Astronomy 1102/1104
30 March, 2009
Exercise 11—Due in section from 27 April
Name: _________________________
Section: ________

The Sagan Planet Walk

Your assignment is to complete the Sagan Planet Walk in downtown Ithaca. It is a scale model of the Solar System starting on the Commons and extending 3/4 of a mile to the Sciencenter, and it consists of a series of stations marking the positions of the Sun and all of the planets (including Pluto!). Completing the walk will give you some insight into the scale of the Solar System. An ideal time to visit the Sagan Planet Walk would be late on a Saturday morning, as all of the stations where you would get your passport stamped will be open. If any are closed, the Sciencenter will help you out with stamps. Have a look at the website for the Sagan Planet Walk for more useful information, like maps, how do download Bill Nye’s audio tour, etc.:

http://www.sciencenter.org/saganpw/

To complete this assignment, you must take the Sagan Planet Walk and turn in the following:

This handout. Be sure to get each planet stamped on the back, and also be sure to estimate how long it took you to walk each leg. The following businesses can stamp your passports:

Sun, Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars
15 Steps Gallery, 171 The Commons, M-Sa 10-6 (F to 8), Su 12-5
M&T Bank, 118 N. Tioga, M-F 9-5, Sa 9-12

Jupiter and Saturn
The Cat’s Pajamas, in Dewitt Mall, M-F 10-5:30, Sa 10-5, Su 12-4

Uranus
Kinney Drugs, 513 N. Cayuga St., M-Sa 9-6, Su 9-1

Neptune
P&C Foods, 212 Hancock, 7-9 every day

Pluto
Sciencenter, 601 1st St., M closed, T-Sa 10-5, Su 12-5

A brief description of the walk. Each planet station comes with information about that planet. Can you find any errors? There is at least one at the stations on the Commons. What are your impressions of the relative spacing of the terrestrial planets compared to the jovian planets? What about their sizes? This does not have to be a lengthy essay. A series of comments will suffice, but more is always welcome (such as photographs of happy students at stations).

Be sure that each page of your submission includes the exercise number, your name, and your section number.
Station: Sun
Time at start: ______
Walking time: ______

Station: Mercury
Walking time: ______

Station: Venus
Walking time: ______

Station: Earth
Walking time: ______

Station: Mars
Walking time: ______

Station: Jupiter
Walking time: ______

Station: Saturn
Walking time: ______

Station: Uranus
Walking time: ______

Station: Neptune
Walking time: ______

Station: Pluto
Walking time: ______