IUE NEWS

Special Edition June 29, 1988 Greenbelt, MD

EXTRA, EXTRA!

A lot has been happening at the IUE Observatory over the last several months. Be sure to look through the newsletter for these items:

* New Beta Constraints for OBC Heating and Power
* New Camera Overexposure Policy
* New Battery Use Policy
* Improved Wavelength Calibration Implemented
* Reduction in the Number of Wavelength Calibration Spectra
* Implementation of the New LWP Calibration
* IUESIPS Moves to the IUE VAX
* GO Tapes Now at 1600 BPI

CalComp Plots Now Special Request Only

Due to the small number of requests for CalComp plots, the IUE Observatory is no longer offering the plots as an option on the IUE observing scripts. Guest Observers who need CalComp plots may obtain them by special request. A letter communicating the request should be sent or given to the IUE Operations Scientist, Don West. In addition, the GO should note the request for CalComps in the "Remarks for IPC/DMC" section of the "Processing Specifications" box on the observing scripts.

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New Implicit Geometric Mapping of IUE Images

A new version of the IUESIPS routines which apply the geometric mapping of the IUE images has been implemented. The new software uses a more realistic model of the reseau positions, based on an analysis of a large number of spectral images. The new reseaux relations include not only time and temperature effects, but also DN-level effects.

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SWP Image Numbers Go Over 32768

In January, the SWP image numbers exceeded 32768. This number has special significance because it is the normal limit for integer numbers on many computers. Thus any software that handles the camera image number in INTEGER*2 format will roll

over to negative numbers. Guest Observers may wish to modify their analysis software to handle these numbers. In addition, this rollover will occur in the Scale Factor Record (Record 0; see also Turnrose and Thompson, 1984, IUE Image Processing Information Manual, Version 2.0). The image number after 32767 will be given as -32768; thus to compute the correct image number you must add 65536.

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New Long Wavelength Aperture Length

In connection with the analysis required to create the new LWP and LWR absolute calibrations, an improved measurement of the length of the large aperture for the long-wavelength cameras was made. The improved value is 21.4 arcsec, which is 4 percent longer than the previous determination of 20.5 arcsec (R. Panek, 1982, NASA IUE Newsletter No. 18, pg. 68).

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IUE COFFEE MUGS AND T SHIRTS

A special edition tenth anniversary IUE coffee mug is available to IUE Observatory visitors. The 12-ounce ceramic mugs are white with a gold halo, lettering, and depiction of the IUE satellite. The cost is $4.50 per mug. Inquiries should be directed to Randy Thompson or any other member of the IUE Observatory staff.

A limited number of IUE T-shirts, designed for the IUE Symposium, are also for sale at the Observatory for $5.00 each. The short-sleeved blue T-shirts are still available in large and extra-large sizes.

Both the T-shirts and the coffee mugs will only be available while the current supply lasts. Sorry, mail order requests can not be accepted.

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IUE PINS AND KEY RINGS

IUE jewelry, especially created for the IUE Observatory by artist Adrian Blum, is now available. The pieces are enamelled, with a silk-screened design of the IUE and hand-painted accents, including the letters IUE in gold. Three different pieces are available: a pin (1" x 1.5"), a keyring (2" x 1.25"), and a pendant (same as the keyring). Two color schemes are available for each piece, either a light-colored satellite on a dark-blue background or a blue satellite on a light-blue field.

Display pieces are available at the IUE Observatory. To order, you may write, telephone, or use e-mail to ask for an order form, or pick one up at the Observatory. On the order form, please specify the number of pieces and the color schemes. Each piece is $5.00. In addition, there is a postage and handling charge of $1.50 (US and Canada; $3.00 elsewhere). Please send a personal check for the appropriate amount in US dollars made out to Catherine L. Imhoff when you send in the form. Your order will be mailed to you in a few weeks.

Please contact Cathy Imhoff for order forms and further details. Address: Code 684.9, GSFC, Greenbelt, MD 20771. Telephone: (301) 286-5103. SPAN address: IUE::IMHOFF or IUESOC::IMHOFF.

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IUE STAFF CHANGES

George Sonneborn is leaving the IUE Observatory to work on the Phase A study for the LYMAN satellite at Goddard Space Flight Center. George has been with IUE for over 6 years; during the last 3 years he supervised the IUE Telescope Operations group. Cathy Imhoff has taken over George's duties, while Nancy Oliversen has taken over Cathy's duties. Nancy is now the supervisor of the calibration and Regional Data Analysis Facility groups.

Howard Scott has left the IUE Project to work at the Naval Research Labs. Joy Nichols-Bohlin has replaced him as supervisor of the IUE Image Processing group.

Mario Perez will soon join IUE as a Resident Astronomer. Mario earned his doctorate at Brigham Young University, where he studied the young stars in the clusters NGC 2264 and NGC 2244. Mario formerly worked at the European Southern Observatory at La Silla.

Jaime Esper has joined the IUE Observatory as a Telescope Operator. Jaime comes to IUE from the University of Florida, where he earned an M.S. in astronomy.

Marion Schmitz has left IUE to work with the IPAC group at JPL. Marion will continue to work on astronomical catalogs with the IRAS group.

Other new faces around the Observatory are Velma Greenlee and Lisa Gibson (Data Management), Diana Panagotacos, Don Rogers, and Gladstone Marcus (Image Processing), Michelle De La Pena (Processing Enhancements), Susie Crabb (Software Support), and Robin Curtin (Photowrites).

The IUE Observatory currently has several job openings, including one for a Telescope Operator and several for Resident Astronomers to work in various areas, including telescope operations, calibration, image processing, and signal-to-noise studies. Please contact one of the supervisors (Cathy, Joy, or Nancy at 301-286-5103) for more information.

Catherine L. Imhoff
IUE Observatory