

**CANADIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ASTRONOMIE**

CAS/SCA NEWSLETTER, No. 4

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During the last week-end of October, there were meetings of the N.R.C. Associate Committee in London, Ontario, and of the C.A.S. Council in Toronto. As a result of these meetings there are some matters which need to be communicated fairly urgently to our members, and this newsletter is entirely devoted to them.

Priorities in Canadian Astronomy: The Associate Committee has been asked by the Government of Canada, through the National Research Council, to prepare a paper on the future plans and rationale for astronomy in Canada. The matters that the Committee is considering are:

- (1) coordination of Canadian astronomical research
- (2) needs, priorities, and funding required for optical astronomy (especially with reference to the CFH telescope.)
- (3) needs, priorities, and funding required for radio astronomy
- (4) opportunities for and development of Canadian participation in space research
- (5) role of teaching and research in Canadian society
- (6) relationship of the requirements for astronomical research to the development of Canadian industry
- (7) a plan for the development of astronomical research in Canada for the foreseeable future.

The Associate Committee is anxious that as many Canadian astronomers as wish to do so should have an opportunity to express their views to the Committee before this submission to the Government is prepared. Accordingly, the Committee has requested the cooperation of the Society in passing on this information to our members. To make this request more definite than our own recent questionnaire on priorities, I have obtained from the Associate Committee the list of specific projects that it considered during its discussion. These are:

Projét d'un Telescope (Université de Montréal, G. Beaudet)

Application for an Initial Five-Year Grant in support of a Canadian Astronomical Electronics Laboratory (U.B.C., G. A. H. Walker)

Proposal for an Array of nine 1.5-metre Coudé Feed Telescopes (E.H. Richardson & G.J. Odgers, Dominion Astrophysical Observatory)

Proposal for support of an experiment to study airglow on Venus during 1978 Orbiter mission (C. Anger, Calgary and G. Sheperd, York)

Proposal for a Joint Australian-Canadian 25-metre Millimetre Telescope (J.L. Locke, N.R.C.).

The Associate Committee's chief motive for canvassing our members is that they do not wish to leave out of their deliberations any comparable projects which may be in a similar state of planning to the above but of which they do not happen to be aware. The Committee particularly wishes to be notified of such projects. This is not a general request for ideas, but rather for specific projects to which considerable thought has already been given. However, it is also in order for members to offer their opinions on the relative merits of the proposals listed, or on the topics being studied by the Committee. To do this, you should write to the Chairman, Dr. K.O. Wright, Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, R.R.7, Victoria, B.C., V8X 3X3 before December 15th. This rather rushed timetable has been forced on the Associate Committee. As your President, I welcome this request for cooperation which indicates that our Society has already become recognized as an important part of the Canadian Astronomical scene.

C.A.S. Fellowships: The second matter in this letter is also of considerable importance to all our members. The various questionnaires sent out to you by Council committees last spring all brought back one response: that many of our members working in smaller astronomy departments across the country are feeling very isolated and are looking to the Society to do something about their situation. Accordingly, the Council has approved the institution of three fellowships to be offered in 1974 for the purpose of helping members in isolated places to spend at least part of their summer vacation working at a larger institution. Conditions for the award of these fellowships follow. We hope that the fellowships will help to meet a need.

CAS/SCA 1974 Summer Travelling Fellowships:

(1) The Council of the CAS plans to award up to three fellowships in 1974, each of \$300.

(2) Applicants must be members of the Society, hold a doctor's degree, and be regularly engaged in teaching mathematics, physics, or astronomy at any Canadian university employing fewer than four astronomers at the doctoral level. Preference will be given to applicants under the age of 35 years.

(3) The successful applicants will be expected to spend a minimum of three weeks at one of the following institutions, whose directors have all agreed to cooperate with the scheme:

University of Toronto (David Dunlap Observatory),
NRC Astrophysics Branch, Ottawa,
Dominion Astrophysical Observatory, Victoria,
Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory, Penticton,
Institute of Astronomy, U.B.C. Vancouver,
Physics Department, University of Victoria,
University of Western Ontario, London,

Queen's University, Kingston,
CRESS, York University, Toronto.

Most of these institutes are prepared to offer observing time to Fellows but arrangements for this differ so much from one institute to the other, that applicants must make their own arrangements directly with the Director of the institute of their choice. No institute is under any obligation to a Fellow other than to provide office space, and where mutually agreed, observing time.

(4) Applications must be made in writing to the Secretary of C.A.S. by March 1st, 1974. Applicants should previously have made tentative arrangements with their prospective host institution.

(5) Successful applicants accept an obligation to provide a written report to the Council of C.A.S. by 1st October 1974, so that consideration may be given to repeating the programme in 1975.

(6) The Council of C.A.S. shall make all decisions concerning these Fellowships, and its decisions shall be final.

A. H. Batten