

Astronomy and Astrophysics Faculty Meeting

Monday, Apr 2, 2007

3:30-5 pm

Rm 102 ISB

AGENDA

- Announcements (Faber) (3:30-3:40)
- Upcoming events:
 - Astronomy Retreat, Apr 7 at CfAO: preparatory faculty interviews are in progress.
 - Spring Astronomy Research Social, April 17 at 3:30-5 PM - Halliday Lecture May 24: Michael Brown lecturing on his adventures with Pluto, Xena, etc.
- Update on hiring of Jonathan Fortney
- Department committees for next academic year: sign up sheet this week. Space and Development are key.

- Report on the status of grad applications (Guhathakurta) (3:40-3:45)
- Report on the status of Physics Dept. hiring for Astrophysics position. There is a potential two-body problem with possible implications for Astronomy. (Rockosi, Faber) (3:45-4:00)

- Retreat planning (4:00-5:00)
 - Finalize the draft Retreat agenda (one will be sent out soon) - Finalize proposed topics for breakout groups. Topics are based on my conversations with faculty during past two weeks (very sorry if I missed you; I have not been able to reach everyone). I've picked some topics that seemed to stimulate the most interest and discussion in these conversations. We can change these or add more:

- Using centers to focus and strengthen the research effort
 - Should we create some centers?
 - What would these centers do?
 - How would they help?
 - Candidate names and science topics for centers - Strengthening our existing center CODEP - Improvements to the graduate program
- If we had major gifts, how would we spend the money? What are our priorities for new money?
- Development and fund-raising - how to raise money
- Raising our scientific profile
- Strategies to make space go farther or get new space visiting faculty - come for a quarter teach a course and collaborate. few people know what 30 mm telescope will do. every meeting go o the website. on weekly notice. Cruzttime send out daily reminders better synergy between observatory and department - build collaborations between theory and observation. common interests. missing some obvious slots. observing planets - short on observers.

I'd like to get some sense of who is interested in the various topics, with the hope that we can start breaking up into groups at this meeting and actually start discussing them. Groups can also meet informally during the week and bring ideas to the Retreat.