



**Chabot Space & Science Center Announces Foundation Co-Chairs
— Founder of Chiron Dr. Edward Penhoet and Venture Capitalist Garrett Gruener
To Share Duties —**

12 October 2004 -- (Oakland, CA) Chabot Space & Science Center has announced the election of Dr. Edward E. Penhoet and Garrett Gruener as the new Co-Chairs of its Foundation Board of Directors. Dr. Penhoet has been a long-time supporter of Chabot and was a founding member of the Chabot Board of Directors. "I am very pleased to serve as the new co-chair of the Foundation," said Penhoet, "I look forward to working with our board, our partners and the entire community in the coming year as we expand the Center to accommodate more students in additional classroom space. In reaching our goal of making science and technology education a reality, it's important that we reach the young people of today, who will become the innovators of tomorrow."

Garrett Gruener, a well-known venture capitalist and philanthropist in the Bay Area, has dedicated his life to contributing to arts, science and learning projects. He has served on Chabot's Board for over five years. "It is my goal to bring a deeper partnership between Chabot and the business community, as it's vital to California's economy that investments be made in education to develop the future workforce in engineering, science and technology", said Gruener. We're running the world's leading innovation economy, and that requires educated people. I feel very enthusiastic about upcoming projects slated for this next year at Chabot. We will literally be breaking new ground with the classroom expansion, installing a new state-of-the-art full dome projection system in the Ask Jeeves Planetarium, and offering classes and workshops in robotics."

Former Oakland Councilmember Dick Spees, who has served as the Interim Foundation Chair since April 2004, will step down to become Chair Emeritus. Spees was one of the founders of the new Science Center, who "wanted to do something really great for the kids of Oakland," and initiated many of the ballot measures that have benefited Chabot. Always passionate about the city of Oakland, Spees felt the Center had to be "something great, not dinky—to inspire kids, give the citizens of Oakland something they could feel proud about and give the city a great institution."

In announcing the new elections, Chabot's Executive Director Alex Barnett said, "I'm very pleased to have Ed and Garrett co-chairing the Foundation as it represents a commitment from major corporate leaders to support the vision of Chabot. This next year we hope to broaden our reach to the local scientific and business community, to engage their support as well."

Dr. Penhoet is an Oakland native and Oakland resident, who graduated from Oakland's Fremont High School and completed his Ph.D in biochemistry at the University of Washington. He is CEO of the Moore Foundation, co-founder of Chiron Corporation and Renovis, and is active on the Board of several Bay Area foundations and biotech companies. He recently served as the Dean of the School of Public Health at the University of California at Berkeley and has published more than fifty papers in the fields of biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, virology and DNA/RNA research.

Gruener, General Managing Partner of Alta Partners and founder of the Web search engine AskJeeves.com, is also an Oakland resident and specializes in the area of information technology. He is currently at the helm of a "laptop in every school" state education initiative. He holds a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley and has wide experience in the fields of software development, systems engineering and corporate development.

Chabot Space & Science Center, a joint powers agency, is the continuation and expansion of Oakland, California's public Chabot Observatory that has served San Francisco Bay Area schools and citizens with astronomy and science education programs for 120 years. Its mission is to engage, inform and inspire people about Earth and space, and is a place where they can learn to shape their future through science and technology. The Chabot Space & Science Center Foundation is a separate nonprofit corporation that receives contributions, donations and other funds from various sources for the benefit of the Science Center. Its role is to provide the financial and in-kind resources required by the Science Center to fulfill its mission.

Chabot Space & Science Center is located at 10000 Skyline Blvd. in Oakland's Joaquin Miller Park. **Public hours:** Wed – Thurs, 10 am–5pm; Friday & Saturday, 10 am–10 pm; Sunday, 11am–5 pm. Closed Mon & Tues. General admission, including free parking and a Planetarium show, is \$13.00 for adults, \$9.00 youth and seniors. Children under 3 are admitted free. *The Sky Tonight* planetarium show and movies in the MegaDome Theater are \$6.00 adult, and \$5.00 youth and seniors. Telescopes are open for Free Public Viewing Fridays & Saturdays from dusk – 10 pm, weather permitting. Tickets may be purchased at the door, or by calling (510) 336-7373.

For more information, call (510) 336-7300, or visit www.chabotspace.org

* * *