

New directors and resident astronomer



René Racine
Executive Director

René Racine has taken over as Executive Director of CFHT, as of September 1, 1980.

The highlights of his scientific career are: Bachelors degree in physics from Laval University in 1962, Masters Degree in astronomy from the University of Toronto in 1965, and a Ph.D. in 1967, also from the University of Toronto. He then received a Carnegie Fellowship which took him to Hale Observatories (Pasadena) for two years.

In 1969 René returned to the University of Toronto and David Dunlap Observatory, teaching there until 1976. He then accepted the task of directing construction of the 60-inch telescope at Mont Megantic, Quebec. With that observatory on the air, he left to take the helm at CFHT. He had previously been involved with CFHT as a member of the Scientific Advisory Council.



Gérard Lelièvre
Associate Executive Director

After receiving an engineering degree from l'Ecole de Physique-Chimie of Paris in 1969, Gérard joined the Observatoire de Paris. He there worked on faint extragalactic objects with the electronographic camera in the laboratory of Professor Lallemand. In 1976 he completed his thesis, a study of N galaxies observed with this camera. He had meanwhile completed his military service at ESO in Chile. In 1979 he was promoted to the position of Astronome-Adjoint. Gérard arrived at CFHT in August to take the position of Graham Odgers.



Jean-Pierre Maillard
Resident Astronomer

Jean-Pierre received an engineering degree from l'Institut d'Optique of Paris in 1964, and then took up a post at C.N.R.S. Aimé Cotton laboratory. He completed a thesis and received his next degree (Ingénieur-Docteur) in 1967. In 1973 he finished his doctoral thesis, and then moved to the Observatoire de Paris.

His principal field of research has been the application of Fourier Transform Spectroscopy to the study of molecules in the atmospheres of the giant planets and evolved stars, in the infrared. In 1977 he was given the responsibility of constructing an FTS for CFHT. With most of the work completed on this, he came to CFHT in July.

Staff changes

George HARTSGROVE, of NRC Ottawa, has come to take the position of instrumentation technician vacated by Célestin Gerber.

Michael MIDKIFF replaced George Lundberg as telescope operator in July.

Terry HOUSE, electronics technician, joined CFHT in July from the Mauna Kea Observatory staff.

Peter ROSTI has been hired to fill a new position, as mechanical designer.

Wayne PEXA has replaced Ron Schweinsberg, who left in October. Wayne is the maintenance man for the Waimea office.