# **Solar Physics** and Terrestrial Effects

## A Curriculum Guide for Teachers Grades 7–12

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### Acknowledgments

*Solar Physics and Terrestrial Effects* is the result of a unique collaboration between the scientists at the Space Environment Center in Boulder, CO, and two high-school physics teachers. During the summers of 1992 and 1993, we had the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the work being done at SEC. By combining the cutting-edge knowledge at SEC with our own experience in the public school classroom, we have produced a package that will give young people a taste of one of the most spectacular and exciting applications of physics.

The interest and enthusiasm of the scientists and staff at the Space Environment Center has been an inspiration for us as working school teachers. We would like to thank Ernie Hildner and Barbara Poppe for conceiving this collaboration, and helping to bring it about and extend many thanks to the scientists who worked with us: S. Ananthakrishan, Patricia Bornmann, Grant Burkhart, Larry Combs, Paul Dusenberry, Dave Evans, Howard Garcia, Gary Heckman, Harold Leinbach, Lorne Matheson, Pat McIntosh, Tad Sargent, Zdenka Smith, Howard Singer, and Ted Speiser. Special thanks go to Anuranjita Tewary, a high-student intern, who carefully typed and prepared the draft of this document.

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#### Barbara Poppe

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#### To the Teacher

*Solar Physics and Terrestrial Effects* is not a step-by-step guide for teachers that will take away from your already over-crowded curriculum. Rather, it is a resource for you to pick and choose from, so that you may enhance your existing course and provide some state-of-the-art applications of physics. We would be happy to hear your reactions and suggestions! Contact us as follows:

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The guide consists of three main parts: a short textbook, a hands-on activity guide, and resource listings.

- The textbook should provide the necessary background in solar physics for teachers. It could also be used by students, but is written largely at an adult level and therefore may not be easily understood by younger students. Problems for more advanced students are included at the end of each of the four sections and answers to the problems are given at the end of this section.
- The activity section offers ideas for hands-on experiences that can be done in the classroom, using materials that are cheap and easily available. Background information is available in the text for the activities. Any materials that are needed for activities can be obtained from a variety of sources, but can also be obtained from Learning Technologies, Inc., using the order form included at the end of this book.
- The resources and references section contains a wealth of further possibilities for exploring Solar-Terrestrial Physics, including software, telecommunications, books, and supplies. Students who want to pursue research projects may find this to be especially helpful.