

Scope Advisory, information on Hubble Space Telescope available at UCSD

April 4, 1990

Science Writers, Assignment Editors:

When the Hubble Space Telescope is launched next week, it will be carrying a major instrument, the Faint Object Spectrograph, designed and built under the direction of University of California, San Diego scientists. Enclosed are three news releases:

--An overview of the capabilities of the instrument and its history

--An outline of the plans for bringing the instrument into full operation during its first 90 days in orbit

--And a description of seven key scientific targets, from quasars to active galaxies, which UCSD astronomers plan to target using the spectrograph.

Our engineering team is already at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, and our scientific team will be at Kennedy Space Center for the launch and pre-launch press briefings. If you would like help contacting these teams, please give us a call.

In San Diego, a research physicist from the Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences and several graduate students who have worked closely with the scientific team will be available for interviews during the launch period. For visuals, a full-size mockup of the instrument and a duplicate of the Digicon detectors it carry's are available in the CASS lab at UCSD. We'll be happy to help you arrange interviews or filming.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Baskin

Science Communications Director

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