



Malcolm G. SMITH

For the last thirteen years I have acted as Representative of AURA in Chile - a quasi-diplomatic position recognised by the Chilean government. This role expanded in 1998 when I was appointed Head (now Director) of the AURA Observatory in Chile - which includes the telescopes on Cerro Pachon (Gemini South and SOAR), on Cerro Tololo (including those operated by the SMARTS consortium), plus the southern parts of the US Gemini Project Office, and of NOAO's Major Instrumentation and Data Products Programs (i.e. "NOAO-South") and the AURA Observatory Support Services group (AOSS). The AURA Observatory in Chile currently has about 223 staff from about 20 countries (at last count); ~170 of our employees are Chilean hires. I played a significant role in the legislation promulgated by the Chilean Government to cover its involvement in the Gemini Project. Most recently, I have been involved in negotiations with the Chilean Authorities regarding future sites in Northern Chile for a possible 30-meter telescope being proposed by CalTech, The University of California and ACURA.

I stepped down (in November, 2003) after ten years' service as the Director of the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in charge of the southern operations of the US National Optical Astronomy Observatory ("NOAO South"). ~150 refereed papers are published each year based on data taken at Cerro Tololo. In 1998, Science awarded its "Breakthrough of the Year" prize to two independent research groups for their work on a possible acceleration in the expansion of the universe; (the 1997 prize was for the cloning of "Dolly" the sheep). This cosmological research was based on measurements of type Ia supernovae, all of which were discovered using the wide-field survey capabilities at CTIO. NOAO South has other units (apart from Cerro Tololo) involved in site surveys for a 30-meter segmented-mirror telescope (GSMT), as well as checking site conditions for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope. The basic operations of NOAO South cost approximately \$6M per annum. Previous Directors of Cerro Tololo were the late Dr. Jurgen Stock, Drs. Victor M. Blanco, Patrick S. Osmer and Robert E. Williams. The current Director is Dr. Alistair R. Walker.

Before returning to Chile in 1993, I was the Director of the UK/Canada/Netherlands Joint Astronomy Centre in Hawaii, which operates the world's largest and most powerful dedicated infrared (UKIRT) and single-dish submillimetre-wave (JCMT) telescopes for the benefit of the international community of astronomers. I played a significant part in attracting to Hilo many of the organizations currently located in the UHH Research Park in Hilo.

Most recently I have become quite heavily involved in the world-wide effort to control light pollution as an environmental and astronomical imperative, along with the associated public affairs, outreach and education effort. Chile has recently committed to a US\$10M lighting replacement project involving the astronomically-sensitive 2nd, 3rd and 4th Regions. This year I completed a three-year term as President of IAU Commission 50, which is in charge of the protection of existing and potential astronomical observatory sites, world wide. Before that, I was the first chairman of the Commission 50 Working Group, which is charged with controlling light pollution around existing and potential observatory sites. I serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Dark Sky Association, the leading international body supporting the control of light pollution. In August 2006 I began a three-year term as President of IAU Division XII, which includes Commission 50 and Commissions which are related to Astronomy Education and Development and to Communicating Astronomy with the Public. We shall be exploring the possibilities for having the various Commissions within Division XII combine their disparate interests in the context of an International Year of Astronomy (2009) in honour of Galileo Galilei.

I obtained my PhD in 1967. I have published well over a hundred refereed research papers and many non-refereed contributions (see lists below) covering topics in x-ray, optical, infrared, submillimetre, and longer-wavelength radio astronomy. My primary interest has been in the discovery and observational study of quasars and active galactic nuclei. I have worked as a staff astronomer at national and international observatories in the US, UK, Australia and Chile. I have built astronomical instruments in the US and in the UK and have also set up and led an instrumentation-engineering group at the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh (that group has since become the UK Astronomy and Technology Centre). I was a consultant to the (then) UK SRC on the design and application of prisms for the discovery of quasars with the UK Schmidt telescope in Australia. I am planning to return to more active research, beginning with a sabbatical leave in the UK in 2007.

On the administrative side, I was one of two scientists charged in the early 70s with preparing the scientific case for what is now the UK component of the international observatory on La Palma in the Canary islands.

While in Hawai'i, I was elected and then re-elected as an (international) at-large member of the AURA Board of Directors. I served on AURA's international search committee for the Gemini project scientist (who later became Director of Gemini and more recently Director of the Space Telescope Science Institute) and served also as (elected) chairman of the OAC with ex-officio membership of AURA's executive committee (now simply called "The Board"). The OAC (now the OC) then oversaw AURA's management of its three (US) national ground-based observatories including the National Solar Observatory, as well as dealing with (and helping to develop) the US interests in GEMINI.

I was elected an Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society in 2004.

A much more extensive (NSF-sponsored) aural summary of my career has been prepared in conjunction with Dr. Patrick McCray and is deposited, along with a written transcript, in the permanent collections of the Niels Bohr Library of the Center for the

History of Physics. Partial accounts, some filling the personal gaps in Dr. McCray's account, have been published by others elsewhere.