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Slooh and the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands (IAC) Celebrate the Ten Year Anniversary of their Collaboration and Extend their Groundbreaking Public/Private Partnership to 2020

The Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands (IAC) and Slooh announced an extension of their partnership to 2020. Since 2003, Slooh has given amateur astronomers access to robotic observatories situated at the IAC's Teide Observatory, and has broadcast live celestial events to the public, featuring eclipses, transits, asteroids, comets, supernovae and more.

"The Canarian Observatories offer extraordinary potential for scientific exploration of the universe with more than 20 fully operational professional telescopes", says Professor Rafael Rebolo, Executive Director of the IAC. "Thanks to the Slooh initiative, with its two telescopes at the Teide Observatory, amateur astronomers from all over the world can develop their own observing programs. This new era of collaboration between the IAC and Slooh will open the way for amateur astronomers who wish to contribute actively in research projects at IAC to pursue that goal."

"In 2003 we sought a world-class observatory to share the wonders of the universe with the broader public", says Michael Paolucci, Founder and CEO of Slooh. "The IAC was visionary then to recognize the need for public/private partnerships to advance space exploration and discovery, which is in vogue today, and we look forward to building on our momentum to share their important work and stimulate interest in astronomy."

Slooh and the IAC will be working to expand their partnership to engage amateur astronomers to support IAC research programs. Slooh has given amateur astronomers a means of sharing the cost of high quality observatories, and fostered a collaborative community between them to contribute to scientific discovery. With IAC support, Slooh will offer advanced training for research initiatives such as exoplanet discovery, and focus the efforts of amateurs toward goals that are important to the scientific community.

About Slooh

Since 2003 Slooh has connected land based telescopes to the internet for access by the broader public. Slooh members have taken 2.4 million photos of over 40,000 celestial objects, and participated in numerous discoveries with leading astronomical institutions. Slooh's automated observatories develop celestial images in real time for broadcast to the internet. Slooh's technology is protected by patent 7,194,146 B2 which was awarded in 2006. Slooh's flagship observatory is situated on the Teide Observatory in the Canary Islands, in partnership with the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands (IAC). Slooh has also broadcast celestial events from partner observatories in Arizona, Japan, Hawaii, Cypress and Dubai. Slooh's free live broadcasts of asteroids, comets, transits, eclipses, etc. feature narration by astronomy experts Bob Berman and Paul Cox and are syndicated to media outlets such as [NBC](#), ABC, CNN, Fox News, National Geographic, Wired, [The Weather Channel](#) and more. Slooh's live celestial events have been viewed over a billion times, the highlight of which was the 2011 lunar eclipse broadcast live on [Google's home page](#). Slooh was recently selected by NASA to present at its conference on establishing public/private partnerships to engage citizen scientists in asteroid detection.

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About the IAC

The Canary Islands Astrophysics Institute (IAC) is a leading Spanish center for research and technology that operates the internationally renowned astrophysics observatories in the Canary Islands: the Observatorio del Teide (Tenerife) and the Observatorio del Roque de los Muchachos (La Palma). The research activity in the IAC covers most fields of theoretical and observational astrophysics and instrumentation. The main areas of research are cosmology and astroparticle, formation and evolution of galaxies, stellar and interstellar physics, exoplanets and solar system, and solar physics. In addition, the IAC has advanced equipment and highly qualified personnel that enable it to develop the technology required to conduct its research from ground-based observatories and space, such as the 10.4m diameter Gran Telescopio Canarias. The IAC supports the specialized training of researchers through a post-graduate school, and encourages communication and popularization of astronomy and astrophysics through its scientific outreach unit.