

JOINT INSTITUTE FOR LABORATORY ASTROPHYSICS



UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
BOULDER, COLORADO 80309
25 June 1985



NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

AAS Working Group on Ultraviolet Astronomy

Dear Colleague,

I would like to bring you up to speed concerning the proposal for an Ultraviolet Astronomy Division within the AAS. About 130 AAS members signed the petition circulated at the last Goddard IUE meeting and elsewhere, and many additional members have indicated to the Organizing Committee that they support the establishment of such a group within the AAS. This petition was sent to the AAS Council and discussed at its recent meeting in Baltimore on June 10. After much discussion the council approved two motions:

Motion No. 1. Establish a Working Group on Ultraviolet Astronomy within the AAS. This Working Group has a lifetime of one year, and at the end of the year the Working Group is to report back to the AAS Council on what it has accomplished. I was appointed Chair for the purpose of organization. The Council viewed this Working Group as a temporary solution to a clearly demonstrated need, but they could not come up with a permanent solution on short notice. So, they passed

Motion No. 2. Establish a Committee to report back to the AAS Council within one year to assess the need for technique-oriented subgroups within the AAS and to make recommendations on

1. Guidelines for advocacy on public policy by such subgroups
2. Internal organization of such subgroups
3. Possible representation of such subgroups on the AAS Council
4. Role of such subgroups in establishing AAS meeting programs
5. And other relevant matters

It was clear that the AAS council felt that other technique-oriented groups would follow the example of the ultraviolet astronomers and that the Council needed a general policy on how to handle such requests. In the mean time the UV Astronomy WG (UVAWG) would be the prototype group. Art Code pointed out that the AAS bylaws say almost nothing concerning working groups, and therefore the scope and operations of this group are not constrained except by common sense.

It is important that the UVAWG become organized and active scientifically. After consulting with the Organizing Committee, (Bahcall, Bless, Dupree, Savage), I am proposing that we set up a one day Scientific Session and a Business Meeting at the Tucson AAS meeting (Jan. 13-16, 1985).

As a practical matter we need to know who wishes to be a member of the UV Astronomy Working Group, so please fill out and return the enclosed form. Dues are not requested at this time but are inevitable.

Jeffrey L. Linsky
Chair

Yes, I wish to become a member of the Ultraviolet Astronomy Working Group of the AAS. I recognize that I must be a member of the AAS to join the UVAWG.

Name _____
Address _____

Please return this form to:

Jeffrey L. Linsky
JILA (Campus Box 440)
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309