

launch in 2005, will probe the heavens for Earth-sized planets and also could take a closer inspection of the Upsilon Andromedae system.

Butler, Marcy Fischer, and Brown are among the coauthors of a paper on "Evidence for

Multiple Companions to Upsilon Andromedae," submitted to the *Astrophysical Journal*.

Additional coauthors include Adam Contos, Sylvain Korzennik, Peter Nisenson, and Robert Noyes of CfA.

For further information, visit the Web site: <http://www.sfsu.edu/~pubaff>.

Staff Writer

Randy Showstack

Project Offers Funding Applicants Education, Public Outreach Help

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The Windows to the Universe project (<http://www.windows.umich.edu>) offers principal investigators developing proposals for funding from NASA, the National Science Foundation, and other agencies a high leverage vehicle for education and public outreach efforts associated with their proposals. With a rapidly growing audience of over 300,000 users per month (as of February 1999), approximately one third in the K-12 sector, the Windows to the Universe project provides investigators an instant, large-scale, global audience.

The approximately 4800 interconnected html documents developed by the project over the past 4 years (including an emphasis on Sun-Earth connections through its "Space Weather Today" section) provide a substantial body of content, as well as a proven user-friendly interface, that can be immediately utilized to avoid duplication of effort and provide efficient use of education and public outreach funds. The Windows to the Universe project also includes teacher workshops, evaluation, and dissemination.

The project team is led by Ph.D.-level practicing geoscientists and includes classroom

educators, programmers, and artists. Scientists anticipating submission of proposals are invited to contact Roberta Johnson to discuss their proposal and the ideas they envision incorporating in their education and public outreach activities. So that the appropriate materials can be prepared in a timely fashion, we ask that contact be made at least 2 weeks before submitting your proposal. Johnson can be reached by e-mail at rmjohnsn@umich.edu or by telephone at +1-734-647-3430.

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Planning the Future of Space Science

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The NASA Office of Space Science (OSS) is once again engaged in the strategic planning process. The office prepares a new plan every 3 years for use as a guide by the agency in the allocation of budgets, and a new plan is due this year. The process begins with the preparation of science and technology road maps for each of the science themes in OSS—solar system exploration, structure and evolution of the universe, astronomical search for origins, and Sun-Earth connection (SEC). The latter includes the solar, magnetospheric, ionospheric-thermospheric-mesospheric, and heliospheric subdisciplines also encompassed by the Space Science and Aeronomy Section of AGU.

Input and participation by the scientific communities represented in SEC are important elements in the planning process and are strongly encouraged. A Sun-Earth connection community-wide workshop was held March 2–4, 1999, at the NASA Goddard

Space Flight Center. In addition, special sessions are planned for the 1999 AGU Spring and American Astronomical Society/Solar Physics Division Meetings. These will be opportunities for members of the communities to present new mission concepts, new measurement ideas, and new technologies that will help carry SEC research through the next decade and beyond.

The SEC road map team, which met in January to begin the process in earnest, was formed under the direction of George Withbroe, the SEC theme director, and his advisory subcommittee, chaired by Andrew Christensen. This team is co-chaired by Keith Strong and James Slavin. Other team members are Ralph McNutt, Todd Hoeksema, Leon Golub, James Klimchuk, David Hathaway, George Gloeckler, Richard Mewaldt, Antoinette Galvin, Ray Goldstein, Jim Burch, Barry Mauk, Harlan Spence, Thomas Moore, Jeff Thayer, Jan Sojka, Charles Carlson, Rod Heelis, Michael Gruntman, Richard Vondrak, Carl Schrijver,

Lynn Kistler, and Bob Lin. Ideas may be shared with any of the team members.

Road maps for each science theme are approved and forwarded to NASA by the Space Sciences Advisory Committee, reporting to Ed Weiler, the associate administrator for OSS. This committee is chaired by Steven W. Squyres. Members of the committee include the chairs of subcommittees representing each of the OSS science themes. It is the responsibility of each subcommittee to prepare road maps that capture the science goals and the technologies needed to achieve them. This effort must be completed by late summer 1999.

The current strategic plan is on the Web (<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/oss/strategy/1997/>). The current Sun-Earth connection road map can also be viewed on the Web (<http://umbra.nascom.nasa.gov/spd/secr/>).

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