

Astronomical Society of the Pacific
Funding Proposal
Conference Series Publication: Providing Resources Internationally
October 2007

Introduction

Since 1988, the Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP) has published the renowned Conference Series as part of its century-old mission to provide resources for astronomers and advance the science of astronomy. Since that time the ASP has published nearly 400 volumes touching upon all aspects of astronomy and astrophysics. These are excellent, widely recognized summaries of the state of the field. Most astronomers in the United States and Canada, and many in Europe and Japan, have at least one or two ASP Conference Series volumes on their shelves, and most American science libraries have large collections. But this is not true in third world countries.

The Need

The ASP understands that academic libraries in developing countries do not necessarily have the financial resources to acquire the Conference Series books for their library. With your support, the ASP will provide a complete set (volumes 1 – 377) to academic libraries that seek to expand, or in many cases start, a collection on astronomy. Members of the ASP Board found, much to their surprise, that overseas institutions were eager to obtain hard copies of both books and journals. It was assumed since much of this material is available on the Internet libraries and science institutes in developing countries would prefer to go electronic-- - but no. In particular, monographs that are less likely to be available on the Internet were eagerly sought after. Additionally, Internet access is not as widely available in some countries as it is in the United States. An initial effort was conducted by sending material including both journals and books to Uzbekistan and another bundle of materials were sent to Croatia. The libraries in both countries truly appreciated receiving the books to initiate an astronomy section in their library.

Proposal

The ASP Conference Series now consists of 377 hardcover volumes with numerous copies of most volumes still available. The cost of a volume (one book) is US \$77 plus tax, shipping, and handling. We propose to provide this resource to overseas institutions who are interested in either beginning or enriching their astronomy section within their library but do not have the resources to do so. This could occur through the following two options:

1. Provide a complete set (one copy of each book, 377 books total) at US \$19/each (plus postage and handling) totaling \$12,070
2. Provide a 50 book order at \$35/each (includes postage and handling) totaling \$1,750.

Option One: Sending the Complete Set of Conference Volumes

Item	Cost
377 books (one set) at \$19/each	\$7,163
Shipping \$37/box x 125	\$4,625
Handling 125 boxes	\$283
Total to send one complete set	\$12,070

Option Two: Sending 50 Books

Item	Cost
50 books at \$19/each	\$950
Shipping \$37/ box x 18	\$663
Handling 18 boxes	\$137
Total to send 50 books	\$1,750

Both options include direct and indirect costs. The second option includes slightly higher handling charges because of the need to select volumes out of a complete set.

Conclusion

We appreciate your consideration of our request to allow us to provide this valuable resource to international institutions and thus to assist their students to discover astronomy and science through the Conference Series. Please feel free to contact Michael Gibbs, Chief Advancement Officer, at mgibbs@astrosociety.org or at 415/337-1100 x106 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Gifts to support this effort can be made online at the ASP's web page at <http://www.astrosociety.org/support.html> or by sending a gift and a cover note indicating the donation is for "Conference Series Publication: Providing Resources Internationally" to:

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