

And life goes on.

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UCSC professor named to astronomy committee

SANTA CRUZ — Robert Kraft, UCSC professor of astronomy and director of the Lick Observatory, has been named one of six vice presidents on the International Astronomical Union's executive committee.

The 5,000-member union, headquartered in Paris, was founded in Brussels in 1919 to develop, promote and safeguard the interests of astronomy through international cooperation. More than 50 countries are represented in the union's membership.

Kraft was elected to the six-year post last fall at a meeting in Greece. He has won international repute for his studies of aging stars and galactic history. His specialty is the study of galactic X-ray sources, metal abundances in old stars and matter ejected from the nuclei of certain galaxies. One of his most far-reaching discoveries was that of dwarf novae.

He has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and has won the Warner Prize from the American Astronomical Society. He was honored in 1981 by his UCSC colleagues who named him Faculty Research Lecturer.

He is on the executive management committee for UC's Ten Meter Telescope Project.