**MCNAMARA-SAUNDERS ASTRONOMICAL TEACHING TELESCOPE**

An astronomical teaching/learning facility for Year 9 to 12 public school students from the ACT region.

**MSATT** will be a facility for students to undertake extended student-centred projects in astronomy and astrophysics.

**MSATT** is a cooperative project between private donors, the ACT Education Directorate, and the Australian National University. It will be built at Mount Stromlo Observatory.

**INSTRUMENTATION**

- **Main telescope:** 300 mm Meade LX200 ACF mounted on Paramount ME.
- **Co-mounted instruments:** Coronado Hα solar telescope and Celestron 80 mm spotting scope.
- **Supplementary telescopes:** Celestron 11, 200 mm Dobsonian, 75mm f15 refractor.
- **Imaging:** SBig ST 10XME CCD camera.

**ANTICIPATED COMPLETION LATE-2016**

**POTENTIAL INVESTIGATIONS**

Initially, only a limited number of students will be able to use **MSATT** for projects. While the full range of astronomical experiments will take time to evolve, examples of potential investigations include the following:

- Solar imaging
- Monitoring solar prominences
- Sunspot monitoring
- Optical & radio observations of the Sun
- Measuring the Sun’s lifetime
- Lunar photometry
- Lunar eclipses
- Lunar morphology
- Lunar occultations
- Measuring Jupiter’s mass
- Venus’ dichotomy
- Rotation rates of asteroids
- Comets
- Planetary atmospheres
- Jupiter’s current behaviour
- Mars seasonal variations
- Deep sky under light-polluted skies
- Astronomical imaging
- Morphology of deep-sky objects
- Variable star monitoring
- Supernovae
- Spectroscopic binaries
- Cataclysmic variables
- Eclipsing binaries
- Stellar spectral class
- Stellar composition
- Measuring the speed of light

Students interested in undertaking projects should contact: Geoff McNamara
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