

Five-day lunar conference attracts 40 international scientists

July 7, 1972

Some 40 specialists in lunar science representing leading U.S. and foreign institutions will assemble Monday (July 10) on the campus of the University of California at San Diego for a five-day conference on the current state of knowledge of the moon.

The "Summer Study on Post-Apollo Lunar Science," sponsored by the Lunar Science Institute (LSI) of Houston, Texas, will engage in several in-depth studies, according to Dr. Joseph W. Chamberlain, LSI director.

"Participants will assess the state of knowledge of the moon gained thus far through the various Apollo flights, including data anticipated from Apollo 17," said Chamberlain. "They will also delineate the outstanding lunar problems, and identify the data required to resolve these problems."

The conference also will provide a background against which to evaluate the need for future lunar explorations, he said, and will seek to demonstrate "the applicability of lunar science to the understanding of other components of the solar system."

Four UCSD professors will be among the 40 or more experts expected to attend. They are Dr. Harold C. Urey, University Professor, emeritus; Dr. James R. Arnold, Professor of Chemistry; Dr. Gustaf Arrhenius, Professor of Marine Geology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, and Dr. Kurt Marti, Assistant Professor of Chemistry.

Numerous other prestigious universities and institutions will be represented at the conference sessions to be held on the Muir campus at UCSD beginning Monday morning. Among them are the Universities of Chicago, Pittsburgh, Texas, Minnesota, and Maryland; UC-Berkeley, Stanford University, Columbia University, Rice University, Brown University, Oregon State University, the Carnegie Institution of Washington, NASA Manned Spacecraft Center, California Institute of Technology, UCLA, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton University, and the Smithsonian Institution. Two British universities also will be represented: the University of Bristol, and the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Attendees will center discussions in four major areas of lunar science, with a world-renowned expert leading each discussion. The areas and their discussion leaders are: state of the interior of the moon, Dr. Nafi M. Toksoz, Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; lunar and planetary evolution, Dr. Gerald J. Wasserburg, Division of Geological Sciences, California Institute of Technology; interaction with the interplanetary medium, Dr. Robert M. Walker, Laboratory for Space Physics, Washington University, and evolution of the lunar surface, Dr. E. K. Shoemaker, Division of Geological Sciences, California Institute of Technology.

General Chairman of the conference is Dr. Robert Phinney, of the Department of Geological and Geophysical Sciences, Princeton University. Co-chairman for geology and geochemistry is Dr. John Adams, West Indies Laboratory, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Co-chairman for lunar experiments is Dr. Paul Coleman, Department of Planetary & Space Sciences, UCLA

The Lunar Science Institute was established October 1, 1968 in Houston under a NASA contract with the National Academy of Sciences, which has direct responsibility for operation of the Institute.

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