

Solar Physics Division Annual Report: 2006-2007

James A. Klimchuk, Chair

The Solar Physics Division (SPD) is healthy and vibrant. 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 SPD Treasurer. 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. There were a total of 596 members in the SPD as of June 1, 2007: 350 full, 46 associate, 64 emeritus, 58 junior (student), and 78 affiliate. Annual dues are \$8 for AAS members and \$10 for affiliates (increasing to \$20 next year).

The SPD officers are James Klimchuk (Chair), Todd Hoeksema (Vice-Chair), Neal Hurlburt (Secretary), and Joan Schmelz (Treasurer). The regular Committee members are K. Balasubramaniam, Ed DeLuca, Gordon Holman, Leonard Strachan, and Harry Warren.

The Nominating Committee consists of George Fisher (Chair), K. D. Leka, and Ron Moore. The Prize Committee consists of Adriaan Van Ballegooijen (Chair), Lyndsay Fletcher, David Hathaway, Steven Keil, and Philip Scherrer. The Popular Writing Award Committee consists of Mark Linton (Chair), Joan Burkepille, James McTiernan, Ellen Shortill, and Curt Suplee. Terry Forbes chairs the Summer School Committee and Emilie Drobnes chairs the Education and Public Outreach Committee. Gordon Emslie is in charge of the SPD Studentship Awards and Craig DeForest is the Press Officer.

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 Mukul Kundu of the University of Maryland "for his many outstanding contributions to the field of solar radio astronomy and for his service to the solar community in the U.S. and abroad." 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 Jiong Qiu of Montana State University "for her significant contributions to the study of the Sun and its effects on the Earth's climate." The Popular Writing Award winners were Gordon Holman in the scientist category and Francis Reddy and Roen Kelly in the journalist/science writer category. A new award, the SPD Certificate of Appreciation, was created to acknowledge exceptional contributions in a managerial or other non-technical role that significantly advance the discipline of solar physics. The inaugural winner was William Wagner "for his many years of outstanding service to the solar physics community, especially in his role as Solar Discipline Program Scientist at NASA Headquarters."

The 2006 annual meeting of the SPD was held at the University of New Hampshire on June 25-30. There were 298 participants who gave 258 oral and poster presentations on a wide variety of solar topics. The second SPD Summer School was held during the 10 days prior to the annual meeting. The curriculum on High Energy Solar Physics really put the students through their paces, including the writing of mock SR&T and Explorer proposals.

The membership passed three amendments to the bylaws dealing with electronic balloting, the name of the Prize Committee, and the spelling of "bylaws." None of the three options offered in a fourth amendment dealing with the required number of candidates for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer received a necessary majority of the votes. A simplified version of the amendment was discussed at the business meeting and will be put up for vote.

The SPD website (<http://spd.aas.org>) received a face lift thanks to the efforts of Emilie Drobnes, Steve Cranmer, and webmaster Joe Gurman. The SPD electronic newsletter, *SolarNews*, continues to be distributed twice per month. Current and back issues are available on the website.