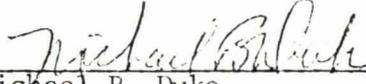


CURATORIAL NEWSLETTER	Date: December 24, 1975	No. 7
		
	Michael B. Duke Lunar Sample Curator	

New Proposal Year

The proposal review cycle is complete and with few exceptions all proposers have been notified of the action taken on their proposal. The number of investigators next year will be slightly smaller than this year, but the scope and depth of the program has not changed substantially. We are all expecting a productive year.

Please remember that our operating policy is to provide samples based on a specific request. We do not make sample allocations in general unless you write a letter identifying the type of samples and the work you intend to do on them. We do not allocate samples on the basis of your proposal. In the case of lunar core samples, where we still allocate material in something of a PET mode, we will respond to general requests if they are adequately documented. In other cases, the more specifically you can identify the samples you want, the easier it is for us. Please refer to JSC-06090 for refresher details on sample requests.

PIs should receive an updated version of the Handbook (JSC-05090) at the time their contract/grant is renewed. There are some minor changes, which have been marked. If you do not receive a new copy by March 1, please notify the Curator's Office.

Thin Section Collection

The thin section collection contains over six thousand thin sections and probe mounts that are thoroughly used, both by PIs in their laboratories and by visitors to JSC. We looked at the distribution recently and found that about 45 percent of the sections were in the hands of PIs. Several PIs have over 100 polished sections and probe mounts. It seems likely that a fair number of these sections are not actually being used but they could be useful in our library, where they could be surveyed by visitors to JSC. This could increase the usefulness of the thin section collection and reduce the number of letters (only a few, we admit) we send asking that sections be transferred.

Core 60010

We have plans to extrude drive tube 60010 the first week in January. This was the upper tube of the double drive tube containing 60009, which we have completely dissected. 60010 provides the first true test of the five millimeter dissection procedure, by which we expect to be able to sample from the lunar surface down in five intervals of one millimeter each. This material represents the least disturbed section through the uppermost lunar surface yet available for study. A few allocations have been made in advance, to investigators who have requested these samples in the past. However, if you have a specific experiment, please make a sample request. Each millimeter of the drive tube contains approximately two grams of material.

Allocations have been made in a general way for 60010, which will be dissected and distributed in late January. Additional sample requests for 60009-60010 will be considered in January.

Remote Storage

All samples have been packed for storage at our remote vault in San Antonio. Construction of the facility is expected to be complete in January and we now expect to move samples there in early February. Little additional impact on sample preparation is expected.

Inventory and Security Report

The current PI inventory is included as part of our complete annual inventory of lunar samples. We have completed the inventory of samples at JSC, including all PIs at JSC. PIs are urged to complete their sample inventory so that our complete inventory and security report can be completed on schedule. Note: The number of subsamples in the collection this year is over 43,000, of which approximately 10,000 are in PI laboratories.

Sample Requests

Sample requests must be received prior to January 10, 1976, if they are to be considered at the next LSAPT meeting.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!