WORKING GROUP ON SOLAR AND INTERPLANETARY NOMENCLATURE

(GROUPE DE TRAVAIL POUR LA NOMENCLATURE SOLAIRE ET INTERPLANETAIRE)

CHAIRPERSON: E.W. Cliver

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The goal of this Working Group is to focus attention on terms used at the forefront of current research in solar heliospheric physics that are thought to be in need of clarification (Cliver, 2001). The Working Group identifies such terms and then commissions a scientist to write an essay that explores the origin of a given term and its alternatives in order to open a discussion and inform the community. For wide dissemination, the essays are published in Eos, Transactions of the American Geophysical Union (after going through the normal Eos review process) and are also posted on the World Wide Web through a link from the IAU Division II website. Essays published to date considered terms used for coronal mass ejections in the solar wind such as magnetic cloud or interplanetary coronal mass ejection (ICME) (Burlaga, 2001; Russell, 2001) and the terms "gradual" and "impulsive" used to describe solar energetic particle events (Cliver and Cane, 2002). Future articles will address the term "magnetic storm" used to describe solar wind driven disturbances of Earth's magnetic field and the various terms used to describe shock waves in the solar atmosphere (Moreton waves, EIT waves, blast waves, etc.). The anticipated publication rate for the terminology essays is 1-2 articles per year.

Edward W. Cliver Chairperson of the Working Group

References

Burlaga, L.F. 2001, Eos, Trans., Amer. Geophys. Union, 82, 433 Cliver, E.W. 2001, Eos, Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union, 82, 433 Cliver, E.W., & Cane, H.V. 2002, Eos, Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union, 83, 61 Russell, C.T., 2001, Eos, Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union, 82, 434