

lies with the Onsala Space Observatory in Sweden, whose director is Roy Booth. Scientific observations initially will be made at the La Silla site, but it is hoped that within a few years remote observations can be made from Europe. ESO currently is testing remote observation techniques with its 2.2-meter optical telescopes at La Silla.

Other plans. The University of Arizona's Steward Observatory and the Max Planck Institute for Radioastronomy are building a 10-meter submillimeter radiotelescope, which is to be installed at an elevation of 3230 meters on Mount Graham in southeastern Arizona. The environmental impact statement for the project is awaiting approval from the US Forest Service. Zuni Indians have expressed concern about preservation of an archaeological site on the mountain, and there is concern about an endangered animal, the Mount Graham red squirrel. But objections to construction of the telescope are not likely to be insuperable, and Warren Davison at the Steward Observatory says that his colleagues hope to start installing the enclosure next spring with a view to starting test operations in spring 1989.

The telescope is being built by a consortium of Krupp and M.A.N. at an estimated cost of \$5-6 million. It makes extensive use of carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic in both the reflector panels and structural parts. The instrument will be shielded by a co-rotating enclosure of a novel barnlike design. The reflector panels are being replicated from molds cast of Pyrex that have been ground to a surface accuracy of 3 microns under the supervision of Robert Parks at the University of Arizona's Optical Sciences Center. Each of the primary reflector's 60

panels is a composite with an aluminum honeycomb core bonded top and bottom to carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic. The primary reflector is to have a surface accuracy of 15 microns rms, which should permit detection of submillimeter radiation at the atmospheric limit.

The initiative for the project came from the Max Planck institute, which had a design and most of the construction money but no site, Davison says. Arizona is providing the site, plates, molds and enclosure.

The Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory is seeking funds from Congress in the 1989 budget to build an interferometer that would be capable of detecting submillimeter radiation near the atmospheric limit. The instrument would have six 6-meter mirrors separated by baselines of several hundred meters, and it would be located at a high and dry site. Spots on Mauna Kea or Mount Graham are under consideration.

While thinking about the instrument's design is at a very preliminary stage, carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic is a good candidate for the surface, says Philip Myers of the Smithsonian Observatory. Myers also takes note of the trend toward construction of reflector surfaces that are easily adjustable. He thinks the total cost of the project would be \$30-40 million.

Asked about rumored environmental opposition to further astrophysical development of Mauna Kea, Myers says that while a Hawaii state plan sets a limit to additional new telescopes, the understanding at the Smithsonian Observatory is that the six-element interferometer would count as just one telescope.

—WILLIAM SWEET



BURNELL

College, London, located near Dorking. She joined the Royal Observatory at Edinburgh in 1982.

Six months ago Burnell was named senior scientific officer for the James Clerk Maxwell radiotelescope, an instrument built and operated in Hawaii by Britain, the Netherlands, Canada and the University of Honolulu (see preceding story). Burnell is responsible for coordinating research in millimeter and submillimeter astronomy on the instrument and also expects to continue with research of her own.

in brief

The University of Rochester hopes by next fall to have selected an individual to occupy its new Xerox Industrial Professorship in Physics, which was established early last year. The tenured position has been funded by Xerox at \$100 000 per year for an initial five-year period, and its occupant will hold a joint appointment in Rochester's department of physics and astronomy and Xerox's Webster Research Center.

On 21 January, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory established a Center for Space Microelectronics Technology and broke ground for a new Microdevices Laboratory. The new building being built for the Center for Space Microelectronics Technology will house one branch of the center, namely the groups doing research on solid-state devices. The Center for Space Microelectronics Technology replaces and builds on JPL's advanced microelectronics program, which was established at the behest of NASA in July 1983 under the leadership of Carl Kukkonen. Kukkonen will be the director of the center. □

Burnell awarded Tinsley Prize

S. Jocelyn Bell Burnell of the Edinburgh Royal Observatory is the first recipient of the Beatrice M. Tinsley Prize, which the American Astronomical Society established last year in honor of Tinsley's achievements in astronomy. The prize recognizes outstanding research by an individual or individuals in astronomy or astrophysics, particularly "contributions that are of an exceptionally creative or innovative character and that have played a seminal role in furthering our understanding of the universe." Burnell was presented with the prize, which carried a stipend of \$1500 this year, at the AAS meeting last January in Pasadena.

Burnell was honored for the contri-

bution she made to the discovery of pulsars when she was working in 1967-68 as a graduate student for Antony Hewish at Cambridge University. The story is well known of how she happened to notice what turned out to be pulsar signals in data from a relatively primitive radiotelescope Hewish had built to study quasar flickering.

Burnell received a bachelor of science degree from Glasgow University in 1965 and a PhD from Cambridge University in 1968. She taught from 1968 to 1973 at the University of Southampton, where she worked primarily on gamma-ray astronomy, and from 1974 to 1982 she did x-ray astronomy at the Mullard Space Science Laboratory, a section of University