AAVSO Education Project—*Hands-On Astrophysics (Abstract)*

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Abstract *Hands-On Astrophysics* (HOA) is an educational project being developed by the AAVSO with a grant from the National Science Foundation in the United States. HOA contains a flexible set of hands-on educational materials, activities, and projects based on AAVSO's unique electronic database of variable star observations. With HOA the students will be able to experience the excitement of doing real science with real data. By carrying out all aspects of the research process they can develop and integrate skills in science, math, computing, and other areas.

The contents, target population, versatility of the computer program developed for this project, and the activities of this project will be discussed.

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The Stars for All—Géospace: an Interface Between Astronomy and Its Popularization *(Abstract)*

Bernard Pellequer
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Abstract Experience with the relationship between science and its popularization shows the importance of personal contact. For more than twenty-five years, Géospace Observatoire d'Aniane, in southern France, has served as an interface between the world of research in Earth Sciences and those of the Universe. Those active on the site work in close collaboration with research workers in these disciplines, making information available at the local level in a variety of ways. A plea is made in favor of scientific popularization at the general public level, at which a real debate on the role of science can take place.

Classroom Astronomy Via Remotely-Controlled Telescopes *(Abstract)*

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Abstract The Telescopes in Education (TIE) project, sponsored by the Mount Wilson Institute, NASA, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and California Institute of Technology (Caltech), gives teachers and their students worldwide the opportunity to use a 0.61-meter telescope by remote access from their classrooms. Since 1993, over 160 schools have imaged deep-space objects by communicating with the telescope over a telephone line, slewing to the desired object, operating the CCD camera, and downloading the image directly to the classroom computer. Grades K through 12 conduct classroom research projects, including learning the different types of deep-space objects by imaging stars, nebulae, galaxies, comets, and asteroids. Advanced projects include astrometry and photometry. Of special interest is the discovery of new variable stars and the measurement of known variables, including periods and color indexes. Recently, Project SCHOLAR—Students Conducting Hands-On Learning in Astronomy Research—was initiated to give students around the world the opportunity to work hand-in-hand conducting observations and research for the astronomical community through the TIE program. Additional telescopes in several northern and southern hemisphere countries will provide expanded capacity, diversity, and scheduling flexibility.