and for his outstanding public service to the solar research community." The Karen L. Harvey Prize, awarded for a significant contribution to the study of the Sun early in a person's professional career, was given to Sarah Gibson of the High Altitude Observatory "for her research on the role of helical magnetic fields in the structure and dynamics of the solar corona." The Popular Writing Award in the science writer/journalist category was given to Curt Suplee, Director of the National Science Foundation's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs, for his article "The Sun: Living with a Stormy Star" that appeared in the July 2004 issue of *National Geographic*. The award in the scientist category was given to Charles Liu, Professor of Astrophysics in the Department of Engineering Science and Physics, College of Staten Island, CUNY, for his article "Our Stormy Sun" in the February 2004 issue of *Natural History* magazine.

The 2005 annual meeting of the SPD was held jointly with the American Geophysical Union (AGU) in New Orleans on May 23-27. Many excellent oral and poster presentations were given on a wide range of topics, including the solar dynamo, helioseismology, sunspots, coronal loops and heating, flares, coronal mass ejections, the solar wind, and new instrumentation. The program listed 214 SPD general contributions, but many other presentations by SPD members were given in AGU special sessions on solar and solar-

related topics. The following students received awards with financial support from the SPD to attend the meeting: Lokesh Bharti (Mohanlal Sukhadia Univ., India), Na Deng (New Jersey Institute of Technology), Yanwei Jiang (Stanford Univ.), Rui Liu (Rice Univ.), Jennifer Roames (Univ. of Memphis), and Anne Sandman (Rice Univ.). The SPD will have a stand-alone meeting at the University of New Hampshire in 2006 and will meet jointly with the AAS in Hawaii in 2007.

The SPD electronic newsletter, *SolarNews*, continues to be distributed twice per month. Current and back issues are available at <http://www.gong.noao.edu/SolarNews>. Further information about the SPD and an online membership application form can be obtained from the Division's WWW site at <http://www.spd.aas.org>.