

Phillip J. E. Peebles to deliver lecture "Recent Developments in Cosmology", annual Marlar Lecture

January 24, 1986

PUBLIC LECTURE ON COSMOLOGY AT UCSD

Princeton University physicist Phillip J. E. Peebles, an internationally renowned authority on the theory of gravity and cosmology, will deliver a lecture titled "Recent Developments in Cosmology" at the University of California, San Diego on Thursday, January 30, at 4 p.m.

The annual Marlar Lecture, a public presentation of UCSD's Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences (CASS), will be held in room 2622 of the Undergraduate Sciences Building at Revelle College.

In addition to the public lecture, Peebles will address the academic community on Friday, January 31, at 2 p.m. in room 103, Peterson Hall. The special seminar is entitled "The Supercluster Problem."

Cosmology is the study of the distribution of distant galaxies, dealing with the origin, structure and space-time relationships of the universe. "Dr. Peebles is an expert in the distribution of matter in the early universe, and there is a great deal of exciting new work going on in this field," CASS director Margaret Burbidge said.

"We have rather a convincing web of evidence in favor of the standard Big Bang model of the large-scale structure and evolution of the universe: homogeneous expansion away from an exceedingly hot initial state," Peebles said recently. "However, there are still serious gaps, such as the lack of understanding of what galaxies are made of and how galaxies are formed."

In his January 30 lecture at UCSD he plans to "review the main pieces of evidence for this model and the recent attempts to fill in the gaps."

Peebles, a theoretical physicist, is Princeton's Albert Einstein Professor of Science. His articles on the origin and expansion of the universe and the composition of the planets and stars have appeared in such publications as *The Astrophysical Journal*, *Physical Review Letters*, *Nature*, *Science* and *Technology*, and *Space Science Reviews*.

In 1971, he published a book entitled "Physical Cosmology," in which he assesses the theories and observations that have generated the current view of the universe. While the book is a guide to current points of debate in a rapidly changing field for astronomers and physicists, it includes a chapter on the major developments in cosmology up to 1950 for non-specialists.

Peebles' public lecture is sponsored by the Marlar Foundation, named for William Marlar, a philanthropist with a deep interest in U.S. space science. In addition to the lecture, the foundation provides annual funds for a fellowship for a graduate student and the expansion of the CASS library on space science and astronomy.

Peebles, born in Winnipeg, Manitoba in 1935, received his B.S. from the University of Manitoba and his Masters and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton. He began his academic career as an instructor at his alma mater in 1961.

He is a fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Royal Society of London and a member of the American Astronomical Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Astronomical Union.

Peebles received the A. C. Morrison Award in National Science from the New York Academy of Sciences in 1977, the Eddington Medal from the Royal Astronomical Society in 1981 and the Heineman Prize from the American Astronomical Society in 1982.

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