PREFACE

This volume contains the proceedings of the first meeting on "Science with the GTC", held in Granada from February 6 to 8, 2002. The three communities that the GTC will cater for met for the first time on this occasion. The meeting's threefold purpose was to present the scientific activities of the GTC partner communities, to provide an update on the status of the construction of the GTC, and to discuss future user instrumentation for the GTC. A further purpose of the meeting was to foster collaborations between the members of the three communities. It was exciting to see the large number of people attending the meeting. The outstanding quality of the science presentations is also worth mentioning here. No doubt there is great potential in the GTC communities that lead us to anticipate great science once the GTC comes into operation. It was made clear by representatives from the three communities that Spain, Mexico, and Florida are looking forward to the GTC as a key observational tool for advancing the frontiers of knowledge. The organization of this meeting was at all times fully supported by the Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (IAA) and by the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (IAC), with funding from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology through the grant AyA-2001-4446E. Neither the invitation of well known speakers nor the large participation of young researchers would have been possible without generous help from a number of companies participating in the construction of the GTC; namely, ACS, Empresarios Agrupados, Schott, CESA, NTE, and VTD. We am indebted to all these sponsors for their decisive support of science. The city of Granada was the perfect venue for an astronomy meeting. Last but not least, we should like to express our warmest thanks to Pepa Masegosa, Isabel Márquez, and Víctor Costa for arranging a wonderful meeting.

José Miguel Rodríguez Espinosa, Francisco Garzón López, and Verónica Melo Martín
Editors of the proceedings

Science with the GTC 10-m Telescope (Granada, España, 5-8 febrero 2002)
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GROUP PHOTOGRAPH

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From left to right: Prof. Francisco Sánchez Martínez (Director of the IAC), Prof. Ramón Miramon Sunyol (Secretary of State for Science Policy), and Prof. Rafael Rodrigo Montero (Director of the IAA).

Top: View of the conference hall. Bottom: A moment of relaxation between working sessions.

Informal chats and Stanley Dermott explaining his department's future role in the GTC (bottom).

Visiting the Alhambra by night.