

EDITORIAL

It is our pleasure to introduce *JSARA: The Journal of the Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy*. *JSARA* is founded to provide a reliable, ADS-searchable outlet for the publication of the results of undergraduate astronomical research projects, starting with those resulting from the SARA Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Summer Intern Program. This inaugural issue contains the research manuscripts from the students and faculty participating in the 2006 SARA REU Program.

It is our hope that *JSARA* may evolve to become a primary conduit for publishing undergraduate research projects in astronomy, as we believe there is a need for a journal that fills that role. Our intent with *JSARA* is that the first author of the submitted manuscripts should be an undergraduate student or recent graduate, and that the first author should have had primary responsibility for the research activities and the writing of the manuscript. A faculty research advisor will either be a co-author or a formal sponsor of the submitted manuscript. Research results do not have to be groundbreaking, but they must be accurate, well-analyzed, complete, and tied to the existing literature on the subject. Manuscripts in *JSARA* are reviewed by the Scientific Editors of our Editorial Board, and although the Editors may seek input from external professionals on occasion, the papers are not refereed in the usual sense of the word. The list of active Scientific Editors will be included in each issue and updated on our website www.jsara.org. Manuscripts that are incomplete or that do not meet the standards of *JSARA* may be rejected by the Editors.

JSARA manuscripts are published as PDF files on our website, and may be freely downloaded and distributed. No physical journal will be centrally printed for distribution; hence, authors are free to include color figures in their manuscripts. Full instructions to authors can be found on the website, but in brief authors should submit manuscripts using the AASTeX templates, and figures as encapsulated postscript files.

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— *Matt A. Wood and the JSARA Editorial Board*