

## DIVISION FOR HISTORICAL ASTRONOMY

The Historical Astronomy Division held its Second Regular Meeting on January 11-12, 1982 in Boulder in connection with the 159th meeting of the AAS. Twenty-one papers were presented, in three half-day sessions representing the three major interests of the Division: archaeoastronomy, general history, and modern and applied history. Invited papers were given by W. Ashworth, D. H. DeVorkin, J. S. Hall, and E.C. Krupp. On January 12 a half-day seminar was conducted on "The Use of Archaeoastronomy in Astronomy Teaching," organized by J. B. Carlson and V. D. Chamberlain, with presentations by Carlson, Chamberlain, Krupp, W. K. Hartmann, M. A. Seeds, and H. L. Shipman. The seminar featured a display of current books on the subject, of which there are plenty, and a handout list of selected resource materials.

The Division Vice Chairman presented an invited address to the full Society at the 159th meeting on "The Galileo Affair in Modern Perspective," a well-received study that Prof. Gingerich later published in the August, 1982 *Scientific American*. The address for the Society Dinner at the same meeting was given by the HAD Chairman, on American Archaeoastronomy; it may be significant that the organizers of the following Winter AAS

Meeting elected to drop this traditional feature from the general program.

A Nominating Committee composed of DeVorkin, G. O. Abell, and J. D. Mulholland selected our second candidate slate of officers, from which a new Vice Chairman, and two Committee Members will be elected, to take office at the January 1983 General Meeting. Nominees were Krupp and M. Zelik for Vice President, and for Committee Members, S. J. Dick, J. Lankford, B. G. Marsden, and S. R. Weart.

Current officers: Owen J. Gingerich, Vice Chairman; John B. Carlson and David H. DeVorkin, Committee Members; and Kenneth Brecher, Secretary-Treasurer.

It is a pleasure to report that the Division has grown to 278 members as of autumn, 1982.

John A. Eddy  
Chairman

## DIVISION FOR PLANETARY SCIENCES

In 1982 the Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS) was very active in public education and political action. This was a result of clear indications in the proposed Federal budget for Fiscal year 1983 that NASA was intending to phase out, on an abrupt timescale, its support for basic research programs in planetary science and exploration. Over the months following the announcement the DPS, and others, argued the case to the Congress for continuing support for these programs and were successful in that the final NASA budget has a major fraction of the funds restored.

The above effort was coordinated by the DPS executive committee in Tucson. Weekly meetings were held; solid contacts were established in congress, the Office of Science and Technology Planning, NASA, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and also with other advocacy groups such as the University SSWG chaired by J. Simpson (Chicago). Several members of the division testified before congress and material regarding planetary science was generated for inclusion in the congressional record. A 'telenet' for rapid communications between DPS members was set up by D. Davis (Tucson), and four or five mass mailings were sent to the membership providing them with analyses of the changing political situation and to provide a basis for individual action. There are still problems which need to be resolved, these include weak relationships with industry, the difficulty of maintaining sustained political action, and an unclear perception by government officials of what the DPS-AAS actually is.

Following a suggestion by the membership at the 1981 meeting Chairman, M. Belton formed an ad hoc committee under the leadership of C. Pilcher (Hawaii) to advise him on Political Actions Committees (PAC) and their ramifications for the DPS. In their subsequent report this committee found that it would be impractical at the present time for the DPS to participate in the formation of a PAC.

In the forthcoming year the DPS committee intends to continue its program of public advocacy and will broaden its efforts through active support for the Universities Space Science Working Group.

The journal ICARUS, which is affiliated to the DPS, is in good condition. A Brahic (Paris) has been selected to serve on the editorial board. Relationships with the parent society are excellent with DPS members M. Belton (KPNO) and D. Morrison (Hawaii) elected to the positions of AAS Vice-President and Councillor during 1982. J. Veverka (Cornell) arranged a special session on solar system exploration for the AAS Troy meeting in which D. Morrison, P. Gierasch (Cornell), T. Owen (SUNY), J. Burns (Cornell) and A.L. Lane (JPL) were speakers. The 1982 AAS council resolution on Planetary Science was also greatly appreciated by the DPS membership.

Two new amendments to the DPS have been proposed at the Division's 1982 meeting in Boulder, Colorado. The first concerns the press-officer and the other concerns the timing of DPS elections. Under the first proposal the press-officer would become a regular officer of the division and appointed by the committee for a three year term. In the second proposal the ballot would be closed five weeks before the annual meeting rather than the current two.

The 1982 annual meeting was held at the Hilton Harvest House in Boulder. The Program chairman was R. West (Colorado) and the local arrangements were handled by L. Esposito (Colorado). At the meeting the following election results and appointments were announced: The new Vice-Chairman is J. Burns (Cornell); G. Briggs (NASA) and R. Newburn (JPL) were elected to the committee; D. Cruikshank (Hawaii) was appointed by the committee to the position of Secretary-Treasurer. The 1981 bylaw change which enfranchizes DPS affiliate members was overwhelmingly carried.

C. Chapman (Planetary Science Institute) is the chairman of the Division for 1983. The 1983 meeting will be held in Ithaca, N.Y. with S. Ostro Chairing the Program Committee and J. Burns handling local arrangements. Persons wishing to join the DPS, which entitles one to substantially reduced subscription rates to ICARUS, should contact

Dr. Dale Cruikshank